AAMVA Congratulates Utah on a Successful S2S Launch
AAMVA congratulates Utah on successfully implementing State-to-State Verification Service (S2S) during the weekend of January 26, 2019 and becoming the 21st 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 Maine and Wyoming who assisted with Utah’s migration. North Carolina is scheduled to begin using S2S on February 11, 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.

AAMVA's Dockless Scooters Whitepaper Now Available
Transportation options are evolving and a trending hot topic has emerged; the dockless electric scooter (e-scooter) sharing industry has rapidly launched in cities across North America. With the expansion of mobility options comes complex issues to be considered by regulators. The regulations for this type of transportation is commonly made at the city or municipality level. However, this raises the question as to which level the regulations should be made: At the jurisdiction level or at the local level? AAMVA's new Electric Dockless Scooters Whitepaper addresses challenges and considerations related to this new, disruptive form of transportation. For questions regarding AAMVA's stance on E-Scooters, please contact Casey Garber, Manager, Vehicle Programs.

Delaware Lyft Users to Get Discount During Super Bowl, Aimed at Reducing Impaired Driving
Delaware state and Wilmington city officials are teaming up with Lyft to provide discounted rideshare prices for the big game, according to an announcement made Wednesday. Through a program called SoberLift, users interested in receiving vouchers valued up to $15 can text ‘SoberLift’ to 99000 and receive a voucher for a safe ride home between Saturday, February 2, 2019, starting at 8 p.m. and Monday, February 4, ending at 2 a.m. A redeemable discount code will then be delivered right to users' phones. Read the article at wdel.com.
Transportation Officials Get Access to Limo in Deadly New York Crash

A standoff between local prosecutors and the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) over access to the limousine involved in a fatal crash that killed 20 people in New York last October has been resolved. Schoharie County Judge George Bartlett ruled on Tuesday that NTSB investigators will finally be able to perform a hands-on inspection of the vehicle involved in the nation’s deadliest transportation accident in nearly a decade. 'The NTSB was pleased to have the opportunity today to meet with Judge Bartlett to discuss our investigation. We look forward to continuing our safety investigation, and to conducting an examination of the crash vehicle,' a NTSB spokesperson told Fox News. Read the article at foxnews.com.

Howard University Center to Study Traffic Safety and Crashes with D.C. Vision Zero Grant (Washington, D.C.)

A team of researchers at Howard University's Transportation Research Center, part of the school's engineering and architecture college, will study D.C. traffic crashes and potential safety improvements over the course of five years, thanks to an official grant from the city. The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has awarded the center a $3.75 million grant through D.C.’s Vision Zero initiative, which is aimed at eliminating traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2024. In a release, Howard says the center—led by associate professor Stephen Arhin—will 'obtain, manage and analyze traffic crash data for DDOT.' Read the article at dc.curbed.com.

LA Digital License Now Accepted in Alcohol and Tobacco Purchases (Louisiana)

Louisiana’s digital driver’s license, LA Wallet, can now be used for alcohol and tobacco purchases. The new Louisiana Office of Alcohol and Tobacco (ATC) rule authorizes retailers and establishments to accept LA Wallet when verifying age and identity. LA Wallet is the only form of electronic identification recognized and accepted in the state...'We have worked to make it possible for bars, restaurants and other alcohol and to retailers to accept this form of ID by adding digital ID training to our responsible vendors. Our goal is to allow for statewide use of this new technology and still ensure that retailers can verify identification to avoid alcohol sales to minors,' said ATC Commissioner Juana Marine-Lombard. Read the article at katc.com.

NCDOT Updates Process For Changing Gender Marker on Driver's Licenses

The North Carolina Department of Transportation has changed the process to update a person's gender marker on their driver's license. NCDOT released a Sex Designation Form for those who are looking to make the change. The form replaces the former requirement for a surgeon's letter and can be authorized by a broader range of providers. Currently, 21 other states use this procedure recommended by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators. Read the article at spectrumlocalnews.com.

