AAMVA Hearts Are Heavy With News of the Passing of John Strandquist

On Fathers Day, June 19, 2016 at Anne Arundel Medical Center in Annapolis, MD, former AAMVA President & CEO John Strandquist took his last breath with his wife and some of his eight children by his side. Cause of death was acute respiratory failure and pulmonary fibrosis. In 1987, Strandquist joined a struggling AAMVA as the president and CEO. Under his leadership, AAMVA enjoyed 11 years in growth and increasing influence. He left the association in excellent shape when he retired from his professional life in 1998. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Andrew by the Bay Catholic Church, 701 College Parkway, Annapolis, MD on Monday, July 11, at 10 a.m. Friends may also call at Taylor Funeral Home, 147 Duke of Gloucester Street, Annapolis, on Sunday, July 10 from 3 to 7 p.m. John will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery with Full Military Honors at a future date to be determined. Read the obituary for complete details.

NCS Upgrade Notification

Implementation of the Network Control Software (NCS) upgrade project, originally scheduled for July 4, 2016, has been cancelled. The new technology that will be introduced with this upgrade requires more time and testing to ensure successful implementation. As NCS is one of AAMVA's most critical applications, AAMVA management has decided to postpone the implementation date. The new implementation date will be provided as soon as possible. AAMVA will send a detailed communication to all members when the transition to the new NCS happens. In case of any questions or concerns, please contact the AAMVA Helpdesk at 1-888-AAMVA80 option 1 or Helpdesk@aamva.org

AAMVA’s MOVE Magazine Receives Gold Excel Award

AAMVA’s MOVE magazine has snagged a Gold Excel Award for Best Feature Article from Association Media & Publishing (AM&P). The feature article that won the award was the human trafficking piece we published in the Summer 2015 issue. The EXCEL Awards is the largest and most prestigious award program that exclusively recognizes excellence and leadership in nonprofit association media, publishing, marketing, and communications. Learn more about the Excel Awards on the AMP Web site.
Refurbished Bus Brings DMV to Town (Delaware)

Even sitting governors are expected to pay for their driver’s licenses. Gov. Jack Markell pulled out his debit card Wednesday afternoon and signed for his new license, the first customer of the state Division of Motor Vehicles’ On-the-Go mobile service bus. Read the full story at Hockessincommunitynews.com.

New York Lawmaker Proposes Dashcam Car Insurance Incentive

Install a dash cam in your car, and cut your insurance rates by 5%. That's the proposal from a New York state legislator, who claims the dash cam as evidence in a variety of situations, would be invaluable. It would also save money and determine blame and responsibility. Read the full story at ABC7NY.com.

PennDOT Secretary Sends Letters to Teen Traffic Offenders

The secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation is using a personal approach to address young drivers who are convicted of traffic violations. Read the full story at StandardSpeaker.com.

Raimondo Vetoes Foreign Driver's License Bill (Rhode Island)

Citing a potential conflict with the Geneva Convention, Governor Raimondo has vetoed a bill that would have made it easier for some foreigners here on visas and green cards to get Rhode Island drivers' licenses. Read the full story at WashingtonTimes.com.


Beginning Friday, July 1, five new motor vehicle provisions will become North Carolina law. The new provisions, passed by the N.C. General Assembly, affect either vehicles or drivers in the state. Read the DMV press release.

New Dooring Law Takes Effect July 1 in Virginia

A traffic infraction for “dooring” and some new restrictions for learner’s permit holders are among the many DMV-related legislation changes effective July 1. Read the DMV press release.

More Customers Can Now Check in by Computer or Phone (Michigan)

Six more Secretary of State offices will offer the innovative MI-TIME Line service that allows customers to use their phones or computers to make appointments or hold their place in line, Secretary of State Ruth Johnson announced today. Read the SOS press release.

Ohio BMV Starts Accepting Credit Cards for Driver Fees

The Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles says its deputy registrars will soon accept credit
cards as payment, after years of people requesting that as an option. Read the full story at WashingtonTimes.com.

**REGION IV NEWS**

**Alberta Unveils Insurance Plan for Ride-Share Company Drivers**

The wild west of ride-hailing apps operating without clear rules and suitable insurance is over in Alberta as the province has become the first in Canada to unveil an insurance system that covers all drivers working for rideshare companies, including Uber. Read the full story at Globe2Go.Newspaperdirect.com.

