AAMVA's Regional News for August 2, 2019

AAMVA’s Regional News for August 2, 2019

Interested in having your logo appear here? Become a Regional News sponsor by contacting Rob Stershic, 703.908.2825.

AUGUST

6-7 | 2019 August Third Party Agents Working Group Meeting
Bonita Springs, FL

6-7 | 2019 August Managing Data Privacy and External Access Working Group Meeting
Bonita Springs, FL

18-19 | 2019 August Board of Directors Meeting
Omaha, NE

18 | 2019 August Industry Advisory Board Meeting
Omaha, NE

AAMVA Attends IACP Meeting in Las Vegas

Brian Ursino, AAMVA Director of Law Enforcement, and Julie Knittle, AAMVA Director of Member Support for Regions 3 & 4, attended the IACP Mountain/Pacific Region annual meeting in Las Vegas, hosted by the Nevada Highway Patrol (NHP). Part of the meeting included a field trip to tour the NHP Southern Command and Traffic Management Center.

AAMVA Helps Open Annual Driver Education Conference

Wanda Minoli, Commissioner for the Vermont DMV, and Ian Grossman, AAMVA Vice President, Member Services & Public Affairs, participated in the opening of the American Driver & Traffic Safety Education Association (ADTSEA) annual meeting held in Burlington, Vermont. Commissioner Minoli welcomed the driver education professionals to the Green Mountain State and spoke of her background in traffic safety. Grossman was one of the day’s keynote speakers, spending time discussing the new Road to Zero Coalition and the importance of shifting traffic safety culture as a key component to ending highway fatalities.

Abandoned Vehicle & Mechanic Lien Fraud Prevention Working Group Members Meet in Philadelphia

A core group of the Abandoned Vehicle & Mechanic Lien Fraud Prevention working group met in Philadelphia, PA July 23 – 25 to complete a full review of the draft best practices document, which is planned for publication in early 2020. Pictured from right to left are: Larry Purdy, Richard Trinkwalder, Milly Ridenhour, and Paul Steier. Cathie Curtis joined the group remotely due to inclement weather and flight cancellations.

SEPTEMBER

More Connecticut Residents Registering Their Cars in

https://www.magnetmail.net/design/preview.cfm?message_id=17236135&user_id=AAMVA&frames=no[8/5/2019 10:00:49 AM]
Maine
The number of Connecticut vehicles registered in the state of Maine is growing. But the state of Connecticut has no idea how many of its residents are illegally registering their cars in other states. Department of Motor Vehicles Deputy Commissioner Antonio Guerrera said they have no central database that would track something like that. The Maine Secretary of State’s office reports that 1,457 Connecticut residents have registered their cars up north where it only costs $35. In Connecticut, it costs $80 for two years plus another $10 for the Clean Air Act. Read more at the Middletown Press.

Study Finds Older Drivers Have Lower Crash Rates
( Massachusetts)
Statistics tell us that the crash rate for older drivers is relatively low because most older drivers take precautions. According to the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles, many older drivers are able to self-determine if they should drive based on their mental and physical ability. As you get older, there is no age at which driving privileges are revoked, but here in Massachusetts, if you are 75 or older, you do have to renew your driver’s license in person at an RMV Center to take an eye test. Read more at WWLP.

Truck Driver Was on Drugs, Reaching for Drink at Time of Fatal New Hampshire Crash, Report Says
Volodymyr Zhukovskyy was high on drugs and said he was reaching for a drink on the passenger side of his 2016 Dodge pickup truck when the vehicle crossed the highway’s yellow center line and crashed into a group of a motorcyclists in New Hampshire in late June, according to a federal inspection report obtained by the Globe. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration report provides the most detailed account to date — and the first accusation of Zhukovskyy’s alleged intoxication — in the fiery collision that killed seven, injured three others, and led to a still-widening scandal at the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles, which had failed to revoke the 23-year-old’s commercial driver’s license prior to the crash. Read more at the Boston Globe.

PennDOT Plans Gender-neutral Option for Driver's Licenses
Motorists who don’t want to disclose their gender will be able to place an “X” on their driver’s licenses instead of identifying themselves as male or female by the middle of 2020, a Department of Transportation spokeswoman said Tuesday. Thirteen other states, including neighboring Maryland, and most recently New Hampshire have rolled out plans to give residents a gender-neutral option on driver’s licenses, according to the National Center for Transgender Equality, based in Washington, D.C. The group tracks identification issues facing transgender residents and lobbies for changes. Read more at the Daily Item.

