

A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT OF THE

TIMES NEWS | Lehigh Valley Press IVP

2. Supplement 2024

hy regular car washes are important

Taking care vehicle involves more just maintaining than the equipment under the hood. There are a number steps involved in keeping a car or truck in top form, and that includes regular car washes.

Car washes keep a vehicle shiny and clean, which can help it look good while sitting in the driveway or cruising the highway. However, regular car washes are more than cosmetic.

- Protection from the **sun:** A car that is routinely and properly washed and waxed is less vulnerable to damage from the sun's ultraviolet ravs.
- Extend the life of **paint:** Dirt and debris can build up on the paint surface and eventually lead to scratches and other



damage. Bird droppings and sap can be corrosive. Washing will help remove grime and protect the paint in the process.

Preserve vehicle's value: Drivers who plan to sell or trade in their vehicles in the future should realize that a wellmaintained car can bring in as much as 20 percent more for above-average

condition. according Kelley Blue Book. Maintaining a clean and shiny vehicle can protect its long-term value.

Remove Drivers who live near the ocean or in areas where roads are salted in the winter to melt snow may have cars with high salt corrosion rates. Unless it's washed off frequently, salt can take its toll, leading to damage.

- **Improve** fuel efficiency: Drivers have felt pain in their wallets at the fuel pump in recent years. Dirty cars may be less aerodynamic and less fuel-efficient as a result. Keeping a car clean may improve its fuel efficiency.
- Maintain the interior: Car washes are not only about the exterior. Keeping a clean and tidy interior can help improve the air quality inside of the vehicle and prolong the life of upholstery, mats and interior components.

Car washes should be a routine part of vehicle maintenance. Professional car washes tend to be more eco-friendly than washing a car at home, so drivers are urged investigate their service plans and features.



- Full Automotive Service
- State & Emission **Inspections**
- Diagnostics
- Tire Sales & Service
- Four Wheel Alignments
- Pickup & Drop Off

C 610-966-

15 S. 10th Street • Emmaus, PA





Your Neighborhood Battery & 7ire Shop Since 1964!

TIRE SHOP 2225 Union Blvd., Allentown 610-437-4961 Mon.-Fri. 8-5; Sat. 8-12pm

REPAIR SHOP 1912 W. Broad St., Bethlehem 610-849-2350 Mon.-Fri. 8-4:30; Sat. Closed

WWW.JOESBATTERYANDTIRE.COM

TNONLINE.COM 594 BLAKESLEE BLVD. DR. W., LEHIGHTON, PA 18235 610-377-2051

1633 N. 26TH ST., ALLENTOWN, PA 18104 610-740-0944

Scott Masenheimer - Publisher Fred Masenheimer - Publisher Emeritus

> Ad Composition Lucinda Anthony, Nicole Albert, Alison Thakrar, Tanya Pecha

Times News Advertising Sales Jennifer Benninger - Advertising Director Darlene Hentosh, Kimberly Howey

Lehigh Valley Press Advertising Sales Terry Plinke - Advertising Director Sharon Policelli, Sarah Hesener

MAY 2024 Supplement 3

How to protect your vehicle's paint job

Drivers go to great lengths to ensure what's under the hood of their vehicles is well taken care of. But it's equally beneficial to tend to the exterior of a vehicle, including its paint job.

According to Popular Mechanics, oxidation can adversely affect ironbased metals. That can put vehicles in jeopardy and take significant time off their life expectancy. The good news is that rust and other issues that can affect a vehicle's paint job and appearance are typically avoidable. That should be music to the ears of new vehicle owners, who likely need no reminder of the sizable financial investment required to drive off the lot with a fresh set of wheels. Drivers who want their cars and trucks to maintain their looks over the long haul can



consider these simple strategies to protect their paint jobs.

Make car washes part of your vehicle maintenance routine.

Seasoned drivers are undoubtedly familiar

with the conventional wisdom surrounding oil change intervals, but those same motorists may not recognize the importance of routine car washes. Over time, contaminants such as pollen, dust and pollution can settle on a vehicle's

exterior, potentially jeopardizing the paint job. Routine car washes can prevent such damage and help a car look like it was just driven off the lot.

Wax the exterior of the vehicle.

automotive experts Carfax® report that waxing is a significant and simple way to protect vehicle Carfax® paint. that certain paste waxes contain mild abrasives that help remove fine scratches from painted surfaces. Wax also can protect paint jobs from fading related to exposure to ultraviolet rays. That's noteworthy especially for drivers who do not routinely park their cars in a garage.

