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FALL 2008 NEWSLETTER

TOPEKA'S CAR CARE PROS

Curing Your Bodywork Blues

Our new RV center opened a few months ago. So far, it's proved to be very convenient for our customers. It's the only dedicated RV center within 60 miles of



Topeka, so people now have somewhere to go without traveling a long distance—a good thing when your RV needs repair, anyway!

But the new RV center has another benefit; it's given us a lot more space to perform our expert bodywork services. For RVs, we work on everything from the roof to the storage doors. We repair slideouts, touch up paintwork and repair EPDM rubber roofing. We also perform bodywork on large trucks. We can even repair your fiberglass hood—and paint it, too.

We perform restoration work on older vehicles as well. If you're revamping your auto, let us help out with the bodywork. Yingling's offers both media blasting to remove old paint and sandblasting to remove rust.

If the body of your vehicle needs sprucing up, come visit us at the new RV center. There are three huge bays, so we'll have plenty of room for you!

Tire Tips

Increase the life of your tires by making sure your wheels are in alignment. Wheels will go out of alignment under normal driving conditions, but this will be accelerated by excessively running into bumps and curbs. If you are experiencing uneven tire wear, schedule an appointment to have your alignment adjusted.

Each tire wears differently because of its position on the car. To ensure even wear on all tires, they must be "rotated"—their positions must be swapped regularly. A good rule of thumb: you should rotate your tires every other oil change or approximately every 5,000–8,000 miles.

When tightening the lug nuts of a wheel, always use a star pattern. This ensures that the wheel is tightly secured and flush against its mount. With a five-nut wheel, tighten one nut, skip one, tighten the next nut, skip another, and so on until all are tight. On a four-nut wheel, tighten nuts in opposing pairs.

For best performance and longest life, keep your tires properly inflated based on the manufacturer's specifications (32 psi on average). Overinflation causes excessive wear down the center of the treads, while underinflation causes excessive wear at the edges. You can usually find the proper inflation level on the inside of the driver's side door of your car.



A Customer Writes to *Family Motor Coaching Magazine* ...

I wanted to let fellow motor-home owners know about a great new rehab center here in Topeka, Kansas. Clay Myers and Brian Yingling have just opened Yingling's Auto Body, a state-of-the-art RV repair center with 4,300 square feet, which is big enough to accommodate three large motor-homes. The staff can perform any paint or body repair you need, and can provide generator repair services.

This is the only dedicated RV paint/bodywork facility within 60 miles of Topeka, so it is centrally located for all of eastern Kansas and western Missouri. It is located at 2525 N. Topeka Blvd.; phone 785-232-0484. Speaking from personal experience, Clay and Brian will take great care of you and your RV.

—Don Whalen

Employee Spotlight

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

Pete Fail

I am a Service Adviser. I am the go-between, between the customers and the technician. I help customers understand what repairs and maintenance their vehicle needs to keep it safe and dependable for them and their families.



Q How long have you been with Yingling's?

A I've been at Yingling's for four years.

Q Tell us about your family. Are you married? Do you have children?

A I have been married for almost nine years. My wife and I have four children between us—two boys, both 15 and two girls, 11 and 13.

Q Who inspires you the most?

A If we are speaking of people still living, my father is my big inspiration. Beyond him, I take my religion very seriously and would have to say I am Inspired by the life of Jesus Christ.

Q What is the biggest accomplishment so far in your life?

A My marriage.

Q What kind of car do you drive? What do you wish you were driving?

A I drive a '97 Oldsmobile Achieva. I would love to have one of the newer body-style Ford Mustangs.

Q What's your favorite kind of music? Your favorite musical group?

A I enjoy all different kinds of music. If you forced me to pick one band or artist, I would have to say Rob Thomas and Matchbox Twenty. Not only do I enjoy their sound, but Rob Thomas is a modern-day story teller in his songs.

DRIVING GREEN

Today's advanced automotive and fuel technology has led to significant improvements in air quality and will continue to do so in the future. This, combined with steps drivers can take to protect the environment, puts us on the road to a greener future.

Here are some emission-reducing pieces of equipment found on most newer cars that help you drive green:

Catalytic converters. Newer cars equipped with catalytic converters eliminate more than 95 percent of carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds and nitrogen oxides.

Cruise control. Cruise control saves fuel at highway speeds by reducing excess gas-pedal activity.

Fuel injection. Fuel injection helps efficiently regulate the amount of fuel delivered to the engine.

