August 14, 2015 - Regional News

AAMVA News

Summer 2015 Move Magazine Hits the Streets

AAMVA’s award-winning, flagship publication, Move magazine, has hit the streets. Featured in the new Summer 2015 issue:

  Driver examiners play a crucial role in ensuring new drivers are safe drivers
  AAMVA members can help fight human trafficking and exploitation

Visit MoveMag.org ([http://movemag.org](http://movemag.org)) to read these articles and more, including Web exclusives you won’t find in the print edition.

Register Online for AAMVA Conferences

- Annual International Conference – August 25-27 – Des Moines, Iowa
  Conference Web Site  |  Register Online

- 2015 Region III Information Exchange – November 3-5 – Oak Brook, Illinois
  Conference Web Site  |  Register Online

Region I

Uber Wins US Court Victory Against Taxi Firms (Connecticut)

Uber on Thursday won the dismissal of a racketeering lawsuit by 15 Connecticut taxi and limousine companies seeking to stop the ride-sharing company from doing business in the state. Read the full story at Telegraph.Co.UK.

Parallel Universes (Maryland)

If you heard cries of joy before summer started from anyone about to take the Maryland driver’s license test, it was probably because the Motor Vehicle Administration removed parallel parking as a requirement. Read the full story at SomedNews.com.


E-bike User Seeks Legislation to Clear Up Registration Confusion (New Brunswick)

A Saint John man is asking the provincial government for legislation to clear up confusion about whether e-bikes are allowed to be used on roads without being registered after he was ticketed by city police. Read the full story at CBC.ca.


DMV: Faulty Inspection Leads to Woman's Death, Charges (Vermont)

A central Vermont mechanic has been arrested on charges of involuntary manslaughter and reckless endangerment in connection with approving a state inspection for a defective car that later crashed, killing a woman, the authorities said. Read the full story at USAToday.com.


Region II

Floridians Failing Driving Tests at Alarming Rate

New drivers in Florida are failing their driving tests at an alarming rate. State officials said they'll make things right, but won't sacrifice safety. Read the full story at News4Jax.com.


Virginia Is In The Driver’s Seat On Piloted Cars

Virginia could soon be a significant player in the historic transformation made possible by automated vehicles. They could revolutionize transportation on a scale not seen since the first horseless carriage hit the roads more than a century ago. Read the full story in the Washington Post.

Region III

Vendor Suspends 2 Former BMV Officials Under Scrutiny (Indiana)

A private license branch operator has suspended two former Bureau of Motor Vehicles officials amid a state ethics investigation ordered by Gov. Mike Pence, a newspaper reported Thursday. Read the full story at DaytonDailyNews.com.


101st Recruit Class Reports To Missouri State Highway Patrol Law Enforcement Academy

Colonel J. Bret Johnson, superintendent of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, announces that 36 people reported to the Missouri State Highway Patrol Law Enforcement Academy on July 1, 2015, to begin the 25-week training course to become a trooper. The 101st Recruit Class is scheduled to graduate on December 18, 2015. Read the MSHP press release.

http://notes.mshp.dps.mo.gov/si01/si01p001.nsf/9300de8f24f618a68625729800536892/801654b80ba
dc28886257e9a006ac86b?OpenDocument

1,300 Young Immigrants Get Licenses in Nebraska’s Law Wake

Nebraska has issued 1,300 driver's licenses to youths who were brought into the country illegally since the state became the last in the nation to let them apply. Read the full story at ColumbusTelegram.com.

law-s-wake/article_8bfa5bf5-f469-583d-a491-92a032a5cccb.html

Ohio Department of Public Safety Receives 2015 Award for Creation of Swipe to Donate Life Project

The Ohio Department of Public Safety (ODPS) will receive the “Outstanding Information Technology Achievement in Government” award from Government Computer News (GCN) for the creation of the Swipe to Donate Life project. Read the DPS press release.

http://publicsafety.ohio.gov/

Region IV

Arizona DOT Using New Tech to Check Commercial Vehicles

Technology is being implemented to enhance the Arizona Department of Transportation’s weight and equipment safety inspection process for commercial motor vehicles. ADOT Enforcement and Compliance Division enforcement services officers are utilizing Truck Screening Systems Technology to check for weight, permit and registration compliance at three rest areas located along Arizona’s Interstate highways. Read the full story at WMICentral.com.
State Considers Dropping Gas Tax, Charging Drivers by the Mile (California)

The next time your Prius bounces through a pothole, consider the conundrum California faces. Today's cars sip rather than guzzle gas. Electric cars abound. And even though motorists are driving more and wearing down roads, revenue to pay for road upkeep – collected via a state tax on gas sales – is falling. Caltrans has put the road repair backlog at $5.7 billion. Now, California is one of several states to consider replacing the state gas tax with a charge for every mile driven. Read the full story at PE.com.

