Regional News – April 26, 2013

Tidbits

DEADLINE APPROACHING: Apply Now for the Martha Irwin Award for Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety

The Martha Irwin Award for Lifetime Achievement in Highway Safety is presented annually to an AAMVA member jurisdiction employee, or other individual whose primary function is directly associated with highway and traffic safety efforts.

Nomination Guidelines:

- AAMVA member jurisdiction employees, or other individuals whose primary function is motor vehicle or highway safety, are eligible.
- Interested jurisdictional members are encouraged to submit nominations to their chief motor vehicle or chief law enforcement administrator who will then submit one nominee per jurisdictional agency to AAMVA Director of Law Enforcement Brian Ursino at bursino@aamva.org.

Click here for the 2013 Martha Irwin Award nomination form. Nominations must be received by April 30, 2013. For more information, contact Brian Ursino via email or at 703-350-5103.

Registration Open for Region I Conference, Look Forward to Seeing You in Dover, DE!

Registration for the 2013 Region I conference is now available at http://www.aamva.org/2013-Region-I-Conference/. The conference will be held at the Dover Downs Hotel & Casino in Dover, Delaware July 13-18. Planning details can be found on the website and we have an exciting agenda that will cover a wide range of topics. Sessions will include topics such as Customer Service - Giving Customers What They Want, Teen Driver Safety, the Future of Vehicle Inspections, ICE Fraud updates, Mature Drivers, VMT, Tolling and License Plates, Disaster Preparation and Recovery, Traffic Incident Management and System Modernization, as well as several breakout sessions that address driver licensing, vehicle registration and titling, and law enforcement issues. Get yourself registered to take advantage of an opportunity to network with your peers, share challenges and opportunities, and to learn how industry solutions can help you address your challenges. Visit the site or contact Patrice Aasmo at paasmo@aamva.org or 571-435-2861 if you need additional information.

Region IV Conference Registration Now Open; Make Plans to Attend

Registration for the 2013 Region IV conference is now available at http://www.aamva.org/2013-Region-IV-Conference/. Registrations received by May 15 are eligible for the early rate of $250. We will be meeting at the Omni Interlocken in Broomfield Colorado from June 24-27. Our conference rate is $128 / night. You can make reservations by calling the Omni at (303) 438-6600 or on-line here. The Committees are working on a jam packed agenda that will cover topics such as Sovereign Citizens, Delivering an Effective Dealer Management/Oversight Program, DACA and the Move Towards Two-Tier Driver Licensing, How to Walk on the Cloud Without Falling Through, Legal Marijuana - The Next National Trend and the Effects on Highway Safety, E Titling from the Jurisdictions Perspective, Are You Brave Enough for System Redesign?, Autonomous Vehicles, Best Practices to Reducing Suspended Drivers, CDL Update, and much much more. Don't miss the opportunity to network with your counterparts and share successes and challenges and to learn what new tools industry can provide to help you in your mission. Contact Sheila Prior at sprior@aamva.org or 480-275-4584 if you have questions or need more information.

Registration Now Open for Region II Conference: Hope to See You There!
Registration for the 2013 Region II conference is now available at [http://www.aamva.org/2013-Region-II-Conference/](http://www.aamva.org/2013-Region-II-Conference/). The conference will be held at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis in Atlanta, Georgia June 9-13. Planning details can be found on the website and the Committees have put together an excellent program with an agenda that will cover a wide range of topics. Sessions will include topics such as Changes that Improved Customer Service, Inter-agency Use of Facial Recognition, Wireless Roadside Inspection Technology, Unconventional Vehicles and Licensing, Emergency Contact Information, System Modernization, News from our Federal Partners, State-to-State and DIVS Update, E-Titling from the Jurisdictions Perspective, What is MAP21 and How Does it Affect My Agency, and several breakout sessions that delve into driver licensing, vehicle registration and titling, and law enforcement subjects in detail. Take advantage of an opportunity to network with your peers, share challenges and opportunities, and to learn how industry solutions can help you address your challenges. Visit the site or contact Patrice Aasmo at paasmo@aamva.org or 571-435-2861 if you need additional information.