Overdrive transmissions. Overdrive transmissions decrease the number of engine revolutions at higher speeds under cruise conditions, thus decreasing your fuel usage.

Radial tires. Radial tires have less rolling resistance, which not only gives you a smoother ride, but improves gas mileage.

Did you know that air quality is improving nationwide primarily because of cleaner-burning fuels and more fuel-efficient vehicles?

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| \$25 Off A Set of Tires All Major Brands | Free Pre-Winter or Spring Inspection | \$25 Off Any Purchase Over \$150 | \$15 Off Any Maintenance Flush | Free Aquapel® Windshield Treatment |

Support the Right to Repair Act

Modern automobiles are highly advanced machines. Most late-model cars contain sophisticated technology that monitors or controls virtually every function, including brakes, steering, air bags, fuel delivery, climate controls, ignition, lubrication, theft prevention and emission controls. While these automated features improve performance, they also pose a problem for maintenance and repair. Without the full information and equipment necessary to communicate to the vehicle's computers, car owners and their auto technicians cannot accurately diagnose and repair mechanical problems.

Car companies are using current automotive technology to "lock out" car owners and repair shops. This means that late-model cars will only be able to be serviced and repaired at automobile dealerships, even after the warranty has expired. Car owners will no longer be able to patronize the independent auto care shops they trust or shop around for the best prices and service available.

Protect your right to choose where your vehicle is serviced by supporting the Motor Vehicle Owners' Right to Repair Act (H.R. 2694). This bill would require vehicle manufacturers to provide the same service information and tool capabilities to independent shops that they offer to their dealerships. Manufacturers would not have to disclose manufacturing processes or trade secrets unless that information is shared with their dealers. The Right to Repair Act would ensure that you have control over where your car is repaired and that independent shops would have the information necessary to provide the highest standard of care.

For more information on the Right to Repair Act, visit www.righttorepair.org.



JUST HOW NEW ARE YOUR NEW TIRES?

The tires you just put on your vehicle may not be as brand-new as you thought. Tires often sit on store shelves for years before being sold. While they may appear to be in perfect condition, older tires can be highly dangerous.

Just like cartons of milk, tires have a shelf life. Research and tests show that even if they're not driven on, tires dry out over time. And after years of disintegration, the treads can literally peel off. A car that loses a tire tread will violently swerve and weave, making an accident likely. Old tires have been implicated in thousands of car accidents, many involving fatalities.

Researchers and industry experts advise that you shouldn't use tires that are more than six years old. Yingling's Auto Service fully supports this position. We will never sell tires that are more than two years old. We'll also check the date codes on your tires when you come in for service, so you aren't inadvertently placing yourself in danger.

For more information on aged tires, watch the special ABC News report at <http://abcnews.go.com/Video/playerIndex?id=4826897>.





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Halloween Driving Safety "Tricks"

To help everyone bring home treats—not tragedies—follow these tips for a safe Halloween:

- » **Don't use a cell phone while driving** through neighborhoods. A single distraction could lead to a tragedy.
- » **Stay well below the posted speed limit.** Pay attention to what's happening on sidewalks and roadways. Watch for children darting across streets, especially between parked cars.
- » **Be extra alert** when pulling in and out of driveways.
- » **Do not assume children can see you** or are paying attention. You need to take that responsibility.
- » **Check all lights on your car** to make sure they work.
- » **Do not pass other vehicles that have stopped** in the roadway. They could be dropping off children.
- » **If you're driving a group of children**, but staying in the running vehicle at the curb, be sure to put on your hazard lights to alert other motorists.
- » **And if you're driving to a Halloween party**, put that mask on after you park the car.

KIDS' Corner

Time flies when you're having fun! You can make carpooling seem a lot shorter and less boring if you have fun along the way.

Here are a few games to play. Try making one last all week!

Make a Trip Journal

Everyone will need a big spiral-bound sketchpad and a box of crayons or markers. Each day of the drive, draw a picture of what you did that day, and write about it. On the last day of the week, each person gets to read and show their entries.

Take Turns Reading a Book Out Loud

This passes the time quickly in the car for the reader and for the other riders who are listening, not to mention sharpens reading skills in a fun way.

Play Favorites

Have everyone think of different "favorite" questions for the group. What's your favorite ... movie, flavor of ice cream, song, game, toy, place to visit, restaurant, book, animal, fish, etc. Be creative and don't forget to ask the driver, too!

