

## CONTEMPORARY HISTORICAL VEHICLE ASSOCIATION

# OLD CARS AND NEW LAWS

## PLUS WHAATSUUP HERE AND THERE

**According to EverQuotes's safe driving app 52% of drivers speed between 5 a.m. and 5:59 a.m.**

**Elon Musk says he has verbal approval from the Feds to build a "hyperon" tunnel from N. Y. to Washington D.C. via Philly and Baltimore. Travel from New York to Washington D.C. would only take 29 minutes.**

**There are several states that have regulations for self-driving vehicles, but they vary state to state. State regulators want the FEDS to set guidelines for the vehicles, but so far, no response from the government. Some states will use bright paint on lane strips and embedding sensors in roads and traffic signals, but none have started yet.**

**Takata (air bag company) has filed for bankruptcy, but auto makers are ultimately responsible for the safety of their vehicles and that includes air bags. The government says vehicles younger than 6 years old are not currently at risk of air bag inflator rupture, but the risk will increase as the vehicle ages as it takes time for the ammonium nitrate to degrade. Parts are not yet available for some models and other models haven't been recalled yet. For many models, dealers have ample parts in stock. Only about 16 million of the 69 million inflators have been replaced as the end of April.**

**Volvo has announced that it will stop producing GAS only vehicles by 2019. In 2019 they start producing Hybrids and electric only vehicles.**

**According to a survey by the HNTB Corp, 51% of American's say that their local highways and bridges are only "somewhat" safe.**

**There are 5 cities in the world that have electric buses. They are: Lusanne, Switzerland, Trikala, Greece, Milton Keynes, UK, Zhengzhou, China, Wageningen, Netherlands. They are not fast, most only go 15 mph and with exceptions they do**

**not travel long routes. They hold from 10 to 50 or so passengers. San Francisco is expected to have driverless buses by 2018.**

**A survey by USA Today say drivers waste an average of 17 hours a year and \$345 in time and fuel hunting for a parking spot. The top 9 cities for annual search time to find a parking space, hours per driver are: New York – 107 hours, Los Angeles – 85 hours, San Francisco – 83 hours, Washington D.C. – 65 hours, Seattle – 58 hours, Chicago – 56 hours, Boston – 53 hours, Atlanta – 50 hours, Dallas – 48 hours, and Detroit is 35 hours. The average search time for the U.S. is 17 hours.**

**Market share for electric vehicles has increased 0.01 % in 2008 to 1.10 % in 2016.**

**According to a GasBuddy survey, the top rated bathroom stops are at Tulsa based QuikTrip gas stations and stores. You can download apps like GasBuddy or USA Rest Stops which will show the location of the next clean rest stop.**

**A study shows that Nebraska highways are the best maintained in the country.**

**Several vehicles that have been discontinued may be coming back in the next five years. They are the: Ford Bronco, Chevy Blazer, Dodge Challenger, Buick Riviera, Jeep Grand Wagoner and the BMW 8 series.**

**Not all of the following state bills are laws at this time. They have recently been introduced and are currently under consideration by the respective legislatures.**

## **ARIZONA**

**The Navajo Council is taking steps to hold a referendum on using \$216 million of the tribe's Permanent Trust Fund for road projects across the reservation.**

## **CALIFORNIA**

**A portion of Big Sur that has been cut off since February by a collapsed bridge and a massive landslide is accessible again.**

**A.B. 1274 to extend new car emissions test exemption has been approved by a Senate Committee and now moves to the Appropriations Committee. Under the bill, the newly exempted motor vehicles (model years 2007 & 8) would be subject to an annual smog abatement fee of \$24.**

## **COLORADO**

**State officials want to know if having access to a mobile breathalyzer decreases a person's risk of getting another DUI. People with DUI's in three counties are eligible to apply for a device that connects to a phone apt displaying the results.**

## **D. C. WASHINGTON**

**Speed camera tickets in Washington raked in nearly \$100 million in 2016 nearly doubling the amount collected from prior years. There are 116 cameras.**

**D.C. is giving residents a new gender option on their driver's licenses. The city will allow residents to choose X as gender identification.**

**A second bridge over the Potomac River connecting Virginia and Maryland north of Washington was considered during a July 19<sup>th</sup> meeting with elected officials and transportation planners.**

## **GEORGIA**

**Be glad that you were not there! A bulldozer was brought out to scrape away raw chicken waste from interstate 75 near Jackson after the slippery innards spilled from a tractor-trailer.**

## **HAWAII**

**Officials in Honolulu are considering an ordinance that would ban texting while walking. Several people have been injured in auto accidents due to texting and walking into traffic without looking. According to ABC news, from 2014 to 2016, the death rate of persons injured in traffic accidents while walking and texting has increased 20%.**

## **INDIANA**

**A bill to require factory installed or equivalent mufflers has died as the legislature adjourned.**

**A welcome Center along Interstate 80 has been closed since April because its well and water infrastructure has failed. The location is unknown.**

## **IOWA**

**State motorists will start getting new license plates next year. The new design will replace the white, blue and grey plates introduced in 1997.**

## **KENTUCKY**

**The Homeland Security Department has given Kentucky more time to overhaul its driver's license program. But the extension is just until Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>. State officials say they'll ask for an extension to January 2019.**

## **MARYLAND**

**The city of Baltimore plans to base parking meters rates on demand on downtown streets. The change will also include adjusting rates biannually to help ensure free spots are on every block.**

