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SUMMER 2006 NEWSLETTER

TOPEKA'S CAR CARE PROS

## Summer's Here! Say Hello to Fun, Sunshine and Vehicle Overload



This is a quiz: Is your car more likely to succumb to summer's heat or winter's frigid temperatures? If you're thinking winter, you're not quite warm. The truth is, summer's heat, dust and congested traffic take the harshest toll on your vehicle. Higher temperatures speed up your car's wear and tear as fluids and lubricants break down more quickly.

You can take some simple steps to ensure you'll arrive safely and on time to all of your summer destinations. You will want to check out all of the items below (as recommended by the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence [ASE]) before the really hot weather sets in.

- **Air conditioning:** A marginally operating system will fail in hot weather. Have the system examined by a qualified technician before you really need to use it.
- **Cooling system:** The most common cause of summer breakdowns is overheating. The cooling system should be completely flushed and refilled about every 24 months. The level, condition and concentration of the coolant should be checked periodically.

- **Oil and filters:** Change your oil and oil filter as specified in your manual, or more often if you make frequent short jaunts, extended trips with lots of luggage or tow a trailer.
- **Engine performance:** Replace other filters (air, fuel, PCV, etc.) as recommended or more often in dusty conditions. Get engine driveability problems (stalling, diminished power) corrected by professionals.
- **Brakes:** Inspect your brakes as recommended in your manual, or sooner if you notice longer stopping distance or anything else that's unusual. Correct minor brake problems promptly.



## Going Gold

Yingling's turns 50 in 2006

In 1956, when movie-goers were flocking to see *Guys and Dolls* on the silver screen and families got their first look at *The Price Is Right* on TV, kids of all ages were excited about a brand new "toy" called Play-Doh®.

Kansans in particular had a lot to be proud of in 1956, since Americans that year elected one of their own as President of the United States—Dwight D. Eisenhower, native of Abilene. And Payless Shoe Source introduced the world to a new and different way to purchase footwear when it opened its first store right here in Topeka.

But while the rest of the country was enjoying the benefits of General Electric's brand new "snooze" alarm clock, at least one man in Topeka was getting up early to pursue his ambition, and by the autumn of 1956, Larry Yingling opened his own service station, The Yingling Oil Company.

Fifty years later, we're proud of our long history in Topeka, and thrilled to have second and third generation customers who still count on us for their auto service needs.

Thanks Topeka. Happy Birthday to Yingling's, and here's to the next fifty years!

## Employee Spotlight

Take a quick peek into the life of one of Yingling's Auto Service's employees:

### Gary Holthaus

Gary has worked for Yingling's Auto Service since June of 1993 as an Automotive Technician. Gary excels at determining the customer's automotive problems in a timely and efficient manner, then repairing their auto with the utmost quality.



**Q:** *Of all the cars there have been, what is your favorite?*

**A:** My favorite is a '69 Mustang Fastback that my son and I restored last year.

**Q:**

**A:** *What would be your dream car?*  
A '70 Hemi Superbird, nothing else could come close!

**Q:**

**A:** *What do you like to do when your not at work?*

I like to go camping and restore old muscle cars.

**Q:**

**A:** *What was your favorite vacation?*

We went to Orient, Washington with my mother and father-in-law.

**Q:** *What is your favorite movie?*

**A:** Top Gun.

**Q:** *What are you most proud of?*

**A:** I'm most proud of my ability to repair cars.

**Q:** *What is your perfect home cooked meal?*

**A:** Roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy AT MY MOTHER-IN-LAW'S!

## ON THE HORIZON

### The Michelin Tweel

Goodbye Tire Gauge!

As highlighted in the June 2005 issue of *Motor Age* magazine, the Michelin Tweel looks like a tire with no sidewalls, but is actually a combined tire and wheel designed to run without air.

Using flexible spokes attached to a flexible wheel, the Tweel "envelopes road hazards" instead of bouncing off them, says Michelin. It's still in the test stage for autos, but Michelin says that it has improved lateral stiffness and that it is working on reducing rolling resistance. If they succeed, the tire gauge, spare and jack may disappear just like chrome bumpers.



## All Yingling's Auto Service Technicians are ASE Certified

The National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) offers a testing and certification program to professional automotive technicians. Twice a year, the institute gives a series of written tests which measure diagnostic and repair skills. Upon passing the exam, and providing proof of a minimum of two years of hands-on experience, a professional becomes ASE certified in a particular area, such as Brakes, Steering, etc. There are eight basic tests and several advanced tests.