**Demand for Driver's Licences Decreasing Among B.C.'s Young People**

School is almost out, a time when teens traditionally bum dad's car to drive to the beach or mall. But students in some B.C. towns are increasingly choosing to wait to get their driver's licence - and the places this is occurring may surprise you. It's not just in transit-friendly cities where teens are putting the brakes on getting their learner's permit. Read the full story at TheProvince.com.

**Undercover Investigators Accuse Seven Bay Area Firestone Shops of Fraud (California)**

A two-year undercover investigation by regulators from the California Bureau of Automotive Repair has resulted in fraud accusations against seven Bay Area Firestone shops. Read the full story at SFGate.com.

**Disarmed and Dangerous: Officers Across the Bay Area and State are Losing Firearms at an Astonishing Rate — and the Consequences Can be Deadly (California)**

Nine-hundred and forty-four guns. From Glocks, Sig Sauers and Remingtons to sniper and assault rifles, some equipped with grenade launchers. They used to belong to law enforcement officers across California, but a new Bay Area News Group investigation found hundreds of police-issued weapons have been either stolen, lost or can't be accounted for since 2010, often disappearing onto the streets without a trace. Read the full story at Extras.MercuryNews.com.

**"Rolling Reissue" Will Replace Faded Nevada License Plates**

Older Nevada license plates which may be faded or worn will be replaced over the next several years as the Department of Motor Vehicles implements a “rolling reissue” approved by the 2015 Nevada Legislature. In the future, nearly all plates will be replaced every eight years to help keep Nevada license plates in a readable condition. Learn more on the Nevada DMV Web site.

**Heroic Veterans Honored with New Special Plates (Nevada)**

Nevada combat veterans who earned the Silver Star Medal or the Bronze Star Medal with “V” device, Combat V or Combat Distinguishing Device can now display the honor on new specialty license plates released today by the Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles. Read the DMV press release.
NHTSA Data Shows Traffic Deaths Up 7.7 Percent in 2015
Preliminary data released today by the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration show a 7.7 percent increase in motor vehicle traffic deaths in 2015. An estimated 35,200 people died in 2015, up from the 32,675 reported fatalities in 2014. Read the NHTSA press release.

Toyota Recalls 1.4 Million Cars for Airbag Problem
Toyota is recalling 1.4 million cars worldwide for a problem with exploding airbags. Though Toyota said this recall does not involve a Takata airbag, it has not identified the supplier. Toyota said it is not aware of any deaths or injuries related to this latest airbag recall. It also said the cause of the problem, and the solution, is different from the Takata problem. Read the full story at WNEP.com.

Volkswagen Agrees to $14.7 Billion Settlement Over Emissions Cheating
The settlement is only a preliminary step in the case; the automaker still faces possible criminal charges, as well as civil penalties for Clean Air Act violations. The Department of Justice is investigating possible criminal charges against both the company and individuals, said Deputy Attorney General Sally Yates. Read the full story at Money.CNN.com.

East Coast States Want to Tax Drivers’ Travel, Not Their Gas
A group of East Coast states wants to help overhaul the way America pays for its decaying roads, and it’s starting with Monopoly money. Read the full story at WashingtonPost.com.

On Twitter
@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!***

NV DPS @NevadaDPS | View the Tweet
State Highway Safety Officials Concerned by Projected 7.7% Increase in Motor Vehicle Fatalities GHSA data... http://fb.me/75GN4W2j5

It Can Wait @ItCanWait | View the Tweet
Whether you say #ItCanWait or #PuedeEsperar, keep your eyes up and your phone down. Follow @ATTlatino & learn more: http://Espanol.att.com/PuedeEsperar

DDOT DC @DDOTDC | View the Tweet
Traffic rules are not suggestions, per @tomsherwood #kojoshow
Recall alert: Prius and Lexus vehicles. Check your vehicle status on Toyota’s website.

Drive Smart Virginia @DRIVESMARTVA | View the Tweet
Will this holiday weekend be the deadliest ever? http://ow.ly/Hl8G301Qryt @NTSB

GHSA @GHSAHQ | View the Tweet
Tech will help keep us safer on roads, but long way from truly self-driving vehicle https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/t... #tesla

NHTSA @NHTSAgov | View the Tweet
NHTSA data shows traffic deaths up 7.7% percent in 2015 http://www.nhtsa.gov/About+NHTSA/Press+Releases/nhtsa-2015-traffic-deaths-up-07012016 ...

Larry Hogan @LarryHogan | View the Tweet
Today we celebrate one year of lower tolls! Enjoy extra cash as you travel to the beach this holiday weekend!
The Regional News e-newsletter is developed and distributed by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA).
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