**2013 Standing Committee Vacancies**

Each of AAMVA's three standing committees have vacancies beginning September 2013. If you are interested in applying for membership, please download the Committee Member Application.

- The Driver Standing Committee is seeking an information technology representative and a public affairs and consumer education (PACE) representative from any of AAMVA's four regions.
- The Enforcement Standing Committee is seeking two law enforcement representatives - one from Region I and one from Region III. These applicants must be sworn law enforcement officers.
- The Vehicle Standing Committee is seeking an information technology representative and a public affairs and consumer education (PACE) representative from any of AAMVA's four regions. The Vehicle Standing Committee is also seeking a vehicle representative from Region III.

All terms are for two years beginning September 2013 and ending August 2015. Download the [Committee Member Application](http://www.aamva.org/Committees-and-Working-Groups/). Applications must be received by **August 1, 2013**. If you have questions, please contact Dianne Graham, director, Member & Conference Services via email dgraham@aamva.org or phone (703) 908-8267. For more information, see [http://www.aamva.org/Committees-and-Working-Groups/](http://www.aamva.org/Committees-and-Working-Groups/).

**Region I News**

**Public Voting To Name Heron On Maryland License Plates**

Hattie, Seemore or Wade? The Chesapeake Bay Trust says you can help decide what to name the heron on its Treasure the Chesapeake license plates. The nonprofit organization says it has narrowed the possibilities down to those three finalists - Hattie the Heron, Seemore D. Bay, and Wade. Voting began on Friday and ends this coming Friday. The public can vote online at [http://www.bayplate.org](http://www.bayplate.org). The heron is also used on the logo of the nonprofit, which says more than 550 suggested names were submitted. The trust awards grants to improve the Chesapeake and its rivers, funded in part through sales of the license plates. [Read the full article at baltimore.cbslocal.com](http://www.baltimore.cbslocal.com).

**Car Breathalyzers Could Reduce Drunk Driving (Maine)**

A new bill could allow habitual drunk drivers to get their license back earlier if they agree to install a breathalyzer in their car. The device is called an ignition interlock device and would only allow a sober driver to turn on the car. The driver would need to breathe into the IID to start the car to prove they are sober. The device has the capabilities to take a photo of the person breathing into it which is then sent electronically to a monitoring service in real time. Under the proposed bill, if a person is convicted of three or more OUI’s in a 6 to 8 year period, their license would be reinstated after four years if they
agree to use the device. This would cut down on the current license suspension and supporters argue it would help rehabilitate habitual drunk drivers. Seventeen other states already passed similar laws. One organization in favor of the bill is Mother's Against Drunk Driving. The organization argues offenders using the breathalyzer will be less likely to re-offend. with an ignition interlock device that offender is taught to drive sober. Read the full article at wcsh6.com.

Great White Shark License Plates May Soon Be Available In Massachusetts
Massachusetts residents may soon be able to get their hands on great white shark license plates. The nonprofit Atlantic White Shark Conservancy (AWSC) has launched a 60-day online campaign to pre-sell 1,500 great white shark license plates. The DOT approved the design last week, but according to an AWSC news release, 1,500 pre-orders are required before the plates can be put into production. The special plates, which feature two striped bass and a bluefish alongside the great white, cost $40. Proceeds will go toward supporting shark conservation. Pre-orders can be placed by through the AWSC online campaign. Read the full article at boston.cbslocal.com.

Constables Can't Get Municipal License Plates, Registration Waivers, State Judge Rules (Pennsylvania)
In a decision that highlights their fuzzy legal status, Commonwealth Court has ruled that constables are not eligible for municipal license plates or for waivers of the state's annual $36 vehicle registration fee. Silver Spring Township Constable J. Michael Ward applied for and received a municipal government plate and a registration waver for his business vehicle from PennDOT in 2009 and again in 2010. However, in 2011, PennDOT notified Ward that it was rescinding the registration for his Chevy Tahoe because the municipal plate was issued in error and because Ward had not paid to register the vehicle. Ward appealed to county court. Judge Skip Ebert sided with PennDOT, so Ward appealed to Commonwealth Court, where Senior Judge James Gardner Colins issued an opinion that upheld Ebert's ruling. Read the full article at pennlive.com.

