

May 9, 2014 - Regional News

AAMVA News

2014 Annual International Conference Registration Now Open

Online registration for AAMVA's 2014 Annual International Conference (AIC) is open. Join Chair of the Board Jennifer Cohan at the Dover Downs Casino and Hotel for a unique networking and educational event. (Check out the promo video.) (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-rbjQmvEk4&list=UUrW3jQf3p_25zeK9EQbCrAA&feature=share&index=3) AAMVA will provide jurisdiction travel assistance. Check out the 2014 Annual International Conference Web site for more details and to register today! <http://www.aamva.org/2014-AIC-Landing-Page/>

Region I

'BikeSafe' Launches in Maryland for Motorcycle Riders

Gloves, boots, and a reflection of safety, Lt. Dave Ennis with Anne Arundel County Police is on the fast lane to keep motorcycle riders in Maryland on two wheels. Read the full story at ABC2News.com.

<http://www.abc2news.com/news/region/anne-arundel-county/bikesafe-launches-in-md-for-motorcycle-riders>

New Hampshire May Change Law to Target High Speed Drivers

Motorists caught driving at more than 100 mph on New Hampshire highways may soon pay a heftier price for flouting the law. House lawmakers are expected to follow the Senate's lead and clarify the state's reckless driving statute to include high-speed driving. Read the full story at EagleTribune.com.

<http://www.eagletribune.com/newhampshire/x2117373759/N-H-may-change-law-to-target-high0speed-drivers>

New Hampshire's Highest Court Says COPSLIE Vanity License Plate is Protected by Free Speech

If a New Hampshire man thinks cops lie, he's free to say so on his license plate, the state's highest court ruled Wednesday. In a unanimous decision, the state Supreme Court agreed with the arguments of David Montenegro, who wanted the vanity plate reading "COPSLIE" to protest what he calls government corruption. Read the full story at USNews.com.

<http://www.usnews.com/news/us/articles/2014/05/07/new-hampshire-court-upholds-copslie-vanity-plate>

No Rise in New Jersey Crashes Despite End of DMV Safety Inspections

New Jersey has not seen a rise in crashes caused by vehicle malfunctions since it stopped motor vehicle safety inspections in 2010. An analysis by The Record newspaper found vehicle malfunctions accounted for roughly 2 percent of all yearly accidents. That's the same percentage that occurred in the two years prior to the change. Read the full story at ClaimsJournal.com.

<http://www.claimsjournal.com/news/east/2014/04/30/248181.htm>

New York Senate OKs Tougher Hit-and-Run Penalties

Lawmakers in New York have voted for tougher penalties for drivers who leave the scene of an accident. Read the full story at PressConnects.com.

<http://www.pressconnects.com/viewart/20140508/NEWS10/305080010/NY-Senate-OKs-tougher-hit-run-penalties>

House, Senate OK Cell Ban Compromise (Vermont)

House and Senate negotiators signed off on a deal Wednesday to ban the use of cellphones and other electronic devices while driving. Read the full story at RutlandHerald.com.

<http://www.rutlandherald.com/article/20140508/THISJUSTIN/705089930>

Region II

Bill Passed to Prohibit Registered Sex Offenders from Operating School, Passenger Buses (Florida)

The New York State Senate passed new legislation Monday that would prohibit registered sex offenders from working as bus drivers. Read the full story at News10.com.

<http://www.news10.com/story/25370504/bill-passed-to-prohibit-registered-sex-offenders-from-operating-school-or-passenger-bus>

Sex Predators Could Be Named On Driver's Licenses (Florida)

The words "sexual predator" would be stamped on the driver's licenses of sexual predators under bill language that was approved in the Florida House. Read the full story at CBS12.com.

http://www.cbs12.com/news/top-stories/stories/vid_15338.shtml

House Backs Six-Year Driver's License for Louisiana

Louisiana could be on the road to a six-year driver's license. Currently, drivers must renew their licenses in the state every four years. But the House on Tuesday unanimously supported a proposal by Republican Rep. Franklin Foil, of Baton Rouge, that would change the renewal period to six years. Read the full story at WBRZ.com.

<http://www.wbrz.com/news/house-backs-six-year-driver-s-license-for-la/>

Statewide Texting Ban in South Carolina Gains Momentum, ‘Sparkle’ (South Carolina)

A statewide texting ban is gaining momentum with backing from the S.C. House, some Senate leaders and a bit of political “sparkle” — supplied by S.C. beauty queens. Read the full story at HeraldOnline.com.