· Use a car cover.

Car covers may or may

See **PROTECT** on Page 5

Leaser's Garage

At Leaser's Garage, the customers come first! A family-owned and operated car repair shop was started in 1995 by the late Marshall Leaser, aka Junior. Since his passing, the business is now owned by his son Marshall III and his wife Melissa. Junior's wife Elaine still manages the business and Jim Laub takes care of customer service. They are located at 2141 Mahoning Drive W., Lehighton in Mahoning Valley. The mechanics are Randy Sterner from Kunkletown, Steve Kunkle from Lehighton, and part-timer Tom Everett from Lehighton.

Whether you have a car, truck or motor home, you can depend on the mechanics who take pride in and stand behind their work! They realize your vehicle is very important to you and will do what they can to make sure it's back on the road in a timely manner. As Junior used to say, "If the light is on, you need help, stop in and we'll help. We are your one-stop repair shop."

Leaser's also became a NAPA Auto Care Center and they stock batteries, Cooper tires and other brands too, and install Jasper engines and transmissions. They can tackle most major and minor repairs on foreign or domestic vehicles. State inspections, computer diagnostics, AC service, exhaust, brakes & suspension work, computerized alignments, complete transmission services, radiator and injection flushes, some rust repairs and welding work are things that Leaser's Garage can do for you.

Call Monday thru Friday for an appointment. They also accept most major credit cards for their customers' convenience.



2141 Mahoning Drive W. Lehighton • 570-386-4306





4. SUPPLEMENT 2024

How to identify a vehicle that fits you

Buying a vehicle is a significant financial investment. It is not a decision to take lightly, given especially historically high prices of new cars in recent years.

Finding a vehicle that is the perfect fit requires consideration of a host of variables, including preference. personal What is perfect for one individual may not work for another. When the time comes to shop for a new car, people can ask themselves a few questions in an effort to find a vehicle that best suits their needs.

What your are **needs?** Are you looking to carpool the kids to and from school or do you want a car for commuting that will not cost you an arm and a leg in fuel? Identifying the main purpose of the vehicle or trucks right off the bat. monthly take-home pay.



What **budget?** It is a good idea to get a pre-approval loan statement from a financial provider to figure out what you can afford to pay for a vehicle. The popular automotive resource Edmunds says the general rule is the monthly newcar payment should not exceed 15 percent of your monthly take-home pay. Lease payments should will eliminate certain cars be less than 10 percent of

Calculate these numbers interest potential rates prior to shopping for a vehicle.

 What size is best **for you?** Even though it may seem that SUVs and pickups reign supreme on the road, some drivers prefer smaller vehicles. Figure out how much interior space and cargo room you need. Take the time to sit in different vehicle classes to

determine which size fits vou best.

- · What are your fuel preferences? Todav's vehicles come in electric, unleaded gasoline, diesel, and hybrid options. How the car or truck is powered may be important to you and will help identify the best vehicle for you.
- · What is the cost of ownership? Certain vehicle brands be more expensive to maintain than others. According to Motor1. com, luxury and premium brands are typically the most expensive to maintain, with European brands like BMW, Porsche Mercedes-Benz typically carrying high maintenance costs. This can be prohibitive when parts or service is needed.

Buying vehicle requires consideration of drivers' needs, budget and desired features.

When it comes to towing and auto body repair, experience matters. Your vehicle is an important part of your everyday life. You rely on it to get you and your family where you want to go when you need to get there. When something goes wrong, don't trust it to just anyone. Let Ironton Auto Body and Towing put their 65+ years of experience to work for you. We are locally owned and operated and have been since the beginning.

We have 24 hour emergency towing and recovery services. Day or night, we are here for you when you need us. If you have an accident or mechanical breakdown, call us. We offer local and long distance towing services, light, medium and heavy-duty towing, undecking services...we even transport motorcycles. No matter what your towing needs, we have the fleet to handle it. Tow Trucks, Rollbacks, Kenworth Rotator and Freightliner Tractors are available and waiting to assist you. We also offer 24 hour trailer repair at your location whether it's at a jobsite or roadside. A few of the repair services we offer are tires, brakes, air leaks, legs, lights and doors and our experienced Trailer Technicians are always ready to go! The Service Trucks are equipped with parts to repair your trailer so you can get back on the road quickly.