New License Plates Available for Paratroopers, WWII Merchant Mariners (Pennsylvania)
Members and veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces who have served with a U.S. Military Airborne Unit or as a World War II Merchant Mariner can now display their service with new license plates available from PennDOT. "These new plates recognize the added challenges faced by the brave service members who served with our nation's military airborne units and those who served with the Merchant Marines during World War II," said PennDOT Secretary Barry J. Schoch. "PennDOT is proud to recognize the contributions of all of our military members." The legislation establishing the new registration plates provides for a U.S. Military Airborne Unit plate exhibiting the standard registration plate configuration with images of jump and glider wings. The plate for World War II members of the Merchant Marines features the standard registration plate configuration coupled with an image of the Merchant Marine emblem. Veterans and military personnel interested in these new plates can visit PennDOT's Driver and Vehicle Services Web site, www.dmv.state.pa.us, and select the "Military License Plates" link under the "Military Personnel/Veterans" Information Center. A complete listing of available military license plates can also be found on this page. The page provides images of each plate and links to the appropriate application form. Read the full article at gantdaily.com.

Region II News

Military Service Display on State Driver License (Alabama)
Starting May 1st, Alabama veterans will be able to display proof of service on their driver license. "Now, our veterans may readily show their status to obtain any benefits, rebates and accommodations they richly deserve. I am proud to have played a part, along with Sen. Marc Keahey, in making this happen,"
said Rep. Marcel Black, the bill's author. By filling out the DD-214 form, vets will be able to show military service on the I.D. That form, which is provided by the Department of Defense, can be found at any state Department of Public Safety's Driver License exam office. It must show either an "honorable" or "general under honorable conditions" status. Read the full article at cbs42.com.

Florida Drivers Could Soon Pay Less for Car Registration
A unanimous Florida Senate has passed a bill that rolls back the fees for automobile registrations and will save an individual driver $12 a year. The Senate on Wednesday passed the bill (SB 1832) on a 39-0 vote. Sen. Audrey Gibson voted 'yes' after failing to stop the bill with an amendment requiring a study of the tax rollback. The state will make up the lost money -- between $220 million and $230 million -- by eliminating a tax break to insurance companies. Those companies pay a state tax on insurance premiums but also get a rebate worth 15 percent of the salary paid to their workers. State lawmakers had increased auto fees in 2009 to help close a multi-billion dollar budget gap. Read the full article at wtvy.com.

Department of Driver Services (DDS) Uncovers Illegal Activity (Georgia)
A Nigerian man, Osamuyimen Ediagbonya, is under arrest after attempting to persuade a Department of Driver Services (DDS) driver examiner at the Norcross, Gwinnett County, customer service center to circumvent new homeland security procedures and issue a fraudulent driver's license. The DDS driver examiner immediately alerted DDS Fraud Investigators which led to the arrest. Commissioner Rob Mikell commented "This is a testament to the ethical dedication that is characteristic of DDS' driver examiners. We are sworn to ensure security and conformance to departmental policies and state law," he said. "I also commend the DDS Fraud Investigative Unit for their swift and thorough investigation to substantiate the crime," he added. Read the full article at dds.ga.gov.

Department of Driver Services (DDS) Administrator Receives State Safety Award (Georgia)
Georgia Department of Driver Services' (DDS) Deputy Commissioner Spencer Moore has received the Golden Achievement Award from MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) Georgia presented at the Ninth Annual Law Enforcement Recognition Awards. Moore helps lead the agency responsible for driver license testing and issuance including motorcycle safety and driver education and driver improvement. The awards program, which is funded through a grant from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS), allows MADD to recognize partners in the community and those in law enforcement who have excelled in stopping drunk driving, supporting victims of DUI and preventing underage drinking. The awards program includes several statewide recognitions, as well as seven categories in both Officer DUI Heroes and Agency DUI Heroes. Receiving the Golden Achievement Award was a surprise for Moore who did not get prior notice of his selection. "I am extremely honored to accept this award," said Moore. "I commend everyone who was honored and everyone who works to combat the problem of impaired driving," he added. Read more at dds.ga.gov.

