

CONTEMPORARY HISTORICAL VEHICLE ASSOCIATION, Inc.



OLD CARS AND NEW LAWS

PLUS WHAATSUUP HERE AND THERE

WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES !!! A three year, \$1.5 million study will count how many cats there in D.C. The count will include house pets, feral cats and ones in shelters. I am sure that everyone is looking forward to the results of the survey.

Free Ride!!! Autonomous car company WAYMO is partnering with Walmart to give free rides in its Phoenix area driver-less car pilot program to pick-up groceries. Customers order online, and while they are being prepared at the store, WAYMO vehicles will transport the customer to and from Walmart to collect their groceries. Not all customers may qualify for this service.

On July 30th, Uber announced that it would close its self-driving truck program to focus on self-driving cars instead. They purchased Otto, a company developing self-driving trucks, in 2016 for \$680 million.

A report by Emma Kinery of Bloomberg, says that August 2nd is the deadliest day of the year for U.S. car wrecks. On an average, car wrecks on August 2nd are more likely to kill more Americans than any other day of the year according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety which bases its calculations on fatalities from 2012 to 2016. A total of 505 people were killed in car crashes on that day. August accounted for 15,914 fatalities during the study's span. Nationwide Mutual Insurance Members reported 60,976 accidents in August 2016, more than any other month in the last four years.

Harley Davidson announced plans to expand their EV (Electric Vehicle) and may include scooters and bicycles. They also said that it will market three new, smaller bikes in 2020, plus a 1250 CC custom -made model and a 975 cc Streetfighter model.

In Texas, Drive.AI has put highlighted bright orange mini-vans, with a wavy blue stripe and the words “self-driving vehicle” in bold letters on the front of the vehicle, on the he road. They have been tested in the Phoenix area for the past year. The vans are summoned by using Waymo app on your phone. At present, they are only available in certain areas of Arizona and Texas.

According to a new report, new car sales declined in July as passenger cars continued to slump and some consumers opted for lightly used vehicles. SUVs, crossovers and pickups fared substantially better than passenger cars. The average transaction price – what buyers pay for a new vehicle in dealer showrooms, rose 3% to \$35,359 in July. The increase is due to more sales of more expensive vehicles. Passenger car prices are dropping due to lack of demand. Average cost of compact vehicles has fallen to \$20,412. Sales of Jeep vehicles, increased by 5.9% for the same month.

G.M. wants the U.S. government to exempt a SUV made in China from a 25% tariff imposed by the Trump Administration. No reply yet from the Feds.

According to a recent report, Tesla burned through \$739.5 million in cash last quarter, paving the way to a company record of \$717.5 million net loss as it cranked out more electric cars.

On August 2nd, the Feds announced plans to freeze fuel-efficiency requirements for the nation’s cars and trucks through 2026. Some states are opposed to the freeze.

Low theft rate! Tesla reports that only a few Tesla’s have been stolen in the last few years, 1 in 2011, 6 in 2013, 15 in 2014, 9 in 2015, 28 in 2016, 57 in 2017 and 23 since January 2018. All but three have been recovered.

Something that we all face, but do not want to accept is “when should we stop driving?” Most people who give up driving feel that they have lost some of their independence. A survey by AAA says that here is no set age to stop, but it is a decision we all need to make. One study is exploring the rate of when older drivers adopt or reject new safety technologies and their wiliness to try mass transit. The study also revealed that 82% of senior drivers never consult a doctor or family concerning their driving ability. Vanya Jones, a professor at John

Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and lead researcher on the project warns that the benefits of self-driving cars for seniors could be limited if they are hesitant to try the new technology due to a lack of education of awareness of the services, fear of something new , physical isolation and costs.

According to WalletHub's analysis of FBI data, 15.4% is the number of auto thefts per 1,000 residents in New Hampshire, the lowest in the nation and the highest state auto theft per 1,000 is New Mexico at 40.6.

Audi has announced that starting with the 2019 models, they will no longer sell manual transmission cars in the U.S.

Kroger will test driverless grocery delivery in Scottsdale Arizona starting August 23rd. Orders can be scheduled for same day or next day delivery by automated vehicles. Shoppers will have to pay a \$5.95 flat fee without a minimum order. Shoppers will place their orders on line at Fry's, a subsidiary of Kroger.

On August 18th, a black and white Delaware license plate tag #20, sold for \$410,000 at an auction.

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

Grand Canyon National Park will use a \$10,000 grant from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety to purchase a device to read blood-alcohol content when required by Park rangers and or police.

The State Dept. of Transportation says 1,000 people were killed in motor vehicle crashes in 2017, the third straight year of increases.

CALIFORNIA

A program will bring 400 sharable electric cars to Sacramento city streets by spring allowing residents to grab one at the spur of the moment without owning a vehicle. Plans call for a wide zone in the central city where drivers can find a car, via a mapping app, drive it anywhere they want, but must return it to a drop off zone. Lots of talk about the benefits, but only limited details available.

COLORADO

A proposal called “Fix Our Damn Roads” has qualified for the November ballot.

In an effort to promote electric vehicles, residents of Colorado Springs are being offered a \$3,000 discount when purchasing a 2018 Nissan Leaf. That can be added to the \$7,500 federal and \$5,000 state tax credits offered for electric car buyers through September.

CONNECTICUT

Transportation officials say three completed eastbound lanes in the widening of Interstate 84 opened the last week of August. Westbound lanes will open sometime in early September.

Police in Stanford are cracking down on abandoned cars in the city by towing them away and issuing citations to the registered owners. If no owner is found, the vehicles are sent to the scrap pile.

D.C. WASHINGTON

The District’s Pave DC program has completed about 120 segments of road repaving so far.