Need auto body repair? Don't let your insurance company choose your body shop! You have the right to take your car where YOU want. We are happy to work with your insurance company, completing all your paperwork for you. Ironton Auto Body will provide you with quality repairs – and promptly! Plus all our repairs are guaranteed.

So when it comes to towing, auto repair, paintless dent removal and glass repair or replacement, look no further than Ironton Auto Body and Towing. Let our family take care of your family!

Ironton Auto Body, Towing and Trailer Repair 610-799-3251



MAY 2024 Supplement 5.

PROTECT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

not be practical for cars drivers use every day, but they are an effective way to protect a paint job from the elements. Drivers who have a spare car they rarely drive or even those who do not drive their primary vehicle a lot each day can purchase a universal-fit car cover or a premium cover designed specifically for their vehicles. Car covers protect paint jobs from

ultraviolet rays and the could be exposing their elements and may reduce the need for more frequent trips to the car wash. could be exposing their cars to bird droppings. That's no small threat, as bird droppings are high in

Park in the shade, but choose spots wisely.

Parking in the shade may protect vehicles from the ultraviolet rays of the sun, but it's important that drivers pick the right shady spot to park their cars and trucks. A shade tree might seem like a great ally to vehicle owners, but if birds nest or rest in the tree, drivers

cars to bird droppings. That's no small threat, as bird droppings are high in uric acid, which quickly damage vehicle's exterior. Parking directly beneath a tree also might expose the paint job to sap or fallen leaves or berries, each of which can adversely vehicle exteriors. If you plan to park in the shade to protect the paint job, ideally choose a spot that is not directly beneath the

A well-maintained

paint job can improve the appearance and life expectancy of a vehicle, which is something drivers should keep in mind as they hope to get the most out of their automotive investment.





 Light & Heavy Duty Towing

- Damage Free Wheel Lift & Flatbed Service
- Expert Collision Repair
- Auto Painting
- Radiator Sales and Service 570-668-4113

Collision Repairs
"Our Specialty"

1500 W. Broad Street, Tamaqua • 3 Liberty Street, Tamaqua



Welcome to our service department where we service what we sell as well as vehicles we do not sell. Our service facility has been maintaining customer's vehicles in the Lehigh Valley for the past 35+ years. We perform state inspection, emissions, routine maintenance as well as engine/transmission replacements. Our ASE certified techs have the expertise to work on all makes and models.

Our excellent reputation in the Lehigh Valley is based on our honesty, fairness and family friendly environment. If you have any questions regarding your vehicle, please do not hesitate to contact us at 610.435.1225.



NOT JUST A USED CAR LOT

Quality Used Vehicles

Financing and Extended Warranties Available

www.kris-snyderauto.com



6. SUPPLEMENT 2024

Considerations for your young driver's first vehicle

Getting a driver's license is a major rite of passage in a young perlife. Depending on where that teenager lives, he or she is likely to secure a license between the ages of 15 and 18. The next natural step is finding a vehicle to get around town.

A teenager's first ride may be a family car that is not used frequently by parents or a vehicle that is shared among the household. Over time, juggling usage can prove difficult, and parents and children may decide the moment has come to shop for an additional vehicle. These guidelines can make car shopping for young drivers go smoothly.

Budget



late how much the teen will be contributing and how much parents may be putting into the equa-Cost is a concern when tion. Check with the fibuying a vehicle. Calcu- nancing department to

determine if a teen is eligible to take out a loan. If not, a loan might need to be co-signed by an adult. Insurance costs also must be considered. Certain ve-

hicles are more expensive to insure than others, so finding one that won't break the bank to insure is a good idea.

Safety

The automotive experts at AAA note that teenagers are among the riskiest drivers due to their inexperience, it's important to choose a vehicle that gets high safety marks. Features to look for include automatic emergency braking, side-crash prevention systems, lane departure, blind spot alerts, and other accident prevention options. Midsize sedans are safe and easy enough to maneuver, and they have shorter braking dis-

See **CONSIDERATIONS** on Page 7



We are a Certified Auto Repair Shop, Full Service Gas Station & Car Wash. Harhart's Service Station is a 3rd Generation Family owned business and a leader in our Local Community. We are proudly serving the Lehigh Valley community for over 78 years.

