

Adams Brown Counties in Transit

Written by:
Jason Francis, Mobility Manager

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From the desk of the Mobility Manager

Welcome

Welcome to the seventh monthly newsletter from the Adams Brown Mobility Manager.

Each month we will feature educational articles, safety tips, upcoming events, and activities. If at any time you wish to unsubscribe, please contact the Mobility Manager, by sending an e-mail to jfrancis@abcap.net or by calling (937) 378-6041 EXT. 310.

Free next of kin registry aims to notify families after emergency

Through the Next of Kin Emergency Contact Information Program, Ohioans can identify the person they choose to be notified in the event they are involved in an accident or emergency leaving them unable to communicate with law enforcement or emergency medical responders.



Quick access to family members can mean the difference between life and

death when an injured person is unable to communicate and his or her cellphone, where many of us store emergency contact information, is locked.



The Next of Kin (N.O.K.) program allows Ohioans with a driver license, temporary permit, or state ID the option of adding emergency contact information to their Ohio driver license/ID

record. The program features are:

- It's Free! There is no fee to add contact information to your driver license/permit/ID record.

- Contact information will be stored in a secure database which holds Ohio driver license/ID information, accessed only by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles and law enforcement.
- Ohioans under the age of 18 are required to have a parent or legal guardian as their primary contact.
- With your approval, contact person(s) can share your up-to-date medical information with medical professionals providing emergency medical treatment, if you are ever involved in an emergency or otherwise unable to communicate.
- For children with an ID, under the age of 15, parents are encouraged to sign up for the Next of Kin Registry. Two emergency contacts can be added into the Next of Kin Registry to be used by law enforcement in the event the child becomes lost or is reported missing. If the child is ever involved in an emergency situation or otherwise unable to communicate, law enforcement will use the Next of Kin Information to notify these emergency contacts. For more information regarding child ID's visit <http://bmv.ohio.gov> and click on ID R KIDS.

Three ways to submit your Next of Kin:

- Online at <http://bmv.ohio.gov>.
- In person at any local Deputy Registrar
- Mail Completed form (see attached flyer) to:

Bureau of Motor Vehicles
Verification Services
Document Management
PO Box 16520
Columbus, Ohio 43216-6520

Ohioans can ditch their front license plates in 2020

(The NewsWheel) - Since 1908, the state of Ohio has required drivers to install a front license plate on their vehicles. Starting next year, that is all about to change.



Governor Mike DeWine recently signed a new transportation bill for the state of Ohio. Among the provisions in this bill was the elimination of a front license plate requirement for the state.

Currently, Ohio is one of 36 states that require a front license plate. Despite being a part of this majority, Ohio is surrounded by states that do not require a front license plate.

The debate on whether to keep front license plates or eliminate them was a heated one leading up to the bill. On one hand, opponents of front license plates argue that drilling holes in vehicles to install the plates reduces the value of those vehicles. It is also becoming a more difficult task as new technology is added to vehicles.

The main group supporting the continuation of front license plates was law enforcement. The existence of two license plates on vehicle makes it easier for law enforcement officers to identify stolen vehicles, or those with outstanding warrants.

Nevertheless, analysts expect that Ohio could save approximately \$1.4 million a year by eliminating the need for a front license plate. As such, the new bill received a majority support in Ohio's legislature.

The new transportation laws for Ohio go into effect on July 1, 2020. In addition to the removal of the front license plate requirement, Ohio's gas tax is set to increase \$0.105 per gallon, to help with infrastructure repairs across the state.

Road Trippin'! Summer travel means hitting the open highway

(NewsUSA) - Ah, the familiar chant of "Are we there yet?" echoing from the back seat of a car. It's a refrain that has stood the test of time and one that sends most parents cringing while taking a family road trip.

As the summer of 2019 kicks off, consider this: 68 percent of Americans are likely to go on vacation, and 85 percent

of them will travel by car, based on data from a recent online survey of approximately 1,500 adults.

While aspects of a road trip may be daunting, a majority of these travelers acknowledge that getting there is half the fun: 24 percent strongly agree, and 45 percent somewhat agree that getting to a vacation spot is often as enjoyable as being there.

If you've ever wondered what goes on inside the car during a road trip, read on.

A survey conducted by National Association of Convenience Stores (NACS), a trade association representing the convenience-store industry, reveals that most passengers want to be social: just over 60 percent report that they enjoy talking with fellow passengers and almost 80 percent cite listening together to music, podcasts, or audio books as favorite activities.

However, when it's time to take a break, disagreements can arise, especially when it comes to meals and snacks. A convenience-store stop can be a simple solution.



Today's convenience stores offer more than just gas and restrooms. Many serve a range of hot-meal options such as pizza and burgers, as well as customizable sandwiches, coffee, drinks, and smoothies, so passengers and drivers of every age and taste can find something to satisfy them.

The NACS survey results show that the top three reasons for breaks during summer road trips are to:

- Use the bathroom (96 percent)
- Get gas (95 percent)
- Buy food or drinks (91 percent)

"There's only one place that can satisfy all three of the top reasons for stopping during a road trip: a convenience store," says Jeff Lenard, NACS vice president of strategic industry initiatives.

"From restrooms and fuel pumps to indulgent snacks and healthy options, you can stop once and make everyone happy. And that can certainly make a road trip more fun."

However, regular breaks are an important part of road trips for safety as well as for practical reasons.

Drivers need a quick and easy place to stand up and stretch, or to allow someone else to take the wheel. Kids get antsy and need to stretch, too - according to the NACS survey, approximately 45 percent of the in-car disagreements during road trips center on children fidgeting or arguing.