Are 'Safety Corridors' Making Vermont Roadways Safer?
Are safety corridors on Vermont roadways helping to reduce crashes? The corridors were started in 2017 in four areas where the state says drivers have developed dangerous habits. Our Dom Amato looked into whether they are making a difference. Read more at WCAX.

Teen Drivers Are More Likely to Die in Kentucky Than in Any Other State, Study Finds
Teenagers in Kentucky are 140% more likely to die in a car crash than the average U.S. teen, according to a new report. Using data from the National Highway Traffic
AAMVA RFQ FY19-20107 HQ
Internet Service
August 9, 2019

AUGUST

AAMVA's Regional News for August 2, 2019

Safety Administration, personal finance website ValuePenguin.com ranked Kentucky as the worst state in America for teen driver fatalities. The Bluegrass State has the highest average annual teen driver fatalities per 10,000 licensed drivers age 19 or younger, with 3.47 per year. From 2013 to 2017, Kentucky recorded 128 teen motorist fatalities. According to the report, teens in Kentucky are 16% more likely to die in a car crash than those in Mississippi — the second deadliest state, which averages three teen driver fatalities per year. Read more in the Louisville Courier Journal.

Mobile App Will Allow Drivers to Renew Oklahoma Vehicle Tags
Oklahomans seeking to renew car, boat, motorcycle and trailer tags now can do it with a mobile phone app. Officials on Thursday announced those renewals can be done in a smartphone app called Gov2Go. It is available at the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. Bret Warren, president and general manager of Oklahoma Interactive, said the app is free, but the process will cost $2 plus a merchant charge of 2.25% if a credit card is used. The fee is $2 for a bank card. Read more in Tulsa World.

South Carolina DOT Launches Statewide Transportation Survey
The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) is updating the Long Range Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan (MTP) to address South Carolina's growing transportation needs. SCDOT wants to know what's important to you. So they're launching a statewide transportation survey. SCDOT has created an interactive online survey that is quick and easy to use. Please go to SCDOT.ORG and take a few minutes to join the transportation conversation. You can tell SCDOT about the transportation trends and issues that impact you the most and provide feedback on SCDOT’s priorities, visions, and goals. Read more at the Moultrie News.

Two Texas Truckers and a State Worker Sold Hundreds of Fake Commercial Driver's Licenses
A federal grand jury indicted three Texas men – two truckers and a state worker – in connection with a scheme to sell commercial driver’s licenses (CDLs) without the drivers having to take the required test, according to a report from the San Antonio Express-News. The indictment, which was handed down July 24 in a San Antonio court, said Alonzo Blackman, 62, a commercial driver’s license examiner with the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), took bribes from two truckers – Marino Maury Diaz-Leon, 52, of San Antonio, and Fernando Guardado Vazquez, 40, of Austin. The number of fraudulent CDLs issued by Blackman was 215, of which 197 went to Cuban nationals, 11 to U.S. citizens, two to Mexican nationals, and one each to Dominican, Ethiopian, Iraqi, Puerto Rican and Ukranian nationals. Read more at Freight Waves.

TxDOT to Commit $600 Million to Reducing Roadway Deaths
Roughly two-thirds of a $600 million down payment aimed at decreasing deaths along Texas highways will go to straightening roads, improving lighting and adding guardrails, under a plan being considered by state transportation officials. The Texas Department of Transportation proposes spending $390 million, 65 percent of the total safety money set aside by the Texas Transportation Commission, to reduce incidents in which drivers veer from the roadway. Though causes vary, so-called "departure incidents" represent 41 percent of the serious injury and fatal injury crashes in Texas last year. Read more in the Houston Chronicle.

Virginia DMV Mobile Unit to Help Drivers Get Back
Licenses
Since July 1, Virginia courts have stopped suspending driver’s licenses for unpaid court costs or fines. And anyone whose license was suspended because of unpaid court costs or fines will be able to drive again. The DMV will remove the suspension for failure to pay court costs and fines from one’s record, and that person will not have to pay a reinstatement fee to drive again. To help suspended drivers get their licenses back (and to help anyone else with Department of Motor Vehicles business), the DMV is adding mobile units to bring its services to people who can’t get to a DMV office. In Danville, the DMV mobile unit will be at Virginia Legal Aid Society (519 Main St.) from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday. Anyone with pending DMV business is welcome to visit. Read more in the Gazette-Virginian.