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/05/07/5942606/statewide-texting-ban-gains-momentum.html?sp=/100/101/&ihp=1#storylink=cpy>

State Tries to Curb Road Deaths from Energy Boom (Texas)

Transportation authorities in Texas have been working to reduce traffic deaths related to the oil and natural gas boom, but local officials and industry experts agree that education alone won't solve the problem. Read the full story at Chron.com.

<http://www.chron.com/news/texas/article/Texas-tries-to-curb-road-deaths-from-energy-boom-5453800.php>

Virginia DMV Partners with the Department for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing to Offer Tests in American Sign Language

Through the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles’ (DMV) new testing system called SecuriTest, customers can complete knowledge exams in 16 different languages, now including American Sign Language (ASL). Read the DMV press release.

<https://secure2.sglc.com/DMSImage/16820140507061017231/0.doc>

Region III

Vehicle Renewal Sticker Receipt Legislation Approved by House Committee (Illinois)

Legislation proposed by Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White to allow a printed receipt from the Secretary of State to serve temporarily as the vehicle renewal sticker was approved today by the House Transportation Vehicles and Safety Committee. Read the SOS press release.

<http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/news/2014/april/140430d1.pdf>

New Laws Introduced to Keep Drugged Drivers off the Road (Michigan)

New legislation regarding doped up drivers may lead to stiffer penalties and safer roads. Read the full article in VoiceNews.com.

<http://www.voicenews.com/articles/2014/04/30/news/doc535a9116f1f63682466711.txt>

Brothers Accused of Odometer Fraud Arrested in Undercover Sting (Missouri)

Investigators say a Kansas City man helped them set up an undercover sting to bust a pair of brothers who police say were ripping off car buyers around the metro. Read the full story at KCTV5.com.

<http://www.kctv5.com/story/25431995/brothers-accused-of-odometer-fraud-arrested-in-undercover-sting>

Highway Patrol, Sheriffs Make Peace (Ohio)

A cease-fire appears to have been brokered between the feuding factions that Gov. John Kasich once called “the Hatfields and McCoys” — the State Highway Patrol and Ohio’s county sheriffs. Read the full story at Dispatch.com.

<http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2014/05/02/highway-patrol-sheriffs-make-peace.html>

Using Performance Art to Alert Drivers to Look Out for Pedestrians (Wisconsin)

A series of three street performances taking place this Thursday and Friday carries a simple message - remember to see and stop for pedestrians. Read the full story at WUWM.com.

<http://wuwm.com/post/using-performance-art-alert-drivers-look-out-pedestrians>

Region IV

Canadian Police Agree to Let Chinese Drivers Use Mainland Licences (British Columbia)

Canadian police have agreed to let Chinese drivers temporarily use their mainland licences in British Columbia without being fined, ending a row with the province’s car insurance authority. Read the full story at SCMP.com.

<http://www.scmp.com/news/china-insider/article/1496481/canadian-police-agree-let-chinese-drivers-use-mainland-licences?page=all>

Feds Reject Design of Driver's License for Immigrants in U.S. Illegally (California)

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has rejected California’s initial design for a driver’s license for immigrants in the country illegally, saying it is not distinguishable enough from permits given citizens. Read the full story at LATimes.com.

<http://www.latimes.com/local/political/la-me-pc-feds-reject-design-of-drivers-license-for-illegal-immigrants-20140506-story.html>

Rhonda Craft Tabbed as New Director for Office of Traffic Safety (California)

Today the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) announced the swearing in of Rhonda Craft as the new OTS Director. Ms. Craft has assumed the dual duties of OTS Director and the Governor's Representative for Highway Safety to the federal government. She comes to the Office of Traffic Safety from the

Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), where her last position was as Chief of the Driver Safety Branch. Read the full story at Reuters.com.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/04/28/idUSnGNX9p524r+1c0+GNW20140428>

Senate Democrats Kill Felony DUI Measure Despite Bipartisan Support (Colorado)

How does a bill that passed the House on a 56-6 vote fail to even be debated on the Senate floor? “Shenanigans,” according to Sen. Mike Johnston, one of the lawmakers sponsoring a bipartisan effort to create a felony penalty for repeat DUI offenders in Colorado, still one of just four states without one. “There are always some surprises at the end of the session. I just didn’t expect this to be one.” Read the full story at KDVR.com.