Texas Lawmakers Seek Legislation to Ban Texting While Driving
Texas lawmakers remain optimistic after their first hearing that could ban texting while driving in Texas on Wednesday. The Senate Transportation Committee in Austin heard testimonies from family members who have lost loved ones in accidents where the driver was texting while driving. Texas Governor Rick Perry vetoed a similar measure in 2011, and has criticized the latest proposed bill as a form of "government micromanagement." Perry said he will wait until a bill reaches his desk before he takes a position. Read the full article at kiiitv.com.

Virginia DMV Denies Tesla Request to Run Its Own Dealership
Virginia officials have rejected a request from electric car maker Tesla Motors (TSLA) to operate its own dealership at a Tysons Corner mall. State law requires manufacturers to sell cars through a dealer, unless the manufacturer can show that no dealer is available. Palo Alto-based Tesla sought an exception, saying its unique model for selling cars would not be attractive to a traditional dealer. The showroom would be more of a "design studio" where customers would use touch screens to customize options. No inventory would be on hand, and customers would wait up to six months to receive their vehicle. There would not be a service department. The Virginia Automobile Dealers Association objected to Tesla's request. Read the full article in the Silicon Valley Mercury News.

New Registration, Titling, and Safety Requirements for Mopeds (Virginia)
Beginning July 1, 2013, Virginia law requires every moped driver to carry a government-issued photo ID (does not have to be a driver's license) and every driver and passenger must wear a helmet while riding a moped. Drivers must also wear a face shield, safety glasses or goggles, unless the moped has a windshield. Virginia law also requires mopeds operated on Virginia roadways to be titled and registered by July 1, 2014, but moped owners can jump start the process this summer. DMV will begin titling and registering mopeds on July 1, 2013. A moped title is $10. The annual registration fee is $20.25. Read more at dmv.virginia.gov.

Region III News
Drunken Boaters Could Lose their Driver's Licenses (Illinois)
Drunken boaters could lose their licenses to drive cars under a plan approved by the Illinois Senate Thursday. The plan stems from the death 10-year-old Anthony "Tony" Borcia of Libertyville. Borcia was killed last year when he was riding a tube pulled by a pontoon boat and was hit by a motorboat. The driver, David Hatyina of Bartlett, has pleaded guilty to operating a boat under the influence. Borcia's aunt is state Sen. Julie Morrison, a Deerfield Democrat, who wants tougher penalties for boaters who drive drunk. She has said threatening to take away boaters' ability to drive cars could help deter drunken boating and avoid future deaths like Borcia's. Read the full article in the Daily Herald.

Senate Approves Online Iowa Driver's License Renewals
Eligible drivers between the ages of 18 and 72 years would be eligible to renew their Iowa operator's licenses electronically every other time under legislation that cleared the Iowa Senate on Tuesday. Sen. Tod Bowman, D-Maquoketa, said authorizing online driver's license renewals would reduce wait time for Iowans and save the state Department of Transportation an estimated $1.2 million in road-use tax funds via the efficiencies that the provisions in House File 355 would allow. Senators voted 48-0 to approve an amended version of the bill and sent it back to the Iowa House, which could ship the measure to Gov. Terry Branstad for his consideration. The bill would take effect upon when it is signed by the governor. Read the full article in the Gazette.

Michigan Poised to Keep Drunken Driving Threshold at .08 -- Could Boats, Snowmobiles Be Next?
Michigan is poised to keep its drunken driving threshold at .08 percent blood alcohol content - and it's possible state lawmakers might later consider getting boat, snowmobile and off-road vehicle operating thresholds in line with that standard. The Senate approved House Bills 4093 and 4131 by 36-0 votes Wednesday. The legislation maintains the .08 drunken driving threshold for motor vehicles that has been in place for roughly a decade. The House already has approved the legislation, so it should soon be headed to Gov. Rick Snyder for his signature. If the bill doesn't become law, Michigan's drunken driving threshold would revert to a higher threshold of .10 percent on Oct. 1. Michigan could lose an estimated $50 million a year in federal highway funding if the state allows the threshold to bounce back up to .10.
All states have drunken driving thresholds set at .08 to be in compliance with federal standards and keep their federal highway money. Read the full article in Michigan Live.

