AAMVA’s Annual International Conference: Program Highlights

AAMVA’s 2019 Annual International Conference is just a week away! We have planned a program packed with informative sessions and exciting events including:

AAMVA will be hosting a Drive for a Better Life tricycle race to raise funds for Clinic with a Heart (CWH). CWH is a not-for-profit organization connecting the uninsured and underinsured with professionals who provide pro bono medical, dental, vision, hearing, physical therapy, chiropractic, and mental health care. The race involves three-person teams: one to drive (a trike), one for repairs (relaying tools to the tool box), and one for the hydration station (chugging a bottle of water).

On Tuesday, August 20, 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm, join us for Community Policing in a State Police/Highway Patrol Agency, where attendees can hear how community policing tenets can be effectively applied to state and provincial police/highway patrol agencies, as opposed to the traditional application in local law enforcement agencies. Learn more about these and other sessions by viewing the 2019 AIC Program!

Click here for more information and to register.

CDL Examiner Update Class

AAMVA will be conducting two Commercial Driver License (CDL) Examiner Update Classes the week of September 23rd at Pinellas Technical College (PTC) in St. Petersburg, Florida. The class size is limited to 12 people, and will be held as follows:

Class 1: Monday, September 23rd through Wednesday, September 25th
Class 2: Thursday, September 26th through Saturday, September 28th

The class is designed to be a hands-on training class for experienced CDL Examiners or trainers. The class will focus on recent guidance provided by FMCSA and TMS related to CDL Skills Test administration and scoring, revisions to the CDL Test System, Advanced Driver Assistance Systems, and regulatory updates. There is no tuition or registration fee for this training. All travel, room and board expenses will be paid by AAMVA. Nominees must have a thorough knowledge of the CDL program and current experience conducting CDL Skill Tests.

Please submit completed nomination forms to Karen Morton no later than Friday,

Interested in having your logo appear here? Become a Regional News sponsor by contacting Rob Stershic, 703.908.2825.
August 16, 2019. After the nominations are reviewed, detailed class and travel information will be sent to those persons selected to attend.

REGION 1 NEWS

MVC Chief: Agency Working Hard to Reduce Inconvenience of Real ID Licenses (New Jersey)
Chief Political Correspondent Michael Aron speaks with Sue Fulton, the head of New Jersey's Motor Vehicle Commission, to hear about the status of REAL ID implementation in New Jersey. She spoke about snags the agency has experienced, the change in workflow it's having to manage, and the steps involved in beta testing the new federal safety protocol. Read more at njtvonline.org.

Driverless Cars Are Coming to New York
Driverless cars are finally coming to New York. Sort of. Optimus Ride, a self-driving tech company, is launching a fleet of six cars at Brooklyn's Navy Yard on Wednesday in a push to bring autonomous vehicles to the Empire State. It's unclear though how 'self-driving' they are: every car will have a safety driver and software operator on board. Read more at abcnews.go.com.

Cuomo Signs Legislation, Allowing School Districts to Add Stop ARM Cameras on School Buses (New York)
Schools in New York state can now install cameras on the stop arms of school buses to catch motorists who put students at risk. Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed the change into law Tuesday. The Democrat says no parents should have to worry about their children's safety during their rides to school. Read more at cbs6albany.com.

Raimondo Seeks to Add Third Gender Option to Driver's Licenses (Rhode Island)
Gov. Gina Raimondo wants Rhode Island to join a growing list of states offering a third, nonbinary gender option on driver's licenses and birth certificates, she said Wednesday. The change would allow people to put an 'X' in the gender field of licenses and birth certificates, where currently they can only put 'M' for male or 'F' for female. Read more at providencejournal.com.

AOT Reports Low Fatality Rate on Vermont Highways in 2019
According to a new report by the Agency of Transportation (AOT), Vermont has seen a low number of fatalities on the state's highways for the year to date. Statistically, Vermont experiences approximately 25-35 fatalities on its highways through the end of July. This year, there have been 13 fatalities. Read more at newportdispatch.com.

REGION 2 NEWS

Dangerous Drivers: Mobile Police Bust Dozens of School Zone Speeders on First Day of Class (Alabama)
Mobile police stepped up traffic enforcement in school zones for the first day of classes at Mobile County public schools. Officers stationed in those zones in the morning and afternoon wrote 127 total citations. 41 of those were for speeding in school zones. Read more at mynbc15.com.

