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SUMMER 2009 NEWSLETTER

TOPEKA'S CAR CARE PROS

Expert Diagnosis, Great Times At the Car Care Clinic

Safety and fun were the themes of the day at Yingling's Car Care Clinic, held on April 25, 2009. Visitors were treated to complimentary vehicle safety inspections as well as free food, music, games and prizes. Country Legends 106.9FM was on hand with a live radio broadcast, and guests also explored a classic car show while waiting for their cars to be put through their safety paces. In all, 35 vehicles came through the inspection lanes.

Thank you to everyone who came out and made the event a great success, as well as our partner organizations for their generous support. When National Car Care Month rolls around again next April, we hope to see you at the clinic!



Yingling's Team Member Certified As a Child Passenger Safety Technician

Brandon Yingling, the Yingling's parts manager, participated in the National Child Passenger Safety Certification Program and is now a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician. As a CPS technician, Brandon is on hand to help parents make sure their children are as safe as possible when riding in a vehicle. He will be using the information he's gained in a number of ways, including child safety seat checks, where parents and caregivers receive education and hands-on assistance with the proper use of child restraint systems and safety belts.

We're proud of Brandon for bringing this important knowledge to Yingling's, and we're proud to be able to offer you yet another service as part of our total car care approach.

Young Artists Participate in Yingling's Third Annual Art Contest



On May 14, 2009, Yingling's held an awards ceremony for the participants in our third annual art contest. A total of 157 students from four local schools submitted artwork for this year's contest, following the theme "If Animals Could Drive...What Would They Drive?" Out of all those fabulous works of art, here are this year's winners:

Best in Show
Corbin Atkins

Grade K, Pleasant Hill Elementary

Kindergarten Winner
Shelby Hersh

Pleasant Hill Elementary

Grade 1 Winner
Gracie Brush

Rochester Elementary

Grade 2 Winner
Jaidyn Yingling

West Indianola Elementary

Grade 3 Winner
Kayla Neigenfind

Rochester Elementary

Grade 4 Winner
Melissa Bryan

West Indianola Elementary

Grade 5 Winner
Sara Boyden

West Indianola Elementary

The winners each received a \$50 prize presented by WIBW TV's Ralph Hipp and saw their professionally-framed artwork hung in the Yingling's lobby. There were prizes for the other participants too: all entrants received a coupon for two free rounds of Putt-Putt.

The next time you're in the shop, check out the creations of these talented young members of our community. Thank you to all our artists and their teachers, principals and parents. You've really brightened up our lobby, and we appreciate all your hard work!

Employee Spotlight

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

Tom Craft

Tom Craft has been working at Yingling's Auto Service for the past nine years. He serves as the Director of Operations and oversees all work done in the shop. Tom has been married to Vickey for 42 years and has two grown children, Aaron and Amber. He also has three grandchildren, Ian, Ashley and Molly, ages 18, 15 and one, respectively.



Q Who inspires you the most?

A My wife Vickey inspires me the most—for being there for me for 42 years.

Q Do you have any bragging rights?

A I can't say it's a right, but a privilege to brag about my children, Aaron and Amber.

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

A I drive a 1999 Jeep Grand Cherokee. I wish I were driving a '65 GTO!

Q What do you like to do in your free time?

A I like to play golf when I have a chance and do some woodworking.

Q What is your favorite thing to do now that the weather is getting nicer?

A More golf....

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

A My favorite music is rock. I like Bob Seger the best.

DRIVING GREEN

HOW TO KEEP YOUR CAR AND THE EARTH COOL

When the outside world is being sautéed by the sun, your car's air conditioning system keeps you nice and cool. It uses a pressurized chemical refrigerant to take the temperature down from "furnace" to "room." But while we can all agree that this coolant does great good inside the car, it can cause environmental damage if it leaks outside.

Today's refrigerants are safer than previous generations of chemicals, which damaged the ozone layer. However, modern refrigerants are suspected to contribute to global warming. We take preventative steps to capture and clean all refrigerants that are released during service. To help us ensure that no damage is done to the environment, we ask that you give us a call if you suspect a leak in your air conditioning system. An untreated leak can cause harm, and you will be letting your cool air go to waste. Together, we can prevent you and the Earth from getting overheated.