Missouri Senate Votes to Defund Driver's License Bureau
Missouri residents could be unable to get driver's licenses if a funding cut passed Monday by the Missouri Senate were to ultimately become law. The elimination of funding for Missouri's driver's license bureau was perhaps the most dramatic proposal in a Senate budget plan full of reductions intended to grab the attention of executive branch officials accused by some senators of being uncooperative or less than forthcoming when describing how they spend state money. Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Kurt Schaefer, the architect of many of those message-sending cuts, said he was seeking leverage over state officials as he leads a Senate delegation that will meet with House members in the coming weeks to negotiate a final version of the 2014 budget. But other senators wondered about the effect if the proposed cuts actually become law. If the entire $3.5 million allotment for the Motor Vehicle and Driver Licensing Division ultimately is eliminated: "They will not be able to issue any driver's licenses," Schaefer, a Columbia Republican, acknowledged. Read the full article in the Kansas City Star.

RFI Posted: Wisconsin Department of Motor Vehicles: Driver License/Identification Card Issuance and Production
The primary purpose of this RFI is to gain contemporary knowledge to assist in the development of a Request For Proposal (RFP) to facilitate issuance of Wisconsin driver license and identification card products. This system is expected to be integrated with WisDMV web services, mainframe, and customer flow system. The State of Wisconsin invites all interested parties to submit a written response to this Request for Information. Vendors are being asked to provide complete information on equipment, software, and services your company offers to facilitate the capture, storage and retrieval of a digitized signature and a digitized image of an individual, along with specified demographic information, which can be stored efficiently and retrieved rapidly through various access points. The solution must include ability to utilize facial recognition. The solution must be able to accept centralized batch print requests, and produce and mail highly secure credentials from a centralized production facility and must support defined web services interfaces for integration with other DMV applications. The information gained from this RFI may be used in the development of a competitive procurement process, leading to the selection of a contractor that is best suited to provide the solution set that meets the Department's requirements. DOT wants to look at all possible solution sets to meet our needs for credential issuance and production. Please include a full description of your processing system and integration model. For more information, visit http://www.aamva.org/Open-RFPs/.

Region IV News
Three Killed in Fatal Helo-1 Crash (Alaska)
On the evening of Saturday, March 30, the Alaska State Troopers were called to rescue an injured snowmachiner near Larsen Lake. Traveling by himself, he had crashed and reportedly suffered broken ribs. He could not get out on his own and had inadequate gear to spend the night in the wilderness. Given the circumstances, Helo-1 was approved to perform a search and rescue mission. Alaska State At approximately 2200 hours, radio communication with Helo-1 indicated that they had located the injured snowmachiner and were on their way to meet an ambulance. Helo-1 did not make the rendezvous. Rescue aircraft located the wreckage of Helo-1 near the south end of Larson Lake. There were no survivors. Killed in the crash were Pilot Mel Nading, Trooper Tage Toll and victim Carl Ober. Our condolences go to the Alaska State Troopers. Read the Alaska State Troopers press release.
Prospects Lifted for Bill to Offer Driver's License to Those in U.S. Illegally (California)
For the first time in more than a decade, there appears to be a realistic chance that a law will emerge this year that would allow people living in the country illegally to obtain a license to drive in California. On a 12-1 vote that included the support of two Republicans, the Assembly Transportation Committee on Monday approved this year’s version of a bill that has either stalled in the Legislature or been vetoed by the governor each year since 2001. "This is the year for the licenses to become law in California," said Assemblyman Luis Alejo, D-Salinas, after the vote. Alejo, the author of AB 60, noted that for the first time the bill has a Republican co-author, has the prospect of receiving significant bipartisan backing and is close to receiving support from the California Police Chiefs Association. Just as important, it is being debated following a Field Poll finding earlier this year that showed public opinion has shifted on the issue and that a majority of voters now supports such a law. Read the full article in the Ventura County Star.

