

OLD CARS AND NEW LAWS



PLUS WHAATSUUP HERE AND THERE



Tesla unveiled its new electric semi trucks in Mid November. There are two models, one with a range of 300 miles per charge at a base cost of \$120,000 and one with a range of 500 miles with a base cost of \$150,000. Walmart has ordered 15 of the new electric semis. There is also a Limited Founders Model, that has a cost of \$200,000. COSTOWL says the average cost of a gas or diesel semi starts at about \$80,000, but extras could increase the cost up to approx \$150,000.

According to the National Highway Safety Administration, 37,461 people were killed in motor vehicle accidents on U.S. roads in 2016, up 5% from 2015.

Car-performance legend, Steve Saleen is back with a new sports car, the Saleen I or SI. It has a turbocharged 450 hp 4 cylinder engine and you can pick up for about \$100,000 or more.

Tesla has built the largest lithium-ion battery in the world in Australia. The battery will start dispatching power into the state in early December.

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.

ALASKA

Juneau city officials are considering an ordinance to require owners of vehicles to obtain a permit to use the city's charging stations.

ARIZONA

The National Park Service is raising camping fees at the Chirichua National Monument from \$12 per day to \$20 starting January 1st.

CALIFORNIA

Did you find some?? Police in Riverside want anyone who picked up cash thrown on I-15 after a bank robbery, to return the money. (Lots of Luck!!).

GM has asked DMV for a change in manufactures liability responsibilities. They want to be absolved of any liabilities if the vehicle owners do not perform manufacturers required maintenance and use a certified tech to do it, especially on electric and self-driving vehicles. One item on the self-driving cars would be the cleaning of the sensors.

There is another proposal for a miles-driven gas tax, but not much information is available at this time.

The big gas tax increase this year was going to improve our roads, but one report said that the roads are in such bad shape, that it will take billions over the next 10 to 20 years to do the necessary repairs.

COLORADO

Local business leaders in Estes Park fear that an increase in nearby Rocky Mountain Park's entrance fess will hurt tourism.

D.C. -WASHINGTON

A man stripped off his clothes and jumped on a passing vehicle after an accident, causing major traffic delays.

Route 166 from D.C. to Virginia Express Way has 4 different toll zones that vary in price according to the time of day and traffic volume. The average toll for non peak hours is about \$2 to \$4. In peak hours, drivers who want to use the fast express lane could pay up to \$40.

FLORIDA

LOTS OF CLASS!! Mayor Teresa Bradley of Davenport, has resigned and is on six months probation for using dead people's disabled parking permits to park at city hall.

IDAHO

State transportation officials will spend an additional \$86 million to fix and add new lanes on Interstate 84 near Nampa and Caldwell.

HAWAII

A Maui resident has filed a class-action lawsuit against a Subaru distributor, claiming soy based wiring and insulation attracted rats that damaged the car.

A three month pilot program lets LYFT pick up passengers at Honolulu's Daniel K. Inouye International Airport.

A Maui County Council member wants a pilot project to allow people to sleep in their vehicles overnight at South Maui Regional Park.

ILLINOIS

Want to own your own private bridge? Chicago's Dept. of Transportation is going to replace the Clarence Darrow Memorial Bridge in Jackson Park in 2018. Make an offer on the old one.

KANSAS

Drivers in Wichita who give money to panhandlers could face stiff fines under a new city ordinance.

KENTUCKY

Lexington officials will keep the city's rainbow-colored crosswalks while asking why federal officials say the gesture honoring the LGBTQ community is a safety hazard.

MISSISSIPPI

Starting in January, the state will stop suspending driver's licenses just for unpaid court fines or fees.

MASSACHUSETTS

A new state law creates stiffer penalties for people who fraudulently use handicapped placards.

MONTANA

Car owners in the state will pay a little more to renew their registration in 2018.

The city of Missoula has held public meetings on limiting people's ability to live in an RV. At this time, no information is available about the outcome of the meetings.

NEBRASKA

State road officials identified \$11.2 billion in road construction needs over 20 years.

Lancaster County could become the first in the state to allow roadside memorial signs rather than private remembrances that authorities say sometimes present traffic hazards.

Lancaster County Treasurer Andy Stabbing is accused of selling cars without a dealer's license and filing fraudulent tax returns.

NEVADA

Clark County(Las Vegas area)has scrapped the idea of building a \$200 million elevated expressway to McCarran International Airport.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Hearings on a proposed 50% toll increase for state toll roads have been rescheduled for Jan. 10th.

State driver's licenses now have a security upgrade. New licenses have 11 characters - three letters and eight randomly assigned digits.

NEW YORK

A state lawmaker is raising concerns about double-decker busses.

NORTH CAROLINA

State auditors say two DMV workers used government vehicles for unauthorized commutes for three years. Not a job perk??

RHODE ISLAND

The state ACLU says police departments that have traffic ticket quotas are breaking a 2010 Rhode Island law.

TEXAS

Forth Worth city records show that less than half of the more than 230,000 drivers caught by cameras running red lights during the last fiscal year paid the \$75 ticket.

VIRGINIA

State transportation officials have delayed a paving project near Rutland in hopes of getting a more favorable bid.

State officials plan to break ground on a monument that will feature 12 bronze statues of women important to the state's history.

WHAATSUUP HERE AND THERE

Multi Tasking?? Le Grande Washington officials say a man who was drunk, naked and having sex with a woman while driving missed a curve and hit a tree.

Some popular navigation apps sent drivers through neighborhoods where wildfires had forced closures and evacuations during the fires in Southern California. Most of the apps are designed to help drivers avoid congestion and road construction and rely on information from other drivers. There were no reports of injuries from receiving the wrong information.

GM has unveiled a new dashboard gadget called "market place" where drivers can buy coffee or gas, make restaurant and hotel reservations, without getting out of their cars. The "gadget" will be available in some models by late 2017 and nearly all models by late 2018. Starbucks, TGIF and Exxon-Mobile are just some of the ones available on the unit at this time. Companies who want to be on the system, will have to pay GM a fee.

According to Chris Woodyard of USA Today, the following cars are being discontinued in 2018: - Buick Verano, Chevy SS, Chrysler 200, Dodge Viper, Hyundai Azera, Jeep Patriot, Lexus CT200, Mitsubishi Lancer, Mitsubishi I MIEV,

Nissan Quest, Mercedes Benz B-Class, Smart For two, VW Touareg and the VW CC. There also may be more models discontinued, but are not known at this time.

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