Support the Topeka Rescue Mission and help yourself at the same time!



Help out our community by purchasing a Great Neighbor fundraiser card.

For just \$20, you'll get four Yingling's coupons worth \$260, and all proceeds go to the Topeka Rescue Mission.

Ask your service advisor for details on how you can join Yingling's in becoming a GREAT NEIGHBOR!

RULES OF THE ROAD Gone Ridiculous

*Most traffic laws make us safe.
These just make us laugh.*

1. Don't honk if you love sandwiches.

In Little Rock, Arkansas, it's illegal to "sound the horn on a vehicle at any place where cold drinks or sandwiches are served after 9 p.m."

2. Kindly keep your cattle in the car.

The city of Topeka, Kansas, would like to remind you that it is inappropriate to use your car to herd cattle. If Bessie is coming along, she needs to ride in the car with you.

3. Elephants: \$0.25 per 15 minutes

The state of Florida doesn't say anything about cattle, but it has some strict rules for animals, too. If an elephant, goat or alligator is left tied to a parking meter, the parking fee has to be paid, just as it would for a vehicle.

4. Let he who throws the first brick have written permission.

In Mount Vernon, Iowa, you cannot shoot arrows or throw bricks onto any street or highway—unless you have the City Council's written consent.

We'll have more unusual traffic laws in our next newsletter. Until then, keep your hands, cows and bricks safely inside the vehicle!



THE SAFE WAY TO SHARE THE ROAD

Summer is here, and that means more people on the roads: motorcyclists, bicyclists and pedestrians in addition to the usual motorists. Though the roads may be a little bit more crowded, there's room for everyone if we pay attention and are considerate of our fellow travelers. Here are some tips on how to share the road, for motorists, motorcyclists and bicyclists. And pedestrians: stay off those cell phones in the crosswalk!



TIPS FOR MOTORISTS

- **Take a Brake:** Reduce speed when encountering bicyclists.
- **Three Feet to Pass:** For safe passing, leave at least three feet between your car and a bicyclist.
- **Scan, Then Turn:** Scan for bicyclists before making turns and make sure the road is clear before proceeding.

TIPS FOR MOTORCYCLISTS

- **Be Visible:** Keep your headlight on day and night, wear reflective clothing, flash your brake light when slowing down and don't be afraid to use your horn.
- **Always SEE:** Use the Motorcycle Safety Foundation's Search, Evaluate, Execute (SEE) Strategy to search the road for changing conditions.
- **Make Space:** Give yourself space and time to respond to other motorists' actions, and give other motorists time and space to respond to you.

TIPS FOR BICYCLISTS

- **Side-by-Side Rule:** Ride no more than two abreast; move to single-file if riding two abreast impedes the flow of motorized traffic.
- **Ride Predictably:** Scan the road, anticipate hazards and communicate your moves to others.
- **Signal First:** Use hand signals to alert nearby vehicles to turns or lane changes.

TIP FOR EVERYONE

- **Be an Example:** Everyone has the same right to the road—and the same rules and responsibilities.





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Have a Treasure Hunt!

There is a reason for the popular phrase, “the thrill of the hunt.” Hunting for something, and discovering it, is exhilarating, which makes treasure hunting a blast. Hunts are easy to create in a short amount of time.



When you are planning a treasure hunt, you should first learn the key elements of the game. Most treasure hunts contain the following elements:

- * **A theme**—Themes create the game atmosphere, tie the entire game together and provide excitement.
- * **A map**—A map is a helpful guide for a treasure hunt, and it’s fun to decorate it with stickers or drawings.
- * **Clues**—Clues are one of the most important components of a treasure hunt because they lead participants to hidden treasures. Clues must make sense so that the participants can find the treasures.
- * **Treasures**—Treasures are very important because they are the rewards for completing the game.
- * **Location**—A treasure hunt location can be as large as a backyard or as small as a living room. Select a location for the game that provides a fun but safe challenge for the participants.

There are no specific treasure hunt rules, so you have a lot of freedom to create your own rules and game style. You also do not have to spend a large amount of money on a treasure hunt. In fact, you do not have to spend any money. You can create a simple treasure hunt with objects already available in your home.

—<http://kids.lovetoknow.com>