"At Harhart's Service Station, Inc. we understand that trust is earned. We would like to earn yours. We offer a variety of automotive services and repairs. All of our work is performed using quality parts and equipment, and the work is done by technicians who are highly trained and certified. We pride ourselves on providing our customers the best automotive repair experience possible, including excellent workmanship, service and attention to detail at a competitive price.









PROUDLY SERVING

THIRD GENERATION FAMILY BUSINESS



13 E. 21st St

NORTHAMPTON PA 18067

May 2024 Supplement 7.

DNSIDERATIONS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6 tances than most SUVs.

New or preowned

Both new and preowned vehicles have various pros and cons. It may be difficult for a teen to afford a new car and make monthly payments, but new cars often come with warranties and oth-

er protections. Preowned cars may not have all of the safety features of newer vehicles, but many are certified preowned. which gives buyers some peace of mind in case service work is needed. Also, parents may not be so worried about teens dinging up a used vehicle of the showroom.

Reliability

It may be tempting to purchase the least expensive vehicle, but price should not always be the deciding factor. Reliabilitv should be a major consideration. Check that the vehicle (if purchasing a preowned) has not been in any major accidents that necessitated exten-

rather than one right out sive repairs. Also, certain brands are known to stand the test of time better than others. Research makes and models through Edmunds or Kelley Blue Book to determine which vehicles boast such a reputation.

> These are just some of the variables to consider when helping young drivers choose their first vehicle.





Appalachian Auto Care is committed to bringing first class service to each and every customer. Upholding strong family values and the highest quality service, we offer the perfect marriage of quality, precision and customer service.

We offer everything you need for all you mechanical needs -from regular maintenance to specialty jobs, our technicians are here to make sure your car keeps running smoothly.

> Blending quality, honesty and precision UNDER ONE ROOF

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR FREE ESTIMATE.



7022 PA Route 309 • New Tripoli • (610) 298-8855





Submit photos taken of local news events and/or scenic attractions.

We'd love to publish them!

Email photos to tneditor@tnonline.com

Please include contact information.



8. Supplement 2024

Tips for driving at night

Driving drivers to use their senses so they, their passengers and their fellow motorists can safely traverse the roadways. When anv those senses are compromised, the risk for accident increases.

Sight is vital to safe driving. Individuals who have vision problems must correct these issues wearing eyeglasses or contact lenses to stay safe behind the wheel. But what if the condition affecting vision nighttime?

National rather The Highway Traffic Safety Administration says that accidents happen in greater frequency at night, when the passenger vehicle occupant fatality rate is around three times higher than the daytime rate. That's despite the fact that there are far fewer cars on the road at night than during the daytime.

Reduced visibility and drowsiness behind the wheel after the sun goes down may cause many people to avoid driving at night. But driving at night isn't always avoidable, during the especially months when the sun sets early. When forced to drive at night, drivers can follow these tips to make it safer and easier.

Get enough rest. Skip the road trip if watch you are feeling tired It can be difficult to see

requires or if you have taken medication that can cause drowsiness.

- Improve headlight Make sure visibility. headlights are in good working order and that the plastic covering on the headlights is not cloudy, can adversely which affect light output. The angle of the lamp also is a factor. Some headlights may need a periodic angle adjustment.
- Stick to multi-lane roadways. Today's vehicles are typically equipped with LED lights than halogen incandescent bulbs. study in the SAE Α International Journal of Passenger Cars found that these LED lamps were "generally perceived to be brighter than a standard incandescent lamp." Although these lamps may help drivers see in front of them while driving, oncoming drivers often claim they are blinded. Oncoming lights can be particularly intense on a two-lane road. On a multi-lane road, you can put yourself at a distance from oncoming cars if you stick to an outer lane.
- Clean your windshield. dirtv windshield can cause additional glare and also make it challenging to see the road.
- Slow down the



pedestrians and animals night. Deer often at dusk or are struck particularly overnight, between the months of October and January.

 Get an eye exam. Age-related vision changes can compromise vision and perception of glare. Speak with an eye

professional about which coatings can be applied to glasses to help with glare and if any tweaks to prescriptions need to be

Nighttime driving requires a few different strategies to make it safer and more comfortable to drive after the sun sets.



Wendy Borger, Owner/Signing Agent Title Work - Plates • Notary • Boat/ATV Snowmobile • Dog License • Fishing License **NEW HOURS EFFECTIVE APRIL 16, 2024** - Mon. and Thurs. 11am - 7pm Tues. and Wed. 8am - 3pm • Fri. and Sat. 8am - 1pm 210 Delaware Ave., Palmerton PA 18071 • 610-824-2583 May 2024 Supplement 9.