Florida Officials Issue Tips, Warn Consumers About Tag Renewal Scams
Officials are issuing tips that warn consumers about tag renewal scams. The tips come as part of Attorney General Ashley Moody and the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles’ #SteerClearOfFraudOAG campaign on automotive fraud...Tag renewal scams most commonly involve companies trying to charge fees for services already provided by the FLHSMV, officials said. Read more at news4jax.com.

Louisiana Office of Motor Vehicles Provides Real ID Online Checklist
The Louisiana Office of Motor Vehicles (OMV) has a new online tool to help citizens acquire a REAL ID. A virtual helper named ‘Louie’ guides users through brief questions and a checklist of requirements to identify specific documents they currently have and what more is needed before walking into an OMV location. Read more atfinance.yahoo.com.

Oklahoma Governor to Sign Law to Protect Stranded Motorists, Their Rescuers
Gov. Kevin Stitt on Tuesday is set to sign Senate Bill 89 — aimed at reducing roadside crashes and supported by AAA and the Traffic Incident Management System (TIMS) Coalition. Oklahoma motorists will now follow the critical safety practice of moving to adjacent lanes as safely as possible and slowing down considerably when approaching all stationary vehicles displaying flashing lights. Read more at news-star.com.

Online License Plate Surrender Available at Virginia DMV
Sold, traded, or no longer operate your vehicle? Virginia law requires you to return your license plates and/or vehicle registration to the Virginia DMV. Now, DMV makes that process easier than ever before – allowing online license plate surrender. Prior to July 1, 2019, customers were required to visit a DMV customer service center to surrender license plates. Read more at augustafreepress.com.

West Virginia DMV Helps Citizens Skip the Trip With Gov2Go
Renewing vehicle registrations just got easier for West Virginia citizens. Gov2Go, a technology platform that makes it easier to interact with all levels of government, now features a ‘Skip the Trip' to the DMV option by allowing citizens to track and complete vehicle registration renewals using their cell phones. Gov2Go makes it easy for customers to get started by providing multiple options. Read more at businesswire.com.

MNLARS Replacement Announced (Minnesota)
The State of Minnesota announced...that they have officially selected a replacement for the scrapped Minnesota State Licensing and Registration System known as MNLARS. The company, called Fast Enterprises was the only one who responded to a request for proposals in June. They are responsible for implementing vehicle title and registration programs in 11 other states. Read more at knsiradio.com.

New MoDOT Campaign Calls Drivers to Share the Road With Commercial Motor Vehicles (Missouri)
Throughout this month, the Missouri Department of Transportation is urging drivers to drive safely around big rigs. Along with drivers being urged to drive safely around big rigs, commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers are reminded to continually obey traffic laws, have their seat belts on, slow down and pay attention. Read more at
'The Goal Is to Decrease Our Wait Times': NDDOT Opens Temporary Location for Written Tests During Renovation (North Dakota)

Need to take the written exam for your commercial driver's license? Is your high schooler chomping at the bit to get their driver's permit? As of Monday, Aug. 5, you can forego the tedious wait times at the Fargo Driver's License Office and take care of these tasks at the North Dakota Department of Transportation's new temporary location. Read more at inforum.com.

State Inspecting School Buses Before School Year Begins (Ohio)

As students prepare to return to school, state inspectors are busy examining school buses across Ohio. Every school bus that carries students is inspected by the Ohio State Highway Patrol twice per year: before the school year starts and again during the year at random. The top-to-bottom inspection includes a full mechanical check and inspection of tires, brakes, lights, emergency exits and more. Read more at fox8.com.

Twin Brothers Pulled Over in Ohio for Near-Identical License Plates While en Route to Twins Festival

Twin brothers driving near-identical vehicles were pulled over Thursday while driving to the annual Twins Day Festival in Twinsburg, Ohio, after state troopers suspected the pair each had the same license plate number. Andy Baker told FOX8 he and his identical brother Chad were heading to the festival from Nashville, Tenn. in separate blue Teslas when state troopers stopped them, although they were not speeding. Read more at foxnews.com.