## **MASSACHUSETTS**

**State lawmakers are considering a ban on the use of cellphones or other electronic devices while driving. Exceptions would be made for emergency use.**

**Engineers who oversee Boston's traffic lights could soon be turning their work over to computers. The city is upgrading its traffic management system to make it respond faster to clearing backups.**

## **NEVADA**

**Electric car maker, Faraday Future, said it will cancel plans for a plant in Nevada.**

## **NEW YORK**

**A bill to provide a single license plate for historic motor vehicles has been approved by the State Senate and now moves to the Assembly.**

## **NORTH CAROLINA**

**Nearly six miles of Interstate 95 in North Carolina will be partially closed for several weeks to repair a bridge damaged by flooding.**

## **NORTH DAKOTA**

**Lawmakers agree that new drivers should be taught what's considered appropriate if they are stopped by the police. Supporters say such guidelines would help avoid deadly encounters between motorists and officers.**

## **OHIO**

**In Toledo, a police mistake led to 115 people having their speeding fines refunded. A hand held camera used Feb. 1 was stationed inside a school zone, where the speed limit is lower. But the camera targeted vehicles outside the zone.**

## **OKLAHOMA**

**Four attorneys argue that the state's new drunken driver law is unconstitutional. The law signed by Gov. Mary Fallin in May abolishes appeals for people trying to keep their licenses after being arrested for DWI. Fallin later issued an order to allow an administrative hearing if the state plans to take a person's license. The state Supreme Court has denied a request to temporarily stop the state from collecting the new 1.25% tax on new car sales.**

## **OREGON**

**A recently enacted law allows drivers who crash into deer and elk to harvest the animal's meat for food. About 20 other states also allow people keep the meat from road kill. The bill signed by the Gov. in May has passed with no opposition.**

**On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, a new law went into effect that allows people applying for a driver's license to list their gender as "not specified". Oregon is the first state to allow this, but D.C. also allows it. California is also debating the matter.**

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

**The Pennsylvania Turnpike is offering an incentive for drivers with unpaid tolls. The agency says it will waive additional fees if the tolls are paid before a new law takes effect August 4<sup>th</sup> that allows suspensions of motor vehicle registration.**

## **RHODE ISLAND**

**A trucking company was fined \$570,000 for transporting a 560,000 load without a permit. The load was ruled too heavy for state bridges.**

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

**A decade's long proposal to build a four-lane path (road) to the heart of South Carolina's tourism industry has cleared a major hurdle but funding for the Interstate 95 access is questionable. The Army Corps of Engineers has issued a permit allowing construction of I-73 to Grand Strand.**

**Warnings are being attached to horse-drawn carriages in Charleston's historic district about keeping safe distances from each other and asking car drivers to refrain from honking their horns.**

## **TEXAS**

**A bill to require a single license dies as the Legislature adjourned.**

## **UTAH**

**Construction on a \$725 million Utah freeway will begin in less than three years, pending federal approval. The road is designed to cut commuter traffic congestion in the Salt Lake City area by 35%.**

## **VERMONT**

**State officials say Vermont has identified more than \$6 million in public infrastructure damage from recent storms. This may cause some traffic delays in areas when repairs are being made.**

## **WASHINGTON**

**A new ferry is carrying passengers between Bremerton and downtown Seattle. Kitsap Transit launched the passenger only Bremerton Fast Ferry last month.**

**A bridge near Carnation , 9 years old & cost \$26 million, was closed last month as engineers determined that it was not strong enough to handle the vehicle weight. It may be reopened soon to limited traffic.**

**A new distracted driving law took effect the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of July with increased penalties for violations.**

## **WEST VIRGINIA**

**The bridge that provides the only road access to the Camp Brookside area of the new River Gorge National river in West Virginia is closed for repairs. The shutdown is expected to last about 5 weeks, the Park Service says.**

**Gov. Justice has signed a bill to ramp up road repairs and reconstruction across the state. The effort is supported by a higher gas tax, raised taxes on car sales and higher motor vehicle fees. Plans are to issue about \$3 million in bonds.**

## **WHAATSUP HERE AND THERE**

**It's my space!! In Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, a dispute over a parking space prompted a woman to punch another woman in the face. Police say Nakala Spencer was trying to save a parking space when the other woman tried to park there.**

**Most people do know that there was a Mercury pickup. They were built by Ford division in Canada from April 1946 until they were phased out by March 23rd, 1968. They were called the M-100, M-250 and M-350. The Auto Trade Agreement of 1968 allowed Ford to ship and sell Ford products in Canada, so the Mercury Trucks were discontinued,**

**According to USA Today, Washington, D.C. is the capitol of car affordability. Buying a new car in Washington with a reasonable loan repayment period is less monumental a task than in other cities.**

**Two Jeep sport-utility vehicles assembled in Ohio has topped the Cars.com list of most American-vehicles. Previously, the top two vehicles were the Toyota Camry and the Honda Accord.**

**Tesla was exploring the idea of opening a manufacturing plant in China, but instead will build a plant in Australia. They announced that sales of the new Model 3 would start in July.**

**VW has announced that they plan to start producing electric vehicles soon.**



**The Nation Park Service is seeking public input before deciding whether to increase fees at Devils Tower National Monument in Wyoming. They are also considering increasing entrance fees by \$5 at Lassen Park in California. Visitors would pay \$25 per car for a seven night stay. The annual park fee would be \$50, up from the present \$40. Individuals on foot, bicycle or horseback would pay \$12 for a seven night stay.**



Larry Becker

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