Join UL & AAMVA at mDL Café
There's an app for almost everything these days, whether it's shopping, tracking your exercise or finding your way. Now driver's licenses are making the transition from a card to a digital application on your mobile phone; a mobile driver license (mDL). Jointly hosted by AAMVA and UL – mDL Café is a 90 minute webinar discussing ISO standard and implementation guidelines, as well as use cases with mDL ecosystem stakeholders. This webinar is open to Issuers and industries involved in the mDL ecosystem and mDL technology providers. Read more at connect.ul.com.

REGION 1 NEWS

Wait Times at CT DMV Down 44 Percent in the Last Year (Connecticut)
Wait times at Connecticut DMV branches have gone down an average of 44.7 percent over the last year, according to data from the DMV...Last year, the average wait time was one hour, 17 minutes and 12 seconds. In August of this year, the average wait time was 42 minutes and 44 seconds...Connecticut DMV Commissioner Sibongile Magubane attributed the decreases in wait times to a few factors, among them “appropriate staffing levels,” and certain efficiencies like “Ensuring document compliance prior to customer waiting in line to ensure successful transactions.” Read more at ctpost.com.

DSP Reports Spike in Deadly Crashes in the First State (Delaware)
Delaware State Police are reporting a recent spike in deadly crashes across the First State. According to DSP, a majority of the crashes have been traced back to some form of distracted driving. Other behavior includes things like impaired driving, speeding, and failing to wear seat belts. State police announced its working alongside the Delaware Office of Highway Safety to provide safety tips for drivers and passengers. Read more at wboc.com.

Fatal Crashes Decrease Nationally, but Increase in Maine
A new study from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration shows that in 2018, overall fatal crashes decreased for the second year in a row. The study states that the nation averaged a 2.4 percent decrease in deadly crashes between 2017 and 2018, or 913 less fatalities. Officials at the Maine Bureau of Highway Safety say that Vacationland was not as successful at reducing fatal crashes as the other states. Read more at wgme.com.

Vulgar Vanity License Plates Fuel Debate, and Maybe New Limits Down the Road (Maine)
Derek Volk did a double-take when he pulled up at a stoplight in Biddeford last weekend. The license plate on the white SUV in front of him contained a four-letter expletive followed by...
“you.” He snapped a photo and shared it on Facebook, prompting dozens of comments from people upset by the language...While some people may be offended to see that type of language on a license plate, it is not against the law in Maine. Read more at pressherald.com.

**Truck Driver Indicted on 23 Charges in Crash That Killed 7 Motorcyclists (Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire)**

The 23-year-old truck driver involved in a crash that left seven motorcyclists dead was indicted on 23 charges, court documents show. Volodymyr Zhukovskyy is charged with seven negligent homicide charges that he was under the influence of one or more drugs when the crash occurred, seven other negligent homicide charges, seven manslaughter charges, a charge of aggravated driving while intoxicated and one charge of reckless conduct. Read more at kmov.com.

**State Coordinator Appointed to Help Prevent Teen Driving Tragedies (New York)**

Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) is teaming up with the Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee (GTSC) to help prevent teen driving crashes and improve safety on New York’s roadways. Through this partnership, SADD has established its first-ever State Coordinator position to mobilize SADD chapters and expand awareness efforts across the state. Read more at news10.com.

**How Hard Was It Getting Real ID? In My Case, Real Easy. (Pennsylvania)**

As I left the office at lunchtime Friday to get my Real ID driver’s license, I joked that I wasn’t sure when I’d return. My experience shows it may be time to discard that old impression of the Department of Motor Vehicles. I got my Real ID at the driver’s license center on MacArthur Road in Whitehall Township in 45 minutes. The process went smoothly. That happened because the staff was efficient and because I went prepared. Read more at mcall.com.

**Community Members Spreading Awareness for Visually Impaired Pedestrians During White Cane Safety Day (Pennsylvania)**

Community members are spreading awareness for visually impaired pedestrians during White Cane Safety Day. To honor this, the Erie County Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind in Pennsylvania made their way to a roundabout...to bring attention to drivers. Members walked around showing different signals to make sure the area is accessible for those who are visually impaired. Read more at yourerie.com.

**State Can Help With Duplicate Numbers Dilemma (Rhode Island)**

When is the state going to eliminate the duplicate registration numbers used across the different types of registrations, for instance passenger, commercial, combo, etc. With the advent of red light and speed cameras in many states, people are getting tickets for offenses committed by others...While issuing the same registration across different plate types is not unique to Rhode Island, the R.I. DMV is attempting to correct this as we move forward, especially with the state’s reissuance program beginning next year. Read more at providencejournal.com.

