

According to a report from the Associated Press, nearly a quarter of the U.S. population, upwards of 80 million Americans, now live in states with legalized recreational pot. With Tuesday's vote, 28 states now allow medical marijuana.

Is that going to make any difference to you as a commercial truck driver? No it is not. The Department of Transportation will stand by its previous stance that using marijuana is forbidden for truck drivers as long as it remains a Schedule I drug. Don't think that you can live in Arkansas, use marijuana medicinally on Sunday, and drive on Monday. The fact remains, it is unacceptable for any safety-sensitive employee subject to drug testing under the Department of Transportation's drug testing regulations to use marijuana.



Merry Christmas

A truck driver, Terry (maybe not his real name), bought his wife a beautiful diamond ring for Christmas. After hearing about this extravagant gift, a friend of his said, "I thought she wanted one of those sporty four-wheel-drive vehicles."



"She did," Terry replied. "But where was I going to find a fake Jeep?"



Any repair, preventative maintenance, or inspection on one of our vehicles, whether it is a pickup, trailer, tractor, crane, forklift, whatever it is, there is to be a report properly filled out and turned in to the office. One of these reports is titled '**Work Order**' and is for any repair. Another is titled either '**Truck, or Trailer, Preventative Maintenance Inspection Report**'. This form is for either full service or an inspection. Always fill out one of these forms and turn it in!

"Poor old fool," thought the well-dressed gentleman as he watched an old truck driver fish in a mud puddle outside the Rocky Top Saloon. Feeling kind of sorry for him, he invited the old man inside for a cold beer. As they sipped their Bud Lites, the gentleman thought he'd humor the old driver and asked, "So, how many have you caught today?"



The old man replied, "You're the eighth."

The best way to save face is to keep the lower half of it shut.

Trucking companies that want to use hair analysis for drug and alcohol testing need to take religious beliefs involving hair into account. Widely reported was the story of J.B. Hunt reaching a settlement with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, agreeing to change its practices and pay \$260,000 in damages to four Sikh truck drivers who refused to cut their hair for pre-employment drug tests.



The Department of Health and Human Services is working to establish federal standards for hair testing. When it does hair testing for drugs will be allowed as an alternative to the standard urinalysis in pre-employment screening. A lot of companies want to go to the hair testing because the results can go back 90 days, whereas urine testing will go back 7.



Below are a few things I snatched from a newspaper article. I don't know if the numbers are accurate or not, but I bet they are close.

What caught my interest was the newspaper, Pravda.ru, a Russian newspaper. 08/11/2016

1. The United States is the world's leader on the number of weapons per capita. The country is ranked 28th on the number of murders per 100,000 people.
2. In spite of the tough arms legislation, the number of violent crimes in the United Kingdom is four times larger than the number of violent crimes committed in the US.
3. In 2015, as many as 2,034 violent crimes were committed in the UK per 100,000 people, in the United States, 466.
4. In Australia, a weapon ban increased the number of homicide by 19% and robberies by 69%.

Here is 15th item and certainly one to think about.

15. In the 20th century, the leaders of all countries of the world have killed more than 170 million people. How? **They disarmed them!**

Nearly 2,400 trucks were placed out-of-service for brake violations and nearly 2,700 trucks were placed out-of-service (OOS) for non-brake-related violation during the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance's Brake Safety Week, held Sept. 11-17. CVSA says inspectors conducted 18,057 inspections of trucks during the week to identify out-of-adjustment brakes and other brake system violations.



What does OOS mean? It means the truck, trailer, or both must sit at the inspection location until repairs are made. In the case of a driver being placed OOS, it means he or she cannot drive until the OOS has been lifted. Sometimes it means the driver must sit for 8 hours to get into compliance or the motor carrier must send another driver. \$\$\$\$\$\$



"We at Bobby Lehmann Trucking wish you and your family the gift of faith, the blessing of hope, and the peace of God's love at Christmas and the coming new

Merry Christmas



One of the most common complaints from motorists regarding trucks is unsafe lane changes. In many cases, a lane change involves a truck moving into the right hand lane and hitting a small car in the front or driver's side. As drivers, you must be alert and follow proper procedures to prevent lane change crashes from occurring.

Two very important things to remember are to properly adjust and clean your mirrors and always maintain a minimum 6 second following distance. Use your signals to communicate with other motorists by turning them on 8 – 10 seconds prior to making a lane change.

Other reasons for lane change crashes are traffic, speeding, unfamiliar route, driver inattention to traffic conditions, and not checking blind spots.

Maria, a devout Catholic, got married and had 15 children. After her first husband died, she remarried and had 15 more children. A few weeks after her second husband died, Maria also passed away. At Maria's funeral, skyward and said, "At last,



the priest looked they're finally together."

Her sister sitting in the front row said, "Excuse me, Father, but do you mean she and her first husband, or she and her second husband?" The priest replied, "I mean her legs."

The Happiest December Birthday Wishes Go Out To

- Laurie J – 6
- Beto R – 7
- Rodeo R – 16
- Russell J – 27
- Troy H – 28



After Jose proposed to Morena, his father took him to one side. "Jose, when I first got married to your mother, the first thing I did when we got home was take off my pants. I gave them to your mother and told her to try them on, which she did. They were huge on her and she said that she couldn't wear them because they were too large. I said to her, 'Of course they are too big for you, I wear the pants in this family and I always will.' Ever since that day, son, we have never had a single problem."

Jose took his dad's advice and did the same thing to Morena on his wedding night. Then, Morena took off her panties and gave them to Jose. "Try these on," she said. Jose went along with it and tried them on, but they were far too small. "What's the point of this Morena? I can't get into your panties," said Jose.

"Exactly," Morena replied, "and if you don't change your attitude, you never will!"



Luckily for us most of our driving is in decent weather. Maybe wet and muddy sometimes, and sometimes dusty, but seldom do we have to drive on snow or ice. When we do it can be very intimidating and dangerous. Here are a few tips to keep in the back of your mind for that trip to Nebraska or Pennsylvania.

- Clean all windows, mirrors, and lights.
- Keep tires in good condition and brakes adjusted.
- Maintain sufficient following distance and safe speed.
- Don't drive tired.
- Don't push your truck or yourself to do more than you can in unsafe conditions.



Gear Jammer