Traffic Fatalities Dropped in Texas in 2018

After seven straight years of increases, the number of traffic fatalities in Texas fell in 2018, the Insurance Council of Texas (ICT) reported. Texas Department of Transportation data show that traffic fatalities dropped 4 percent from 3,720 in 2017 to 3,567 last year. The number of fatal auto pedestrian accidents also fell. After reaching a high of 676 fatal auto pedestrian accidents in 2016, 597 pedestrians were killed on Texas highways last year indicating 12 percent decrease. Traffic fatalities in Texas had risen 34 percent since 2010 before finally declining last year. Despite the decline in auto fatalities in 2018, the number of deaths remains nearly 25 percent
IRP, Inc. RFP for Project Management Consultant Services  
February 8, 2019

AAMVA RFQ FY19-18104: Software Engineer Consultant  
February 8, 2019

MyPlates Names Texas' Best Personalized Plate Messages of 2018

My Plates, a company that designs and markets specialty license plates as a vendor for the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles, has released their list of the funniest, cleverest, and most Texas proud license plates of 2018. My Plates narrowed down a list of 35,000 plates to the top 27 plates across nine categories. "Every day we see some very creative plate messages coming through, amounting to tens of thousands by the end of the year. We have a lot of fun with our team and there are sometimes heated debates to get to our final selection" said Steve Farrar, President of My Plates. Read the article at fox26houston.com.

Who's Liable When a Self-Driving Car Runs You Over? Legislative Bill Attempts to Clarify That (Nebraska)

Who's liable if you get run over by a self-driving car? On Tuesday, a state senator attempted to clarify that question about the fast-growing technology. Under a legislative bill introduced by State Sen. Suzanne Geist of Lincoln, the manufacturer of the self-driving technology would be liable in a crash involving a vehicle that was capable of "the entire driving task" and operating in autonomous mode. In the case of a vehicle operating "in concert" with a driver — such as a car with lane-centering technology that required a motorist to touch the wheel every so often or take control when making a stop — the driver would be liable. Read the article at omaha.com.

State Program Could Help Suspended Drivers Regain Licenses (Ohio)

Ohioans who had their driver's license suspended for certain violations may be able to have their license reinstatement fee waived or reduced under a new program going into effect this week. The Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles says the Reinstatement Fee Amnesty Initiative goes into effect Thursday. It allows drivers six months to apply for a fee reduction or a waiver. Drivers can apply from Thursday through July 31, 2019. The bureau will determine eligibility based on qualifying offenses. Offenders must have completed all court-ordered sanctions other than paying the reinstatement fees and at least 18 months must have passed since any court-ordered suspension ended. The offense cannot have involved drugs, alcohol or a deadly weapon. Read the article at sent-trib.com.

ADOT Begins Issuing Driver's Licenses to Some Immigrants with 'Deferred Action' Status (Arizona)

Some immigrants living in Arizona with federal authorization to work in the U.S. can now get a driver's license. On Wednesday, the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) announced the settlement of a lawsuit over the issue Wednesday that spanned years. The change was effective in late December. Read the article at kgun9.com.

Proposed California Bill Would End Selling DMV Appointments

A private company is looking to capitalize on Californians' frustrations by selling earlier DMV appointments than the ones people can book themselves online. However, a new bill introduced Wednesday would make selling a DMV appointment against the law. Read the article at kcra.com.

higher than 2010 levels. Read the article at insurancejournal.com.

REGION 3 NEWS

Who's Liable When a Self-Driving Car Runs You Over? Legislative Bill Attempts to Clarify That (Nebraska)

REGION 4 NEWS

Proposed California Bill Would End Selling DMV Appointments
These California Drivers Are Still on Cell Phones, Despite State’s Get-Tough Law

The number of California drivers illegally using their cell phones while behind the wheel increased in 2018, a state observational study has found. Notably, use is highest among people driving alone. People stationed at intersections around the state observed that at any one moment, 4.5 percent of drivers were using their cell phones. That was an increase from 3.6 percent the previous year, and caused some concern among state highway safety officials. Read the article at sacbee.com.

Oregon DMV Rolls Out New Vehicles System

Oregon DMV’s much-anticipated rollout of their new vehicles system was a success last week. The Oregon Driver and Motor Vehicle Services Division completed the first of two implementations to replace 50-year-old technology. With this rollout, Oregon also joined the community of jurisdictions who are connected to the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS). The new vehicles system went live on January 22, 2019. The division plans to replace its drivers system in July 2020. Read more here.

Saskatoon Police Show Off New Test for Suspected Drug-Impaired Drivers (Saskatchewan)

Saskatoon police gave the media a demonstration on Thursday of the machines used by officers on suspected drug-impaired drivers. The device — the Drager DrugTest 5000 oral fluid tester — was approved by the federal government and purchased by the province for $6,000 per machine. The machine tests saliva for both cocaine and THC, the main ingredient in cannabis that makes someone high. ‘This instrument requires the police to have reasonable suspicion that there’s been recent usage,’ said Saskatoon police Staff Sgt. Patrick Barbar. Read the article at cbc.ca.

