Region I Conference Wraps Up
The Region I Conference took place in Portland, Maine this week. Presentations from the event are available for download from the Download Center. Feel free to browse through photos from the event on AAMVA's Flickr page.

Tell Us What You Think! MOVE Magazine Readership Survey Awaits Your Input
Share your opinion with AAMVA and help us improve our flagship publication, MOVE Magazine by completing a short readership survey. Your feedback is very important to us and will ultimately help us provide AAMVA members with an enhanced magazine. Please take a few minutes to answer these quick questions. Your information will remain strictly confidential and will be reported only in total along with the opinions of other respondents. Thank you for your participation. Complete the survey here.

Maryland Integrates New Technology into School Bus Inspections
The Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration (MDOT MVA) has introduced an innovative approach to school bus inspections – a process that allows inspectors to complete the inspection electronically. View the press release for more details.

New York Lawmakers May Further Regulate DMV On Selling Info
There are new concerns about an issue 2 On Your Side has covered plenty — the sale of your personal information by the DMV. Doing it is legal, but one Western New Yorker reached out to us and he says it's becoming a real problem for him. Read more at wgrz.com.

Pennsylvania House OKs Purple Heart Plates For Motorcycles
Pennsylvania veterans who have been awarded the Purple Heart may soon have the chance to display the designation on their motorcycles. Read more at abc27.com.
Georgia Driver Services Deputy Commissioner Receives Prestigious Public Safety Training
Deputy Commissioner Ricky Rich of the Georgia Department of Driver Services (DDS) recently returned from Israel after an intensive two weeks of public safety and counterterrorism training with the country’s top policing executives. Read the press release for more.

New Tennessee Driver’s License To Help Crack Down On Underage Drinking
A new law set to go into effect next year in Tennessee aims to crack down on underage drinking. Starting July 2018, drivers under the age of 21 will have a red vertical line around their picture showing they are not old enough to buy alcohol. Read more at wreg.com.

Winston-Salem Native and Long-time Mecklenburg Resident Torre Jessup Named State DMV Commissioner (North Carolina)
The N.C. Department of Transportation announced that Torre Jessup was sworn in today as Commissioner of Motor Vehicles by N.C Supreme Court Justice Michael Morgan. Jessup is a Winston-Salem native and has resided in Mecklenburg County for more than 20 years. Read the press release for more.

Texas Lawmakers To Take Up Distracted Driving, Again
Let the talk on talking while driving begin. In advance of the Legislature’s upcoming special session, due to start July 18, the first bills were filed Monday, including the first to tackle statewide rules related to the use of handheld devices while driving, by State Sen. Bob Hall, R-Edgewood. Read more at chron.com.

Texas Passes New Driverless Car Law: Drivers Not Required in Texas
Last month, Governor Greg Abbott signed a bill into law that expressly allows motor vehicles with “automated driving systems” to operate on Texas highways. Read more at jdsupra.com.

Minnesota Officials Consider Electric Vehicle Charging Network
Thousands of electric cars could soon be rolling on Minnesota’s roads, spurring discussions about how to keep them all juiced for long hauls from Austin to Alexandria or Blue Earth to Bemidji. Still a novelty in the state, electric vehicles are poised at the edge of the mainstream with the coming release of several more affordable models boasting lengthy ranges. Read more at govtech.com.

Computer System Upgrade Will Prompt Statewide Vehicle Licensing Disruption in Minnesota
The Driver and Vehicle Services Division of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety is replacing a 30-year-old mainframe computer system. Read the article at govtech.com.

Missouri Receives Extension on Real ID Mandate
The federal government has given Missouri more time to comply with stricter identification requirements under the Real ID Act. Missouri now has until Oct. 10 before state licenses no longer are accepted at federal facilities and nuclear power plants. Read more at usnews.com.
More And More Ohio Drivers Are Impaired By Drugs

The answer to how often an Ohio driver’s blood or urine sample tested positive for fentanyl used to be “never,” says a crime lab chief at the State Highway Patrol. But over the past three months, the powerful synthetic opioid — 50 times stronger than morphine and often mixed with heroin — has been detected in about 1 in 20 patrol tests. Read more at dispatch.com.

Accused Identity Thief Done In By Own Driver's License (Wisconsin)

When David Erchul went to renew his Wisconsin driver's license in May, 2016, he had no idea the photo he was about to pose for would unravel a fraud kept secret for three decades. Read more at tmj4.com.

CHP: California Residents With Out-of-State License Plates Must Pay

The California Highway Patrol is asking local drivers to report people they know are living in the state but driving with an out-of-state license. It even has a website called Cheaters: Out-of-State (Out of State Registration Violaters). Read more at abc10.com.