**Only 10 Percent of Arkansans Have a Real ID Less Than a Year From Deadline (Arkansas)**

The deadline is less than a year away, but only 10 percent of Arkansans have obtained a Real I.D...The Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration began their Real I.D. campaign three years ago, but a spokesperson told KATV only 10 percent of Arkansans have obtained one – that’s roughly 250,000. Read more at katv.com.

**Partnership With DDS, DNR Creates Efficiency for Georgia**
Boaters
A partnership between the state Department of Driver Services and the Department of Natural Resources is making it easier for boaters to show they have the required boater education. A boating indicator - a small anchor - may be added to the front of a driver’s license or ID card to eliminate the need to have a boating safety education card with them when boating. Read more at covnews.com.

SC DMV to Accept More Documents for Veteran Identification on Driver’s License (South Carolina)
Starting Monday, more South Carolina residents will have the chance to add “veteran” to their state driver’s license or identification card and qualify for a veteran license plate because of a change in state law. Additional forms will now be accepted at the DMV so that all those who fall under the federal definition of veteran can add the designation. Read more at wtoc.com.

TxDOT Launches 'Be Safe. Drive Smart' Safety Campaign (Texas)
TxDOT is launching its "Be Safe. Drive Smart" traffic safety campaign Monday...This new campaign is urging drivers in high-traffic oil and gas production areas to give trucks plenty of space, avoid distractions, drive a safe speed, and always buckle up. In other words, pay attention! Read more at foxsanantonio.com.

Virginia DMV Increases Staffing as Real ID Deadline Approaches
Virginians have until Oct. 1, 2020 to acquire a Real ID-compliant driver’s license or ID if they would like to travel by plane or access certain federal facilities. As the deadline approaches, the Virginia DMV has increased staffing at customer service centers...The organization also has expanded its mobile outreach program, which travels throughout the state providing Real IDs. Read more at whsv.com.

More than 375,000 Obtain New State Real IDs (Illinois)
More than 375,000 Illinois residents have obtained specially marked state IDs bearing a gold star in the corner that, beginning next October, will be the only form of state ID accepted to board domestic flights. The number represents steady progress since the specially marked state identification cards and driver’s licenses became available in March, according to Dave Druker, spokesman for Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White. Read more at chicago.suntimes.com.

School Bus Stop Arm Violations Continue to Haunt School Systems (Indiana)
Motorists continue to pass Indiana school buses stopped along the road picking up or dropping off students at an alarming rate — despite those bus drivers having activated their flashing red lights and stop arms. In April, the state police said a data collection campaign it operated showed almost 2,600 motorists across the state passed legally stopped school buses on a single day. Read more at kpcnews.com.

BMV Extends Business Hours for Election (Indiana)
The Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) has announced their extended Election Day hours. On Monday and Tuesday, November 4 and 5, the BMV will be keeping their doors open longer for those participating in voting. This will allow ID cards and driver’s licenses to be issued to be used for identification at polling places. Read more at eaglecountryonline.com.

Kansas Launches the Nation’s First Driver License Practice Exam for Amazon Echo Devices
The Kansas Department of Revenue, in partnership with the Information Network of Kansas, recently launched its "Kansas Driver’s Practice Test," the first driver’s license practice exam skill made for the Amazon Echo Show. The skill, which can be accessed on all Amazon Echo
devices, will equip Kansans to be safe and informed about the rules of driving. While preparing users for their actual exam, this skill will support their learning by testing their vehicle and motorcycle knowledge. Read more at ksn.com.

Gov. Kelly Gets Real ID, Encourages Kansans to Do the Same (Kansas)
Gov. Laura Kelly signed up for her Real ID this morning, and she says it's time for you to do it, too. The governor wanted to highlight how easy it can be to get your Real ID. "This is the new standard," Gov. Kelly said. "Real ID is required as a way to enhance safety and security." Read more at wibw.com.

Central Valley Teaches Kids to "Respect the Rig" During Teen Driver Safety Week (Nebraska)
Car crashes are the number one killer of American teens, and during Teen Driver Safety Week, one school is getting kids behind the wheel of a big rig, to highlight the hazards in rural Nebraska...In a largely rural school district, students at Central Valley often share the road with semis. Read more at nebraska.tv.

Volunteers Work to Improve Traffic Safety for Pedestrians (Ohio)
An Ohio city is using volunteers and public awareness to reduce the number of pedestrians hit by vehicles...The Akron Beacon Journal reports a disproportionate number of accidents involve school-age pedestrians in late fall when the sun sets early. The paper says October sees a regional average of about 22 pedestrian crashes. One safety concept is "walking school buses," using volunteers to travel with children in easily visible walking caravans. Read more at wpta21.com.