On the Road



Cyclists are sons, daughters, mothers and fathers. By showing common courtesy and respect on the road, we can ensure the two-way street is a safe street for all. Cyclists have the same rights and responsibilities

as motorists. For example, cyclists must:

- Yield to pedestrians
- Stop for stop signs
- Signal turns
- Travel with the flow of traffic

In the eyes of the law, if you are riding a bicycle on the road, you are considered a vehicle on the road.

When you dismount and walk alongside your bicycle, you are considered a pedestrian and have the same rights as a pedestrian.

Help! Too Many Children Are Dying in Hot Cars

Children dying from heatstroke in cars, either because they were left or became trapped, have reached a record number. In 2018, 52 children lost their lives—the most in over 20 years. This year is off to a sad start with the 11th such death reported on June 8.

More than half of vehicular heatstroke cases from 1998 to 2018 were because an adult forgot about a child, according to NoHeatstroke.org. Among the trends the group discovered in these incidents:

About 44% of the time, the caregiver meant to drop the child off at daycare or preschool. The end of the workweek—Thursdays and Fridays—saw the highest number of deaths.

You may be asking yourself: How does this happen? Families who lost a loved one thought the same thing at one point, but then the tragedy happened to them. Let this be your reminder to keep alert, avoid distractions, and put safeguards in place so your child is never left in the backseat.

Tips for Adults with Kids in the Car

- Place a briefcase, purse, or cell phone next to the child's car seat so that you'll always check the back seat before leaving the car.
- Keep a stuffed animal or another memento in your child's car seat when it's empty. Move it to the front seat as a visual reminder when your child is in the back seat.
- Set a rule for your child care provider; have them call you if your child doesn't arrive as scheduled



Vehicular heatstroke deaths don't just happen when a child is forgotten. The second leading cause (26%) of such deaths are children getting into unattended vehicles. Get in the habit of always locking your car doors and trunk, year-round. The temperature inside a

car can reach 110 degrees, even when the temperature outside is as low as 57 degrees.

While all types of vehicular heatstroke deaths are preventable, the third leading cause of these deaths—knowingly leaving a child—is the most preventable. Never leave a child alone in a parked car, even with the windows rolled down or the air conditioning on. A child's body temperature can rise three to five times faster than an adult's.

If you see a child alone in a vehicle:

- Make sure the child is okay and responsive. If not, call 911 immediately.

- If the child appears to be okay, attempt to locate the parents or have the facility's security or management page the car owner over an intercom system.
- If the child is not responsive and appears to be in distress, attempt to get into the car to assist the child—even if that means breaking a window. Many states have “Good Samaritan” laws that protect people from lawsuits for getting involved to help a person in an emergency.

Remember: Kids and hot cars can be a deadly combination. Don't take the chance. Always look in the front and back of the vehicle before locking the door and walking away. Help spread the word on social media, #HeatstrokeKills #CheckforBaby

AAA Study: Taking multiple medications can increase crash risk for older drivers

(KUTV) - According to new research from the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, nearly one in five older adults use medications that should be avoided while behind the wheel.

Nearly 50 percent of older adults report using seven or more medications while remaining active drivers, but don't know some of the prescriptions they are taking may increase the risk of a collision due to impairing side effects, AAA stated in a press release.

The American Geriatrics Society added that nearly 20 percent of older drivers are using medications that should be avoided because they have very limited therapeutic benefits, pose excess harm, or both and are referred to as potentially inappropriate medications (PIMs).

Most of these potentially inappropriate medications, such as benzodiazepines and first-generation antihistamines, are known to cause impairing effects such as blurred vision, confusion, fatigue or incoordination, and can increase a driver's risk for a crash by up to 300 percent.

A record 42 million adults ages 65 and older are driving on America's roads. That number is expected to increase over the next decade, which would make them the largest driving population in U.S. history.

“There is a growing population of older drivers who use multiple medications and likely do not realize the impact these prescriptions may have on their driving,” stated Dr.

David Yang, executive director of the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, in a prepared statement. “This new research shows that the more medications an older driver takes, the more likely they are to use an inappropriate medication that can potentially cause driving impairment.”

The AAA Foundation along with researchers from Columbia University and the University of California, San Diego evaluated medication reports from nearly 3,000 older drivers participating in the AAA LongROAD study.

Researchers found that the most commonly reported medications used by older drivers affect driving ability and increase crash risk.

To learn more about their medications, drivers can use AAA's Roadwise Rx. It's a free, online tool to help drivers and their families understand common side effects of prescription drugs, over-the-counter medications and herbal supplements.

Local Happenings

The 2019 Adams County Coordinated Public Plan meetings will be held on August 13th and October 8th at 2 PM at the Adams County Job and Family Services building, located at 482 Rice Dr., West Union, OH 45693.

The 2019 Brown County Coordinated Public Plan meetings will be held on August 14th and October 9th at 2 PM at the Adams Brown Community Action Partnership building, located at 406 West Plum Street, Georgetown, Ohio, 45121.

The 128th Adams County Fair will be held on July 7th – 13th in West Union, Ohio. A shuttle service will be available on Sunday, July 7th from 12 PM to 3 PM and then 5 PM to 10 PM; July 8th through the 12th from 10 AM to 10 PM. Shuttle pickups and drop-off locations include the fairgrounds, West Union Municipal Building, the Adams County Courthouse, the parking lot of the retired Adams County Hospital building, and the Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

The 169th Brown County Fair will be held on September 23rd – 28th in Georgetown, Ohio.