California Assembly Approves Bill Allowing Noncitizens to Serve on Juries
Noncitizen immigrants lawfully residing in California would be eligible for jury duty under a bill that cleared the Assembly on Thursday. Current state law allows only U.S. citizens to serve on juries. However, the state constitution does not restrict immigrants residing legally in California from being summoned. Assembly Bill 1401 would no longer exclude "lawfully present immigrants" from jury lists drawn in part by the Department of Motor Vehicles records. The bill was written by seven Democrats on the Assembly Judiciary Committee, including the chairman, Assemblyman Bob Wieckowski, D-Fremont. "You are not required to be a citizen to participate in the judicial process as a party, as a witness, to work for the courts or even be a judge," said another author, Assemblyman Luis Alejo, D-Watsonville. "It's only a requirement to be a juror. It's not a requirement to be a citizen to serve in the military, either." Read the full article in the Sacramento Bee.

Lawmaker's Bill Would Give Tax Break to Alternative Fuel Vehicles (California)
A bill proposed by Torrance Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi would give a tax break to state residents who buy an alternative fuel vehicle. Assembly Bill 1077 would change the way state sales taxes and vehicle license fees are assessed against cars that run on alternative sources of fuel. The key change that the bill would make: taxes and fees would not be calculated until incentives such as federal income tax credits and state purchase rebates have reduced the cost of alternative fuel vehicles by thousands of dollars. Read the full article in the Los Angeles Times.

California Bills Would Add Restrictions on Teen Drivers
California lawmakers moved Monday to further restrict teenage drivers, including approval of one measure to require that newly licensed 18- and 19-year-olds follow rules that now apply to younger motorists. Two bills approved by the Assembly Transportation Committee piggyback on current restrictions on drivers under 18, such as requiring a driver's education course, 50 hours of supervised behind-the-wheel training and a year-long provisional stage in which they cannot drive with passengers under 20 or be on the road after 11 p.m. Read the full article in the Sacramento Bee.

Limit on Stoned Driving Makes a Comeback in Colorado Legislature
A committee of Colorado lawmakers revived a limit on stoned driving Wednesday, just two days after a different committee killed the proposal. The limit - which would define a THC blood level at which juries could consider people too high to drive - died in a state Senate committee on Monday after lawmakers raised questions about the scientific certainty of the pot impairment measurement. It was the fourth time in three years that legislators in the Senate have rejected a stoned-driving limit. The limit's
resurrection came Wednesday in a hearing of the House state affairs committee, which heard a major bill on marijuana regulations. The sponsor of that bill, Denver Democratic Rep. Dan Pabon, proposed amending the stoned-driving limit into his bill, House Bill 1317. Read the full article in the Denver Post.

Senate Gives Initial OK to Driver's Licenses for Undocumented Immigrants (Colorado)
Legislation to allow undocumented immigrants to get Colorado driver's licenses is one final vote away from passing out of the state senate after lawmakers gave it an initial okay on a voice vote Wednesday afternoon. But, once again, lawmakers amended the bill to change the license itself so that it's even more explicit that the license-holder is not a U.S. citizen. The bill's sponsor, Sen. Jessie Ulibarri, D-Adams County, initially proposed that the licenses be marked "non-citizen"; after an amendment added on the floor Wednesday, the license will explicitly state that it is not to be used for federal purposes, voting or public benefits. According to Ulibarri, 15,000 uninsured undocumented immigrants now driving on Colorado roads could get licenses if his bill becomes law. Read the full article on kdvr.com.

Idaho Drops Surgery Requirement to Change Sex on Driver's License
Idaho officials on Tuesday dropped a requirement that transgender residents show proof of surgery to alter sex designation on their driver's licenses, bringing the state in line with policies in most other parts of the country. The change, which comes after a complaint by the American Civil Liberties Union of Idaho, requires a court order or sworn statement from a doctor for those seeking to revise their gender on Idaho driver's licenses. It repeals a 2011 rule that required proof of surgical gender reassignment before licenses could be modified. The ACLU of Idaho had complained to the state transportation agency about its decision to revoke the license of a transgender woman and deny another's application because neither had undergone sex-change surgery. In Idaho, about six applicants a year request changing the sex designation on their licenses, officials said. Read the full article in Yahoo News.