Driver's Licenses Would Be Valid for Twice as Long Under Legislator's Proposal (Ohio)
There's a bill in the Ohio Legislature that its sponsor says will ensure you spend less time at the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. State Rep. Derek Merrin's (R-Monclova Township) bill would allow you to purchase a driver's license that lasts for 8 years. Read more at wksu.org.

REGION 4 NEWS

Alberta Government Abruptly U-Turns on Trucking Regulation Changes After Public Outcry
The Alberta government has reversed plans to make it easier for agricultural truckers and school-bus drivers to obtain and retain their permits after three weeks of public outcry. The United Conservative Party was considering creating a separate safety standard for new semi drivers operating in the agriculture sector, which The Globe and Mail first reported in September. In the meantime, thousands of new drivers were also set to receive permanent exemptions from the new testing. Read more at theglobeandmail.com.

New Pacoima DMV Solely for Processing Real ID Transactions Has 15 Minute Wait Times (California)
Many dread waiting in line at the DMV, but a new location in Pacoima has a wait time of just 15 minutes. Lines at the new center are moving fairly quickly due to the fact that they only process driver license and Real ID transactions. Some drivers are driving in from other cities to quickly receive their new Real ID. Read more at losangeles.cbslocal.com.

Oregon Ballot Proposal for Undocumented Immigrant Driver's Licenses Rejected
Oregon's secretary of state says an attempt to repeal a new law that grants undocumented immigrants' driver's licenses is unconstitutional and can't proceed. Secretary of State Bev Clarno announced Tuesday the wording of Initiative Petition 43 does not include the "full text
of the proposed law," as required by the Oregon Constitution. Instead, the petition calls for a law passed via House Bill 2015 to be repealed, without offering what Clarno calls "the specific language" of the change being proposed. Read more at kgw.com.

Oregon DMV Closes Vehicle Title Loophole
The Oregon Driver and Motor Vehicles division of ODOT is closing a loophole in the vehicle title process. A dismantler's bill of sale will no longer be accepted place of a vehicle title. Oregon DMV director Tom McClellan said between 2011 and 2018, an investigation uncovered a criminal operation had used this loophole in Oregon rules to illegally title Washington vehicles. Read more at mycolumbiabasin.com.

Saskatchewan Plans Tough Penalties to Crack Down on Distracted Driving
The Saskatchewan government intends to get tough on distracted driving, with Wednesday's throne speech promising tougher penalties for a practice that costs lives. When asked by reporters, Premier Scott Moe would not confirm how high the penalties will go, except to signal they could reach a level comparable to what's now in place for impaired driving. Read more at o.canada.com.

US Highway Deaths Fall in 2018 for Second Straight Year, Says NHTSA
Traffic deaths in the U.S. fell slightly in 2018 for the second straight year, the government's road safety agency said Tuesday. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration attributed the 2.4% drop partially to technology in newer vehicles that can prevent crashes. A total of 36,560 people died on the nation's roads in last year, the latest full-year statistics available. Read more at stripes.com.

Most States Are Not Giving Washington Their Driver's License Information
An effort by the U.S. Census Bureau to collect state driver's license records as part of President Donald Trump's order to gather citizenship information has been a bust so far. As of Wednesday, the vast majority of state motor vehicle agencies had not agreed to share their records with the bureau, according to an Associated Press survey of the 50 states. Read more at nbcnews.com.

One in Six Young Drivers Use Snapchat While Driving, Says Study
While people do not pay heed not to use smartphones while behind the wheels, Snapchat has emerged as the biggest culprit, with researchers now reporting that one in six young people use the photo-sharing app while driving. For a few, the Snapchat use only involved looking at, or replying to, other people's messages. But 15 per cent of those surveyed said they had used their phone to send a video or photo via Snapchat at the same time as controlling their vehicle. Read more at news18.com.

National Teen Driver Safety Week
National Teen Driver Safety Week takes place October 20 to 26, 2019. Now in its 12th year, National Teen Driver Safety Week is dedicated to raising awareness and seeking solutions to prevent teen injuries and deaths on the road. This grassroots movement has brought millions of teens, parents, schools, law enforcement, advocates, and policymakers from across the country together to tackle the number one cause of death for teens in the U.S. – car crashes. Read more at teendriversource.org.