<http://kdvr.com/2014/05/06/senate-democrats-kill-felony-dui-measure-despite-strong-bipartisan-support/>

SGI Invests in Automatic Licence Plate Readers for Police (Saskatchewan)

More police cars in the Prince Albert area will be equipped with automatic licence plate readers in the coming months as a result of investment by SGI. Currently, 13 police cars across the province are equipped with the devices, including one in Prince Albert. Read the full story in the Prince Albert Daily Herald.

<http://www.paherald.sk.ca/News/Local/2014-05-06/article-3715091/SGI-invests-in-automatic-licence-plate-readers-for-police/1>

Other News

Study Finds Motorcyclist Fatalities Fell 7% in 2013

For only the second year since 1997, U.S. motorcyclist fatalities are projected to decrease in 2013, according to a new analysis of preliminary state data released today by the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA). The latest Spotlight on Highway Safety report also notes that despite the probable 7 percent decrease in rider deaths, motorcyclist safety has not improved in fifteen years. View the GHSA press release.

<http://www.ghsa.org/html/media/pressreleases/2014/20140506motorcycles.html>

Driving with Hangover Just as Dangerous as Drunk Driving

Physicians and the California Highway Patrol say even though there’s no more booze in your system, your actions are still strongly impaired. Read the full story at Fox59.com.

<http://fox59.com/2014/05/07/driving-with-hangover-just-as-dangerous-as-drunk-driving/#axzz312P1qyKN>

Traffic Deaths Rise in Fracking Boom

Booming production of natural gas and oil has exacted a little-known price on some of the nation's roads, contributing to a spike in traffic fatalities in states where many streets and highways are choked with large trucks and heavy drilling equipment. Read the full story in the Durango Herald.

<http://www.durangoherald.com/article/20140505/NEWS03/140509731/Traffic-deaths-rise-in-fracking-boom->

Supreme Court Appears Wary of Carte Blanche for Cellphone Searches

A wary US Supreme Court on Tuesday confronted a government request for a rule that would allow law enforcement officials to conduct warrantless searches of the contents of any cellphone found on an individual being placed under arrest. Read the full story at Yahoo.com.

<http://news.yahoo.com/supreme-court-appears-wary-carte-blanche-cellphone-searches-003122065.html>

Google Says its Driverless Cars are Mastering City Streets

Google says it has turned a corner in its pursuit of a car that can drive itself. The tech giant's self-driving cars already can navigate freeways comfortably, albeit with a driver ready to take control. But city driving -- with its obstacle course of jaywalkers, bicyclists and blind corners -- has been a far greater challenge for the cars' computers. Read the full story at NOLA.com.

http://www.nola.com/business/index.ssf/2014/04/google_says_its_driverless_car.html

Did You Know

MY MOM IS THE BEST

This was supposed to be so easy. Mother's Day is this weekend, so just write about why I think my mom is the best. She is! (No doubt in my mind about that.) I guess it's just that there are no words that can sum up what my mom means to me.

She is magical. She is the definition of pure and unconditional love. Her laughter alone can heat up the coldest of days. Her strength, wisdom, guidance and love touch so many moments in each day of my life--she is my inspiration.

My conscience, my counselor, my teacher, my consultant, my rock, my friend, my backbone, my heart and my soul. She is my hero. My Mom is the best! I could spend hours upon hours telling you what makes my mom the best. But instead, I went online and found some examples of other people with amazing moms:

- Kevin Durant Wins Mother's Day 2014 with MVP Speech (Washington.cbslocal.com) <http://washington.cbslocal.com/2014/05/08/kevin-durant-wins-mothers-day-2014-with-mvp-speech-watch/>
- A Mother's Day Tribute from a Pediatric Nurse (WashingtonPost.com) http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/parenting/wp/2014/05/09/a-mothers-day-tribute-from-a-pediatric-nurse/?tid=hpModule_1f58c93a-8a7a-11e2-98d9-3012c1cd8d1e
- A Mother's Day Tribute to Moms (abcNews.com) (<http://abcnews.go.com/WNT/video/mothers-day-tribute-moms-10589243>)
- Here's to Moms (Google's Tribute to Moms) (YouTube.com) <http://youtu.be/cRDyP2DcEds>