Bill Seeking New Truck-Driving Restrictions Advances To Committee On Appropriations In Sacramento (California)

This week marks the third anniversary of 25-year-old Daniel McGuire’s death when a tractor-trailer slammed into stopped traffic on Highway 17. McGuire was killed and seven others were hurt July 10, 2014, when a driver hauling 2 tons of dirt lost control on northbound Highway 17 near the Lexington Reservoir. Read more at santacruzsentinel.com.

Signature-Gathering Approved For Initiative To Repeal Gasoline Tax Increase (California)

Backers of an initiative to repeal the recent gasoline tax and vehicle registration fee increase have received authorization to begin gathering signatures, Secretary of State Alex Padilla announced Tuesday. Read more at dailynews.com.

Colorado’s Driver’s License Program For Immigrants Already Has Problems, And They’re About To Get Worse (Colorado)

Colorado’s driver’s license program for people living in the U.S. illegally has been hobbled since its start three years ago, and efforts to fix and better fund the initiative have been caught in partisan gridlock. Read more at denverpost.com.

DMV Investigators Catch Federal Fugitive On The Run For 25 Years (Nevada)

A career criminal who turned violent after escaping federal custody and fleeing to Nevada has been brought back to justice. Robert Frederick Nelson, 64, of North Las Vegas, committed a string of violent felonies in Nevada after he escaped from a Minnesota federal prison in 1992. Read the press release for details.

Feds Grant Oregon Another Real ID Act Extension

The Department of Homeland Security on Monday gave Oregon another extension for compliance with the federal Real ID Act. Oregon-issued driver licenses, instruction permits and identification cards will continue to be accepted for accessing federal buildings through at least Oct. 10. Oregon lawmakers passed
Senate Bill 374, and the governor signed it into law. Read more at ktvz.com.

Oregon DMV Buys FAST Software to Replace Systems Older than Mark Zuckerberg
The Oregon Department of Motor Vehicle’s core software is so, so old. How old is it? … So old it predates Ronald Reagan’s presidency and the 1984 birth of Facebook’s Mark Zuckerberg. Lauren Mulligan, a spokesperson for the Oregon Department of Transportation, compared it to the classic computer game “Oregon Trail,” with green-on-black text and blocky, blinking cursors. Read more at govtech.com.

Airport Face Scans of Americans Stir Privacy Issues
If the Trump administration gets its way, U.S. citizens boarding international flights will have to submit to a face scan, a plan privacy advocates call a step toward a surveillance state. Read the article at detroitnews.com.

How States Are Legislating Autonomous Vehicles
Though still a far-off fantasy in the minds of many, 19 states have passed legislation relating to autonomous vehicles — many starting small by defining terms like “automated driving system,” ”dynamic driving task” or ”autonomous vehicle.” Additionally, governors from four states have issued executive orders creating councils and working groups of stakeholders and public officials dedicated to looking at how their states should proceed. Read more at govtech.com.

If You Drive a Ford, Nissan or Mazda, Your Air Bag Might Be Dangerous
Takata Corp. is adding 2.7 million vehicles from Ford, Nissan and Mazda to the long list of those being recalled to replace potentially dangerous air bag inflators. The inflators are a type that previously was thought to be safe. Read more at latimes.com.

House Panel To Unveil Self-Driving Car Legislation Soon: Aide
U.S. House Republicans expect to introduce bills later this week that would bar states from setting their own rules for self-driving cars and take other steps to remove obstacles to putting such vehicles on the road, a spokeswoman said. Read more at reuters.com.

Will New Gender-Neutral Licenses Fly With TSA?
Oregon followed the District of Columbia’s lead this week in starting to offer gender-neutral licenses -- but whether the “non-binary” IDs will pass muster with the Transportation Security Administration is up in the air. The TSA for years has been tightening ID standards as part of a post-9/11 security push. Read more at foxnews.com.

Honda Recalls More Than 1.2 Million Cars
Honda is hitting its U.S. customers with yet another recall -- this time over flaming batteries. The Japanese firm announced on Thursday that it would recall nearly 1.2 million Accord vehicles produced between 2013 and 2016, after receiving multiple reports of the cars' battery sensors causing fires in the engine. Read more at wfmz.com.
On Twitter
@AAMVACConnection has been watching the twitter feed and decided to highlight some of the tweets. 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.

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

IIHS @IIHS_autosafety | View the Tweet

Tollbooths become key for autonomous car success
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States yanking electric-car incentives and slapping on new fees to pay for #infrastructure http://buff.ly/2uuPu8x #transportation

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