More Teen Drivers Are Hitting the Roads, New Study Shows Trends
More teens are taking driving courses now than they were in 2012. A new AAA study suggests this trend could promote safer driving down the road. Although younger drivers might cause concerns for more experienced drivers, Hart says this is a positive change. “They should find a peace of mind knowing that these students and these 16 year olds are wanting to get the proper training,” Read more at wifr.com.

FMCSA Says Drug, Alcohol Clearinghouse Will Be Open to Other Agencies
The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration has announced its plans to permit Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse records to be disclosed to agencies outside the U.S. Department of Transportation to ensure compliance with drug testing regulations. When the Clearinghouse goes into effect Jan. 6, employers will be required to list truck and bus drivers who have failed or refused to take DOT drug tests, and the results for drivers required to complete a return-to-duty program and clean drug test. Read more at ttnews.com.

Fatalities in Crashes Involving Large Trucks Increased by Just Under 1% From 2017 to 2018
Fatalities in crashes involving large trucks increased by just under 1% to 4,951 from 4,905, according to statistics released by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration covering 2017 to 2018. For last year, though, large-truck occupant fatalities rose to 885 in 2018 from 878 in 2017, a slight increase of 0.8% but the highest number since 1988, when the agency reported 911 occupant fatalities. Read more at ttnews.com.

Thousands of School Buses Recalled for Inadequate Crash Protection
About 53,528 Thomas Built school buses have been recalled because students may not be adequately protected in a crash, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The recall says the seats on the buses may have been manufactured with styrene blocks which may not offer enough impact absorption in certain areas around the steel seat frame of the back support. Without proper impact absorption, the person in the seat could be injured in the event of a crash. Read more at wcti12.com.

DOT Announces Audit of FMCSA Oversight on Driver Disqualifications
The U.S. Department of Transportation’s Office of Inspector General has initiated an audit of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration’s oversight of truck driver disqualifications. OIG issued a memorandum announcing the audit Oct. 22. FMCSA’s oversight duties include annual reviews of state driver licensing agencies to make sure the agencies are complying with commercial driver license regulations. The federal audit stems from an earlier internal investigation by a state driver licensing agency. Read more at ttnews.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!***
CT DMV @CDTMV | View the Tweet

Thanks @CCEHtweets for allowing us to participate in a webinar today with other community partners on obtaining different types of ID. Great presentation by Angie, one of our branch office managers! #workingtogether

DC DMV @dcdmv | View the Tweet

DC DMV Director Gabriel Robinson testifying at hearing on cyclist safety, ignition interlock program, and Vision Zero.
MD_MVA @MD_MVA | View the Tweet

Our new veterans service center is #Open4BizMD! This new service center provides veterans and their dependents the convenience to apply for a variety of state benefits in one place.

Learn more in our newsroom: https://bit.ly/2MFBX91

NH Department of Safety @NH_DeptSafety | View the Tweet

@GovChrisSununu, @NH_DeptSafety Comm. Quinn, @BowPolice Chief Lougee, and SAU67 Asst. Sup. Ford kick off Operation Safe Stop as part of NH School Bus Safety Week in partnership with SAUs, local law enforcement @NH_OHS, @NH_DMV and the NH School Transportation Association.
NYS DMV @nysdmv | View the Tweet

DMV employees wore purple today throughout New York State in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. We're proud to “Shine a Light” on this important issue. See a gallery of images here:
https://www.flickr.com/photos/57993127@N04/albums/72157711482855751 ...

PA Department of Transportation @PennDOTNews | View the Tweet

Attention teachers and parents: PennDOT has a school bus safety activity book available for download on its website. Get it here (downloads PDF) →
https://www.dot.state.pa.us/Public/DVSPubsForms/BDL/BDL%20Publications/Pub%20724.pdf ...

Drinking and driving among teens is a problem no matter where you are, but it's more common in some places than others.

Coming in at #5?

http://ow.ly/rrbS50wQkbB

Whatever device you're using, remind yourself to #PutItDown and #FocusOnDrivingFL with @FLHSMV's watch, phone & desktop backgrounds! Pass the message along at your school
with printable posters, all available for download at the FLHSMV Teen Safety Center: https://www.flhsmv.gov/safety-center/driving-safety/teen-drivers/

VirginiaDMV @VirginiaDMV | View the Tweet

DMV Commissioner Holcomb was joined by @BarbaraFavola @HopeforVirginia and @Lopez4VA this morning to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the @ArlingtonVA #DMVSelect. We're excited for this continued partnership!

ITD @IdahoITD | View the Tweet

Star Card media tour generates coverage and awareness about federal deadline requirements
for driver's licenses and IDs across Idaho.
Learn more>>https://bit.ly/31C8jWx