Any professional who is certified in all eight areas is certified as a Master Automotive Technician. Every 5 years, professionals must be retested to remain certified. Not only are all Yingling's technicians ASE certified, but Yingling's remains committed to the future by keeping all of our younger technicians up-to-date and involved in the latest developments on the automotive service industry.



# Gas Saving Tips From Yingling's

## Fuel-Saving Maintenance

### Check Vehicle Gas Caps

About 17% of the vehicles on the roads have gas caps that are either damaged, loose or are missing altogether, causing 147 million gallons of gas to vaporize every year.

### Make Sure Tires are Properly Inflated

When tires aren't inflated properly, it's like driving with the parking brake on and can cost a mile or two per gallon!

### Replace Spark Plugs Regularly

A vehicle can have either four, six or eight spark plugs, which fire as many as 3 million times every 1,000 miles. That results in a lot of heat, electrical and chemical erosion. A dirty spark plug causes misfiring, which wastes fuel. Spark plugs need to be replaced regularly.

### Replace Dirty Air Filters

An air filter that is clogged with dirt, dust and bugs chokes off the air and creates a "rich" mixture—too much gas being burned for the amount of air, which wastes gas and causes the engine to lose power. Replacing a clogged air filter can improve gas mileage by as much as 10%.

**Stop by Yingling's Auto Service and we'll perform an inspection for you.**

## Teens Behind the Wheel

According to the National Safety Council, "traffic crashes are the leading cause of teen fatalities, accounting for 44% of teen deaths in the U.S." Although this statistic is nothing short of alarming, there are some key things you can do as a parent to keep your teen driver safe.

**Practice. Practice. Practice.** One major reason that teens have accidents is simply because they are inexperienced drivers. Allowing your teen to drive at every opportunity (with you in the passenger seat, of course) is the best way to give them the experience safe driving requires.

**Learn the Risks. Then Eliminate Them.** The biggest obstacle that many teenagers face when driving is staying focused. Distractions such as other passengers, food, loud music and cell phones need to be discussed and eliminated whenever possible.

**Be on Your Best Behavior.** Your teen will look to you for guidance behind the wheel. Not only do you need to set a good example when you are driving, but you also need to watch your behavior when your child is driving. If your child makes a mistake, try not to overreact and further impair their driving. Wait until you are home to discuss larger problems.

**Demand Responsibility.** Your teen driver needs to understand that driving is a privilege and not a right. Let your child know that they are solely responsible for being a safe driver, and that they will be expected to take ownership of their actions.

**Safety Check Their Car.** Be sure to inspect tires and brakes, belts and hoses, and other systems that can influence the safety or dependability of the vehicle.





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## Free Tire Rotation

with any new set of tires!

Healthy tires are both safe as well as fuel efficient.

If your tires are worn, replace them now at Yingling's and we will rotate them at no charge every 6,000 miles.

Practice good preventive maintenance, like tire rotation and proper inflation rates, to help you get the most out of your tire life, as well as improve fuel economy.

Be sure to check with your car's manufacturer for the proper inflation rate. (This is usually found on the inside of the driver's door, visible when it is open).

## From Our Customers

*"Brian and his outstanding crew have worked on my various vehicles for almost 25 years and I have yet had to question the results. You can't do better. Take it to Yingling's!"*

—Ed Schwerdt

*"I depend on my vehicles for my work commute and farm chores and Yingling's is there whenever I need them. Their staff gets me where I need to go, keeps me informed on repairs and follows through to be sure the job has been done right."*

—Rosalie Behnke, MS, DVM

## KID'S CORNER

### Car Games for That Summer Trip

#### Auto Olympics

Before going on a road trip, players make a list of ten things they can do in the car. For example, a list might include: passing three cows, finding a red billboard, holding one's breath through a tunnel, hearing a favorite song on the radio, finding two out-of-state license plates, getting a trucker to honk, passing five people in hats, crossing a bridge, passing a car with a dog in it, and getting three green lights in a row. The first person to accomplish everything on the list wins the game.

#### Name that Tune

Here's a game that's great for those who like to sing or hum a tune. One player thinks of a song that everybody knows and hums its first few notes. Other players try to guess the name of the song. If they can't guess, the first player keeps humming more notes in the song until someone guesses the right answer.

Source: [www.ParentCenter.com](http://www.ParentCenter.com)