Vehicle Registration and Title Fees Increasing Oct. 1 (Wisconsin)

By: James Groh

It's going to be more expensive to update your vehicle registration and title after Oct. 1. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation said it is increasing fees as part of the state's biennial budget...There is also a new $75 annual surcharge for all hybrid electric vehicles. Read more at tmj4.com.

Rancho Cordova Business Park Rolls out 3D-Printed, Electric, Autonomous Olli Shuttles (California)

For the next three months, employees at a business park in Rancho Cordova will be getting rides to their cars by way of some of the most advanced transportation technology available. Olli, a 3D-printed, electric, autonomous shuttle made by Arizona-based manufacturing company Local Motors, debuted at the White Rock Corporate Campus Wednesday morning to showcase its technological capabilities. Read more at sacbee.com.

Denver Will Lower Some Speed Limits to Combat Bicyclist and Other Traffic Deaths (Colorado)

Denver Mayor Michael Hancock announced reduced speed limits on a handful of city streets and several other changes Wednesday amid mounting traffic deaths, including two bicyclists killed in July...The city also is installing high-visibility crosswalks around downtown and 12 corrals for bike parking on the street. In addition, more staff will be added to the city's police traffic enforcement teams, including six officers for a unit focused on large vehicles. Read more at
License Plate Renewal Made Easy With MV Express Kiosk (Colorado)
Colorado MV Express is a self-service DMV kiosk that offers a fast and easy way to renew your vehicle registration. It is a blue and yellow machine with touch-screen technology that looks similar to an ATM. Simply scan the barcode on your renewal postcard or type your license plate number on the touch-screen. The machine will accept your payment and print your registration and license plate tabs on the spot! Read more at southplatesentinel.com.

Nevada Highway Patrol Targets Pedestrian Safety
The Nevada Highway Patrol and other Nevada law enforcement agencies participating in the Joining Forces program are urging pedestrians and drivers alike to be aware of each other at all times and share the road responsibly...Between 2013 and 2017, 393 pedestrians lost their lives and 789 were seriously injured in pedestrian crashes on Nevada's roadways. In an effort to reverse the trend of pedestrian injuries and deaths, Troopers will be looking for traffic offenses made by both drivers and pedestrians. Read more at nevadaappeal.com.

Injuries in Collisions Falling, but More Killed on Sask. Roads in 2018 Than Year Prior (Saskatchewan)
Preliminary data shows the total number of people killed or injured on Saskatchewan roads declined in 2018, but the province says more work needs to be done...The data shows that the number of people hurt or killed in traffic collisions on the province’s roads continued to trend downwards...However, it is an increase in fatal collisions from 2017. Read more at paherald.sk.ca.

New Washington Law Aims to Get More Cars Registered
A new state law aims to encourage more drivers to get Washington licenses and register their cars in the state by reducing the penalty. The Seattle Times reported Monday that the law that went into effect last week allows first-time offenders to get the traffic citation dismissed and lower their fine to $500 if they obtain a Washington driver’s license and registration within 90 days of getting caught. Read more at q13fox.com.

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Shares School Bus Safety Information
As many schools getting ready for the start of the 2019-20 school year, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is releasing information on school bus safety. Read more at abc6onyourside.com.

Study Measures How Fast Humans React to Road Hazards
MIT researchers have found an answer in a new study that shows humans need about 390 to 600 milliseconds to detect and react to road hazards, given only a single glance at the road — with younger drivers detecting hazards nearly twice as fast as older drivers. The findings could help developers of autonomous cars ensure they are allowing people enough time to safely take the controls and steer clear of unexpected hazards. Read more at news.mit.edu.

ELDT Compliance Urged Despite FMCSA’s Proposed Delays
Despite proposed delays regarding certain parts of the federal Entry Level Driver Training rule, commercial driver license training schools shouldn’t dawdle as the...
rule’s upcoming effective date nears, according to training expert Jim Butler...New drivers have until Feb. 7, 2020, to comply with the requirements outlined in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration’s final rule on ELDT. The rule, issued in 2016, stipulates that drivers pursuing Class A or Class B CDLs must complete classroom lessons and behind-the-wheel instruction from groups that are listed on FMCSA’s forthcoming Training Provider Registry, an electronic database that will contain ELDT information. Read more at ttnews.com.