Metro is closing a crumbling parking garage at the Huntington Station after engineers worried about the concrete falling apart.

DELAWARE

The state plans to install cable barriers along Route 1 and Interstate 95.

Students caught jaywalking at the University of Delaware could be required to take a “pedestrian safety class’, pay a fine or both.

FLORIDA

The standard entrance price to the Space Center has increased, the first time since 2012. Adults and children will see a \$7 hike, seniors and military service members will pay \$4 more.

DUI arrests made by the Miami-Dade county police were down 65% in 2017 from four years earlier.

Georgia

Freedom Parkway in Atlanta has been renamed in honor of Rep. John Lewis.

HAWAII

The state will now allow ride-hailing services to operate at the Honolulu airport permanently. That is the result of a test program.

IDAHO

As of July 27th, two drivers were cited for driving too slow in the passing lane as police start to enforce a new law targeting slow drivers in the left lanes on highways. Three other drivers were given warnings.

ILLINOIS

Under a new state law, children must ride in rear-facing child-restraint seats in cars until age 2.

Gov. Rauner has signed legislation to create the Illinois Route 66 Centennial Commission, which will make plans to celebrate the road's 100th anniversary in 2026.

Effective July 1, 2019, drivers caught texting while driving will be issued a moving violation citation that will go on their driving record.

IOWA

Nearly 8,000 tickets have been issued to speeders in the first month of renewed operation of interstate traffic cameras.

KANSAS

The state has adopted a new law requiring motorists to use caution around garbage trucks by making driver carelessness a fineable offence.

LOUISIANA

A proposal headed to the New Orleans City Council would discourage police officers from making arrests for minor traffic offenses.

MONTANA

DUI task forces are asking for tougher laws against impaired driving.

NEBRASKA

After being stopped for speeding and cited in Hershey, a woman pulled off the road, received a citation, then accelerated and exceeded the speed limit again – hitting 142 mph. She was finally stopped and arrested.

NEVADA

U.S. 50 has become the state's first official U.S. Bicycle Route.

A 15 -mile stretch of the country's newest interstate designed to connect Las Vegas and Phoenix is now open.

Tesla has announced an initial \$1.5 million education grants to two school districts and seven nonprofit groups as part of a 5-year, \$37.5 million investment.

NEW MEXICO

A federal judge has found Albuquerque's vehicle seizure law to be unconstitutional.

A sinkhole near Carlsbad along a busy intersection will take two years to fill.

NEW YORK

The New York Trucking Association is opposed to tearing down Interstate 81.

New York City has stopped issuing new permits for Uber, Lyft and other ride-hailing vehicles for one year while the city figures out a long-term solution to the rising number of drivers in the city using the apps.

OREGON

The state will ask federal highway officials for permission to toll congested sections of Interstate 5 and 205.

UTAH

The Salt Lake City Council will allow the voters to decide in the fall on an \$87 million road reconstruction bond.

VIRGINIA

Tesla has started installing electric car chargers at First Landing State Park in Virginia Beach.

VERMONT

Montpelier officials are considering building a four-story, \$10-million parking garage to ease parking in the downtown area.

WASHINGTON

The Seattle City Council has passed legislation that makes permanent a one year bike share program.

WISCONSIN

The city of Milwaukee will soon be installing “smart” parking meters.

WHAATSUUP HERE AND THERE

EXTRA SMART CROOKS!! On August 2nd, a man was returning to his vehicle parked in a Bethesda, Maryland shopping mall garage, when two men stopped him, said they had a gun and demanded keys to his car. They took the keys, got in the car, started it, then jumped out and ran away. When they were arrested later, they said the vehicle had a manual transmission and they did not know how to drive a stick shift.

On April 15, 1964 Gail Wise became the first Mustang owner. She paid \$3447 for the car. The family drove the vehicle until 1979 when it stopped and her husband pushed the car into their garage and it sat there for 27 years. She wanted to sell

the car, but he wanted to save and restore it. In the process of restoring the vehicle is they learned that it was the first Mustang sold. Hagerty Classic Car Insurance Company of Michigan estimates the value from \$350,000 to \$450,000. The vehicle has been restored to original condition and Ford displayed it when they displayed the 10 millionth Mustang built. Gail and her husband reside in Illinois.

Domino's is encouraging customers to nominate their cities for grants that will pave potholes. In Des Moines, Iowa, Domino's Paving for Pizza marketing program provided \$5,000 worth of time and materials to patch an estimated 200 potholes. They say potholes damage their pizza's while its being delivered.

Nissan will offer a back-seat alert system and will be standard equipment on all new U.S. vehicles. The system is designed to help keep kids, pets, electronics and restaurant leftovers safe. It will be standard on eight models in 2019 and spread to the rest of the company's four door models by the 2022 model year. The California office of Traffic safety has launched a program to remind motorists to check the back seats of their vehicles when parking and exiting the vehicle and has issued several suggestions.

Dash cameras can supply crucial evidence if you are involved in a fender-bender or serious collisions. They are being installed by more and more civilian drivers. Experts say now is the time to buy as prices have declined and there are many new features in the new models.

Bad Day!!! Two sections of a parking garage in Irving Texas collapsed five hours apart, sending vehicles and rubble onto other vehicles below, but no injuries were reported.

The most popular street name in the U.S. is Main street, followed by 2nd street, first street, third street and of course, fourth.

A little traffic jam. The Burning Man Festival which is held near Reno Nevada is expected to draw 70,000 visitors for the 5-day camp out. It is held on Indian Tribal land and only accessible via a narrow two lane road. There also will be an estimated 5,000 plus workers.

AAA has a planning guide that helps families to plan together for future changes in senior driving abilities before they become a safety concern.

Larry Becker

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