Virginia DMV Explores Adding 'Electric Scooters' as Category on Crash Reports to Better Track Accidents
Virginia Beach has Bird, Norfolk has Lime. With new contracts between electric scooter companies and local municipalities, the number of electric scooters in Hampton Roads is rising... Virginia DMV reports seven crashes involving injuries, electric scooters and a motor vehicle in 2018 and five so far in 2019. DMV spokeswoman Brandy Brubaker wrote that these numbers "are much lower than electric scooter-related injuries that a police department or hospital might be reporting that include the sorts of incidents" the department doesn't track. This contributes to the overall uncertainty of the total number of electric scooter accidents across Virginia. As electric scooters begin to spread throughout the commonwealth, Virginia DMV says it is now "considering adding electric scooters as a box that officers could check on the crash report." Brubaker wrote that electric scooters are "an emerging issue, particularly in cities." Read more on 13 News Now.

Heart-wrenching Ads Put Focus on Crash Victims in Road Safety Campaign (Illinois)
The TV ad shows a plump baby girl, giggling and cooing as she gets a bath. The baby is the daughter of Dennis Beard, an Illinois construction worker. Beard died in 2012 at age 38 in a vehicle crash while he was striping a downstate road, leaving behind three children. It is one of several heartbreaking ads running on television, digital billboards, ballpark Jumbotron and social media as part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's "Life or Death" campaign. The goal of the ads is to show the human consequences of unsafe driving on Illinois roads, where more than 1,000 people die every year, including pedestrians, drivers and passengers. Read more in the Chicago Tribune.

Experts Host Free Event For Drivers With Suspended Licenses (Illinois)
Organizers say they’re holding a symposium in Chicago for drivers who have had their licenses suspended or revoked and need legal help. The Driver’s License Expo is Saturday. It’s free. Representatives from the Illinois Secretary of State’s Office, the Cook County Public Defender’s Office and circuit court will be at the event. Read more at CBS 2 Chicago.

Law Restricting Drivers' Phone Use Starts Aug. 1 (Minnesota)
Starting Aug. 1, Minnesota law enforcement officers will be able to pull over drivers who hold their phones while behind the wheel in most circumstances. Under the new law, drivers who hold their phone behind the wheel or otherwise swipe, type, scroll or view content on their cellphones will be subject to tickets and fines. Law enforcement, public safety, business and health groups have been conducting an awareness campaign to ensure drivers know about the new law and avoid distracted...
'Respect the Load. Share the Road' Campaign Targets Driving Safely Around Big Rigs (Missouri)
The Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety has a message for drivers from August 5 through 31. "Respect the Load. Share the Road." Officials said this statewide campaign urges driver to drive safety around big rigs. In addition, commercial motor vehicle drivers will be reminded to abide by traffic laws, use seat belts, slow down and pay attention. Read more at KFVS12.

Nebraska Driver Cited for Painting Registration Sticker on License Plate
Nebraska drivers have plenty of options for personalizing their license plates. But one driver this week took it too far. A Nebraska State Patrol trooper pulled over a driver who had painted the registration sticker onto the vehicle's license plates. Read more in the Omaha World-Herald.

Save the Front License Plate? Some Lawmakers Want to Keep it After Voting to Scrap it in 2020 (Ohio)
Starting next July, Ohio won't force drivers to affix a license plate to the front of their vehicles, joining 19 other states including Kentucky and Indiana. But several lawmakers want to save the front license plate, saying it's a necessary law enforcement tool. With support from police across the state, two GOP senators are introducing Senate Bill 179 to keep the front plate. Read more in the Cincinnati Enquirer.

Kamloops RCMP Warn Drivers of License Plate and Sticker Theft Potential (British Columbia)
You take everything out of your vehicle, and make sure it's locked every time... but Kamloops RCMP want to remind residents there is more for thieves to take from parked cars. Taking license plates, or registration stickers is not a new crime, and Cpl. Jodi Shelkie says it's ongoing throughout Kamloops. Read more at cfctoday.com

ICBC Ready to Offer 'Fitbit for Cars' Pilot to 7,000 Youth to Improve Driving
ICBC has teamed up with an IT company and is ready to go ahead with a study aimed at finding out whether using in-car sensors can help make new drivers into safe drivers. Now ICBC and Octo Telematics are looking for 7,000 new B.C. drivers to sign up for the study. Half will be a control group. The other half will be equipped with sensors to monitor speeding, braking and distracted driving, and their cellphones will be sent regular feedback on how to improve their driving. Read more in the Vancouver Sun.