Bus Safety Bill Introduced After Deadly Crash (California)

A California lawmaker proposed sweeping bus safety reforms Friday that were recommended by federal officials who investigated last year’s fiery bus crash that killed five high school students – including a Riverside teenager on a college tour with her twin sister. Read the full story at PE.com.

Feds Say California DMV Employees Traded Cash for Licenses

As many as 100 commercial truck drivers paid up to $5,000 each to bribe state Department of Motor Vehicles employees for illegal California licenses, federal authorities said Tuesday. Read the full story at ABCNews.go.com.

Oregon's Pay-By-The-Mile Program Attracts Fuel-Thirsty Cars

Oregon’s new pay-by-the-mile program called OReGO is one month along. The idea is to re-capture tax revenue from people who drive a lot but don’t have to buy much gas. But it may work out differently. Read the full story at SpokanePublicRadio.org.

Study: Oregon's Undocumented Immigrants More Likely To Seek Deportation Deferral

Undocumented immigrants in the Northwest are more likely to take part in a deportation deferral program than immigrants elsewhere, according to a new study from the Migration Policy Institute. Read the full story at OPB.org.
Other News

Child Passenger Safety Week: Social Media Countdown Images

We’re counting down for 2015 Child Passenger Safety Week, and we want you to join us! We’ve included dates with the images as a suggested calendar for posting. Our 2015 countdown begins Saturday, August 22, and ends on National Seat Check Saturday, September 19. Visit Traffic Safety Marketing for more.


Several States Beginning Courtship with the Self-Driving Car Industry

Silicon Valley has some competition for the self-driving car business. Lawmakers in Virginia, Michigan and Florida are courting the self-driving car industry with perks, according to the New York Times. Read the full story at BizJournals.com.


How Apps Are Transforming U.S. Trucking

When Ethan Young decided to start his own shipping company, he didn't have a truck, just one cargo van. One year later, he's generated enough business to own three large trucks and hire a team of six drivers. Business is booming, and he says it's all because of a smartphone app. Read the full story at NBCNews.com.

http://www.nbcnews.com/tech/innovation/how-apps-are-transforming-u-s-trucking-n403311

States Start Restricting Police License Plate Readers

Police have a new set of eyes called automated license plate readers, and they're growing in popularity - and controversy. Automated license plate readers are mounted either on a police car or a fixed position like a bridge. As their name suggests, they read the numbers and letters on license plates -- even when vehicles are moving at high speeds -- and tag the time and location. Then another program compares the data with a list of license plates associated with criminal activity. Read the full story at Governing.com.


Phys.Org - Study Shows Driver's Ed Significantly Reduces Teen Crashes, Tickets

A new study that followed more than 150,000 teen drivers over eight years has found that driver's education significantly reduces crashes and traffic violations among new drivers. Read the full story at Phys.org.
Did You Know

BACK TO SCHOOL

It’s back to school time, and here are some interesting facts I’ve found online about what back to school means in numbers:

• In the U.S approximately 480,000 school buses bring children back and forth to school each day.
• $8.6 billion: The estimated amount of money spent at family clothing stores in August 2013. Sales at bookstores in August 2013 were estimated at $1.6 billion.
• 12 million school-age children (5 to 17) spoke a language other than English at home in 2012; 8.6 million of these children spoke Spanish at home.
• In fall 2015, about 50.1 million students will attend public elementary and secondary schools. Of these, 35.2 million will be in prekindergarten through grade 8 and 14.9 million will be in grades 9 through 12.
• Public school systems will employ about 3.1 million full-time-equivalent (FTE) teachers in fall 2015, such that the number of pupils per FTE teacher—that is, the pupil/teacher ratio—will be 16.0.
• About 3.3 million students are expected to graduate from high school in 2015–16
• Bus drivers tend to make about $16.56 an hour on average, cafeteria workers $11.60, and custodians about $14.20.
• On average in the US teachers make about $50,758, and principals earned $97,486 for public schools in the US.
• Over 26% of elementary age kids change schools at least once, and 42% of 12-17 year olds do.
• Indiana has 9 of the 10 largest high school gyms in America.
• In California, 45% of kids enrolled in school speak something other than English at home.
• The average college student pays over $14,000 a year in tuition and books

Find more interesting information online:

• Fun Back to School Facts For Kids (Kids Play and Create) http://www.kidsplayandcreate.com/fun-back-to-school-facts-for-kids/
• Fun Facts About School (Surfnet) http://www.surfnetkids.com/backtoschool/224/fun-facts-about-school/