It’s Risky to Text and Drive, but How Can You Break the Habit? We Ask the Experts

While smartphones have enriched our lives in many ways, their ability to command our attention can also cause serious problems. In the U.S., nine people are killed and more than 1,000 are injured every day in crashes involving a distracted driver, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Many of those distractions are caused by smartphones. It’s a problem we’re aware of, as the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety found that distracted drivers topped the concern list in its annual traffic survey, with 87.5 percent of respondents suggesting that distracted drivers are a bigger problem today than three years ago. Read the article at digitaltrends.com.

The Big Challenges in Regulating Self-Driving Cars

Over the next decade, “self-driving” as a feature of transportation will become as commonplace as cruise control. Forecasts suggest that by 2050, the autonomous vehicle (AV) industry could be worth a staggering $7 trillion. To put this in perspective, that’s almost twice the size of Germany’s entire economy. Like any new technology, self-driving cars represent a significant new opportunity. But they also pose significant new risks. Before AVs can become ubiquitous, they will first need to be regulated. And regulating self-driving cars remains a complicated challenge. Read the article at forbes.com.

Passing the Test

Where’s the hardest place in the USA to pass your driving test? To find out, [Siegfried & Jensen] gathered license and test information from each state’s Official
Driver Handbook, and asked an expert to assign each element an overall score. Read the article at siegfriedandjensen.com.

**Autonomous Cars Could Report Drunk Drivers to Police**
Drunk drivers of the future could soon be shopped to the police by their car, after electronics giant Huawei filed a patent for a system that allows an autonomous car to detect if its driver is drunk. A document filed to the European Patent Office explains that a car fitted with the technology would be able to monitor the condition of its driver in order to ensure they would be in a fit state to take over manual control should it be required. If the car detects its driver is drunk, it can use 'machine learning' to make a decision as to what course of action to take, including issuing a warning to occupants, deactivating the controls or even contacting the police if necessary. Read the article at autoexpress.co.uk.

**2019 Roadmap of State Highway Safety Laws Released by Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety**
The 2019 Roadmap of State Highway Safety Laws ranks all 50 states and the District of Columbia on passage of 16 essential traffic safety laws. Across all states, 406 legislative gaps are contributing to the daily average toll of 100 deaths and 8,500 on our nation's roadways, underscoring the critical need for state lawmakers to urgently act now to adopt all 16 proven-effective laws. On the path to fully autonomous vehicles, lawmakers should urgently enact comprehensive state laws and advance verified vehicle safety technologies. Read the article at bizjournals.com.

**The Year's Best and Worst Driving States in the U.S. Unveiled by New Study**
With 2019 officially here, QuoteWizard, an online insurance comparison marketplace, today released a new proprietary study ranking the best and worst driving states in the nation for the past year. Following QuoteWizard's previous best and worst drivers by state and city studies, this year's study provides updated rankings on all 50 states. Read the article at apnews.com.

**TWITTER NEWS**

@AAMVACConnection 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 @AAMVACConnection.

Check out recent @AAMVACConnection Twitter action.

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

IllinoisStatePolice @ILStatePolice View the Tweet
This is more than just 4 squad cars on a traffic stop.
11 children call these four Mommy or Daddy.
MOVE OVER and SLOW DOWN for all stopped emergency vehicles.
#IWillMoveOver
MaineDOT @MaineDOT1 | View the Tweet
In honor of the big weekend, here's what to expect on our highway signs! #GoPats #SBLIII

ODOT NW Ohio @ODOT_NWOhio | View the Tweet
This video from @OSHP is scary, but it demonstrates a few important things: One, bridges and overpasses freeze faster and can remain icier longer than the rest of the roadway. And two, do not stand outside a disabled vehicle on the roadside while waiting for help. #SaferOhio
Former @Eagles player #DavidAkers is huddling up with @PennDOTNews this #SuperBowl52 to tackle impaired driving before the clock even starts. Be sure to have a game plan. Designate an MVP to get everyone home safely. Remember, fans don’t let fans drive drunk. #FlyEaglesFly #SB52

Cooper McGough believes we can #EndtheStreakTX so he came to Austin to share his plan & partner with #TXDoT. He is asking all TX drivers to stand with him on 2/20. Buckle up, drive sober, slow down, and stay focused.
#ImwithCoop220 @ServeDallas
WSLS @wsls | View the Tweet
When to hang up the keys? More and more seniors are getting into car accidents:

When to hang up the keys? More seniors are getting into car accidents
Science shows physical and cognitive decline at older ages can have a big impact on driving ability. The struggle is when to stop driving and who should make the decid...

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