Former DMV Employee Accessed Sacramento Database To Fraudulently Provide Class A Driver Licenses (California)
Former DMV employee Kari Scattaglia, 40, of Sylmar, was sentenced to two years and eight months in prison for fraudulently providing people with Class A commercial driver licenses, announced U.S. Attorney McGregor W. Scott. Scattaglia, formerly of the Arleta DMV, and former Winnetka DMV employee co-defendant Lisa Terraciano, 52, of North Hollywood, pleaded guilty on Nov. 3, 2017, to a conspiracy to commit identity fraud, to commit bribery, and to commit unauthorized access to a computer, according to the Department of Justice. In exchange for money, the two individuals

https://www.magnetmail.net/design/preview.cfm?message_id=17236135&user_id=AAMVA&frames=no[8/5/2019 10:00:49 AM]
accessed the DMV’s Sacramento database to alter applicants records to falsely show that they had passed the required tests. Read more at CBS Sacramento.

Automakers, Colorado Reach Deal on Zero-emission Vehicle Mandate
Colorado and major automakers said on Monday they have reached a deal on the state’s plan to adopt California’s zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) requirements after earlier talks had ended without a deal. The state, which plans to join the California program starting in the 2023 model year, has agreed to allow automakers to earn credits for selling electric vehicles in the two model years prior and use other transitional credits available in other states. Read more at yahoo.com.

Maui Adds New Traffic Safety Initiatives As Death Toll Increases (Hawaii)
This year is already turning out to be a dangerous one for traffic on Maui. On Sunday, two people were killed in a car crash—brining the total number of traffic related deaths on the island this year to 14. This time last year, there were only 10 traffic related deaths in Maui county. According to officials, the county average 18 deaths from traffic crashes each year. The Maui Department of Public Works is trying to decrease the county’s traffic-related death toll through various safety initiatives. The main program called Vision Zero Maui aims to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries on the island. Read more at Hawaii Public Radio.

Aggressive Driving Campaign Begins in Idaho
As people across Idaho enjoy the final weeks of summer, the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) and law enforcement agencies are partnering to keep Idaho roads safe. More than 50 law enforcement agencies began putting more officers on the roads to look for aggressive drivers on July 26. This effort comes in the middle of the 100 Deadliest Days of Summer. The time between Memorial and Labor Day weekends see an increase in fatal crashes in Idaho and across the country. According to preliminary reports, 49 fatalities on Idaho roads since the 2019 Memorial Day weekend have been reported. Read more a kivitv.com.

Teen Crashes in Oregon Tied to Lack of Driver Education
The Oregon Department of Transportation says the data is shockingly clear; driver's education makes for safer drivers. In a 2018 study from ODOT, officials found that in 91% of crashes with a teen driver, the teen driver had not taken a drivers education course to get their license. "We always see better driving behavior," said Oregon DMV spokesman David House. "Fewer crashes, fewer citations, among teen drivers that go through drivers ed, and this lasts through adulthood." Read more at KTVL.

Oregon DMV Headed to Trial in Ashland Woman’s Death
A jury is weeks away from deciding the state of Oregon’s culpability for issuing a driver’s license to a man with five prior drunken-driving convictions who killed a local 911 dispatcher in a wrong-way crash on Interstate 5 in 2014. Despite efforts earlier this month by the state of Oregon, a judge ruled the state will remain a defendant in William Greenstein’s wrongful death lawsuit against Richard Webster Scott Jr., the driver who killed his wife, Karen Greenstein, and the agency that issued his wife’s killer a driver’s license. Read more at Mail Tribune.

R3J3CT3D PL8S (Utah)
From 2016 to 2018, employees at the Utah Division of Motor Vehicles turned down more than 1,100 applications for vanity registration plates. Sly vehicle owners across the state requested plates full of references to guns, drugs and sex. The tide of potentially offensive material was so great that even harmless requests ended up not making the cut after being subjected to extra scrutiny. Read more in Salt Lake City Weekly.
New Law Targets Washington License Fraud
Washington state will start cracking down on license fraud on Sunday. By law, new Washington residents have 30 days to get a state driver’s license and register any vehicles after declaring residency. Residents could be fined more than $1,500 for failing to renew or update their registration under a new law that takes effect on July 28, 2019. Read more at King 5.