Oregon Senate Passes Immigrant Driver's License Bill
The Oregon Senate has approved a proposal to grant short-term driver's licenses to people living in the country illegally. The Senate approved the bill in a 20 to 7 vote on Monday. It now goes to the House. The bill would allow immigrants, among others, who have lived in Oregon for at least a year and meet other requirements, to apply for driver's licenses without proving legal presence. The bill sparked controversy at a lengthy public hearing held earlier this month. Lawmakers heard from opponents who said the proposal would attract criminals to Oregon. Supporters of the licensing program said it would make Oregon's roads safer because there would be more trained and insured drivers. Read the full article at kgw.com.

1 in 6 Utah Road Deaths Involved Motorcycles in 2012; Safety Urged
As the weather warms up, more motorcycle riders will hit the road, many of them with little experience and a new motorcycle to ride. "If we can have a weekend, or a few days, with somebody and can teach them the proper way to ride, we're going to give them a huge advantage," said Joe Timmons, the owner of Salt Lake City Harley Davidson, which just opened a new motorcycle safety instruction course. Timmons loves the sun on his face and the feel of his Harley on the open road. But the avid rider and motorcycle dealer paves the way for that enjoyment by making sure he's safe. "We need to have a good motorcycle to start with," he said. Timmons thinks of safety in terms of several cornerstones, starting with a well-maintained motorcycle with good brakes and properly inflated tires. He said the safe rider should wear a helmet, goggles, boots over the ankles, gloves and a jacket made of leather or another protective material. A helmet is not mandatory in Utah. "You can improve your chances of
surviving an encounter on the roadways significantly by wearing proper gear," said Daniel Terry, who teaches motorcycle safety at Salt Lake Community College. Read the full article on ksl.com.

Inslee May Continue to Allow CIA to Get Fake ID Cards (Washington)
Washington Gov. Jay Inslee may continue allowing the nation's spy agency to get fake ID cards from the state, with a spokeswoman saying Friday that the governor broadly interprets a bill aimed at giving cover to law enforcement officers. The proposed law, approved by the Legislature on Friday, limits the distribution of bogus driver's licenses to officers engaged in "law enforcement activities." While the CIA is not a law enforcement agency, Inslee spokeswoman Jaime Smith said the governor broadly interprets the meaning of "law enforcement activities" to include the CIA. Read more in the Lewiston Tribune.

Did You Know...

- Unlike baseball or basketball, the origins of ice hockey are murky, at best. While some say a version of the game was played by the French and Irish as far back as the 1700s, others claim it was invented in the mid-1800s when Canadians with homemade sticks would skate on frozen ponds in Ontario.
- The first organized indoor hockey game was played March 3, 1875 at Montreal's Victoria Skating Rink, between two teams of nine players each, many of whom were McGill University students.
- The National Hockey League (NHL) was founded on November 22, 1917.
- The Montreal Canadiens have won the most Stanley Cups in league history, with 23. The most recent came in 1993.
- The fastest slapshot on record is Bobby Hull's, which registered 118 miles per hour.
- Wayne Gretzky holds 61 NHL records, the most by far of any player.
- The Stanley Cup has had many adventures since its creation in 1893. Through the years, it has been used as a cereal bowl, accidentally left by the side of the road, tossed into a swimming pool and even lost, like luggage, on a 2010 flight from New Jersey to Vancouver. It was later recovered by an Air Canada employee.
- Before 1914, referees used to place the puck on the ice between the players' sticks for faceoffs. This led to many cuts, bruises and even broken hands for the referees. Starting in 1914, the referees were allowed to drop the puck between the players' sticks.
- Before games, hockey pucks are frozen to prevent them from bouncing during play.
- The first hockey puck, used during outdoor pickup games in the 1800s, was reportedly made of frozen cow dung.