Industry Needs to Focus on Improving Highway Safety, GHSA Reports
The Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) recently released a report highlighting strategies on how to deliver safety messages to the public and prepare the criminal justice system for when automated vehicles (AVs) become common. The report is based on a May 8 GHSA/State Farm interdisciplinary expert panel meeting. Read more at transportationtodaynews.com.

Needless Knee Airbags May Cause More Harm Than Good, Study Says
With airbags, it may seem like the more the merrier — they are essential devices that have prevented tens of thousands of deaths in vehicle accidents, after all — but a new study by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety suggests that one type, knee airbags, don’t do much in the way of preventing injury. In some cases, they may even increase risk, researchers have found. Read more at cars.com.

Woman Opens up About Nearly Losing 4-Week-Old Baby After Accidentally Leaving Him in Hot Car
These are some of the headlines, to mention a few, that have surfaced in news reports in recent weeks and present a growing problem in the United States: vehicular heatstroke deaths of children. For activist Erin Holley, the issue lives all too close to her heart following an incident that completely changed her life. Read more at accuweather.com.

How Much Traffic Do Uber and Lyft Cause?
Also new since the Great Recession—Uber and Lyft. These ride-hailing services stormed into cities in the 2010s with a grand utopian promise: By tapping into America’s vast reservoir of idle vehicles, on-demand, app-based rides would reduce the need for personal car ownership and ultimately remove cars from the road...But now, less than a decade into this experiment, the industry is ‘fessing up...The ride-hailing giants released a joint analysis showing that their vehicles are responsible for significant portions of VMT in six major urban centers. Read more at citylab.com.

@AAMVAConnection 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 @AAMVAConnection.

Check out recent @AAMVAConnection Twitter action.

***Thank you for the @AAMVAConnection mentions!***
New Jersey MVC @NJ_MVC | View the Tweet

Do you really need a #REALID? #NJMVC Chief @suefulton has that answer and more in Part 2 of an illuminating interview with @MichaelAronNJTV on @NJTVNews. Watch it now at http://bit.ly/2M8n6VU. Find Parts1 & 2 on the @njtv website at http://www.njtvonline.org/news.

NYS DMV @nysdmv | View the Tweet

Now is the purrfect time to get a REAL ID. A standard license will no longer be enough to fly within the US come October 1, 2020. Use our document guide to find what you need to apply for a REAL ID https://dmv.ny.gov/documentguide

#InternationalCatDay

Illinois State Police @ILStatePolice | View the Tweet

Keep your eyes peeled on our roadways during #SharkWeek2019....

You may get a glimpse of two of our sharks. The blacktip and the great white. They...
tend to swim along the road attached squad cars. Some have full markings. Some have no markings. Both have antennas and fins.

MD Highway Safety Office @tzd_maryland | View the Tweet

Today we joined @MD_MVA @MDSP @MADDOnline @WicoSheriff and several other law enforcement agencies on the Eastern Shore to kick off Bay to Beach, a high visibility enforcement effort along US 50 through Labor Day to target impaired, aggressive and distracted drivers. #MDOTscenes

FLHSMV @FLHSMV | View the Tweet

“Thank you @AGAshleyMoody for championing the rights of consumers. @FLHSMV is committed to ensuring when a customer walks into a dealership to buy a car, they are met with a fair, transparent and honest car buying experience.” - Terry L. Rhodes, FLHSMV Executive Director
Ride Safe Indiana @ridesafeindiana | View the Tweet

It’s Ride Safe Indiana Day at the @IndyStateFair! The first 100 motorcyclists entering through Gate 6 can park along famous Main Street! Stop by the Ride Safe Indiana tents on Main Street and State Fair Boulevard to learn more about the @INBMV motorcycle safety program!

CA DMV @CA_DMV | View the Tweet

#SaveTheSpace Misusing a disabled person parking placard is illegal. Find out what offenders face for breaking the law.
OH Bureau Motor Vehicle @Ohio_BMV | View the Tweet


SDDOT @SouthDakotaDOT | View the Tweet

#ThinkThursday
TOWARD ZERO DEATHS
IS A JOURNEY
DON'T STOP BELIEVIN'
#DriveSafeSD

Zero Fatalities @ZeroFatalities | View the Tweet

We're a month away from completing the 100 Deadliest Safest Days on Utah roads. So far, we're 42% lower in fatalities than last year. What can you do to keep the roads safe this next month? #100 Safest Days
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.

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