OTHER NEWS

Congress Looks to Rev Up Discussion Around Self-driving Car Legislation
Two key congressional committees are restarting talks with relevant stakeholders to put together legislation for self-driving cars after two bills last Congress failed to be signed into law amid pushback from consumer advocates and some Senate Democrats. Read more in the Hill.

Walmart Will Pilot 'Middle-mile' Autonomous Delivery in Its Hometown
Walmart, in partnership with autonomous vehicle company Gatik, is launching a driverless delivery pilot to transport customer orders between two of its stores on a two-mile route in Bentonville, Arkansas, according to a company blog post. In March, Arkansas passed a law that allows autonomous vehicles to operate in the state. The Gatik vehicles, which will be staffed during the test run, will move between a Walmart grocery pickup location and a Walmart Neighborhood Market, the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette reported. Read more at Grocery Dive.

Cost of Owning a Car for the First Year in Every State
Owning a car is a necessity for many, but it’s also expensive. Car prices vary, but there are other expenses that add up as well, like taxes and fees, gas, repairs and, of course, insurance. To find out how much it costs to own a car in each state, GOBankingRates looked at the true cost to own a new car for a year in each state. Read more at yahoo.com.

ATRI Opens Industry Issues Survey
The American Transportation Research Institute is accepting comments and concerns from trucking industry representatives. The nonprofit research organization launched its 2019 Top Industry Issues Survey on July 29. The survey, conducted every year, invites members of the industry to rank the top issues the industry faces, as well as present strategies for addressing these issues. Read more in Transport Topics.

Safety Groups Want FTC, State Probes of Tesla’s Autopilot System—and Its Marketing Efforts
Two consumer safety groups are calling for federal and state investigations of Tesla’s semi-autonomous technology in the wake of several fatal crashes linked to the system earlier this year. The investigations could pose a major threat to the California electric vehicle maker, as Tesla CEO Elon Musk has promised a fully autonomous version of his technology, called Autopilot, will be released this year. He said during a conference call this week that the company expects to generate significant revenue from fleets of “robotaxis” it intends to roll out in 2020 using Autopilot. Read more at CNBC.

AAA Urging Car Makers to Create User-friendly Technology For Older Drivers
A new report from AAA is urging auto manufacturers to create user friendly technology for seasoned drivers. Read more at 23ABC News Bakersfield.
TWITTER NEWS

@AAMVACo has been watching the twitter feed and decided to highlight some of the tweets here. Links are provided within most of the tweets, and we have also provided a link to each tweet as well. Note that you do not have to have an account or sign in to Twitter to view the message posts, images associated with the post, and the reach of the message (retweets, favorited, etc.).

Stay on top of the chatter in the MVA and LE community. You may be surprised at what you’re missing! Follow @AAMVACo.

Check out recent @AAMVACo Twitter action.

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

Washington DOL @WA_DOL | View the Tweet
#REALID #ID2020 #DOL

Maine DOT @MaineDOT1 | View the Tweet
From away? Welcome to Maine! Drive safely this weekend, bub!

Kentucky Dept. of Vehicle Regulation @drivekygov | View the Tweet
Here's some helpful info on what you'll need when titling a newly-purchased vehicle. If you're buying from another state that doesn't issue a title, use the registration or bill of sale in place of the title. Form 96-182 is available on our website.

NC Highway Patrol @NCSHP| View the Tweet
Thank you to all who voted for the NCSHP in this year’s American Association of State Troopers “Best Looking Cruiser Contest”. We will again be featured as one of the best in their calendar to go on sale later this year. Congrats to @NEStatePatrol on 1st place.
TIRF Canada @TIRFCANADA | View the Tweet
#TuesdayTip: The Young and New Driver Resource Centre contains a national inventory of youth-oriented #roadsafety programs including driver education, graduated licensing, and other safety programs. Visit: [link: http://www.yndrc.tirf.ca]
yndrc.tirf.ca to access free downloadable resources. #teens
The Regional News e-newsletter is developed and distributed by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA).
This message was intended for INSERT_EMAIL. If you would like to stop receiving this message, click here to unsubscribe.
To manage all your AAMVA subscriptions, click here.

4401 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 700, Arlington, VA 22203