Maintenance intervals drivers should know

Vehicles are among the most costly expenses individuals have. According to data from Kelley Blue Book, the average price paid for a new vehicle in the United States in September 2022 was \$48,094. Canadian car buyers face an equally expensive reality in their country, where the average MSRP for a new car is more than \$45,000.

Since vehicles are such sizable investments. motorists behooves do as much as they can to keep their cars and trucks running smoothly. Vehicle owner's manuals typically recommend maintenance intervals and should be drivers first resource for information regarding how to take care of their cars and trucks. But the following are some standard maintenance intervals drivers can keep in mind.

3.000 miles

The 3,000-mile marker used to be the benchmark for changing oil, but modern vehicles can now go longer between oil changes. However, it's still a good idea to check other fluid levels every 3,000 miles. Windshield washer fluid, coolant, brake fluid, transmission fluid, and power steering fluid should all be checked every 3,000 miles and topped off if levels are low.

It's wise for drivers to perform some additional maintenance checkups every 3,000 miles. Check tire pressure, inspect hoses (which should not be leaking or bulging) and clean the interior of the vehicle every 3,000 miles.

5,000 miles

Many vehicle manufacturers now recommend oil changes every 5,000 miles. Tire rotations also can be part of service visits at this interval, and drivers can ask their mechanic to check their fuel filters and batteries every 5,000

among miles as well. Many may spenses already do this as part have. of their comprehensive maintenance packages, but k, the it's still good to confirm if I for a they do and request they United do so if it's not part of the er 2022 plan.

Drivers also can request that cabin air filters are inspected at this point, though they can generally last a year before they need to be replaced.

Around the 5,000-mile mark, wiper blades also may begin to show signs of wear and tear, including streaking on the windshield or scratching noises when in use. Each of those signs indicates the wipers need to be replaced. However, drivers should take note of these signs regardless of when they appear. Some may not make it 5,000 miles before they begin to wear down. In such instances, they should be replaced immediately regardless of how many miles its been



since they were installed.

10,000 miles

Some vehicles may only require oil changes every 10,000 miles. That's not uncommon in vehicles that use synthetic oil, though drivers are urged to consult their owner's manuals.

Brake pads also may need to be replaced around this time, and one telltale sign of that is a squeaking noise whenever the brakes are applied.

Drivers can ask their mechanics to check the alignment of their vehicles around this interval as well. Though many vehicles won't develop alignment issues, it's best to check for such issues every 10,000 miles or whenever a vehicle feels as though it's pulling in one specific direction.

Maintenance intervals are created to serve as a guideline for drivers. Any issues that arise should still be brought to the attention of a mechanic regardless of how many miles have been added to the odometer since the most recent trip to the garage.



10. SUPPLEMENT 2024

Issues that may arise at certain vehicle mileage intervals

Modern automobiles who want to know what that drivers may need •50,000 to 90,000 are marvels. As advancements automotive technology have made cars more reliable than ever, drivers feel as though may vehicle ownership also is more hands-off than ever before. Though it's true built-in diagnostic technology is designed to alert drivers when issues arise, it can still benefit motorists to recognize when certain issues may arise.

Cars and the people who drive them are different, so mileage intervals are not always the best measuring stick for maintenance issues. However, the following rundown can serve as a guidebook for drivers

technological to expect at various to replace their vehicle mileage intervals.

- 30,000 miles:

The experts Auto Trader note that disposable engine usually filters last between 15,000 and 30,000 miles. If it's been around 30,000 miles since the engine air filter has been replaced, now is a good time to replace this important part, which components like dirt and debris from getting into the engine. This also might be a good time to replace the fuel filter, which prevents debris from clogging fuel injectors.

- 50,000 to 60,000 miles:

It's around this time

batteries. Little-used vehicles may need a new battery much earlier, as lengthy periods of little or no use adversely affect the life expectancy of vehicle batteries. Brakes also may need to be replaced around this time, as the experts at AutoZone® note that most drivers get between two and five years out of a set of brake pads. If that sounds like a significant disparity, it is, and that's because driver behavior is a significant variable affecting the life of the pads. Drivers who brake hard will likely need to replace their brake pads with greater frequency than drivers who brake slowly.

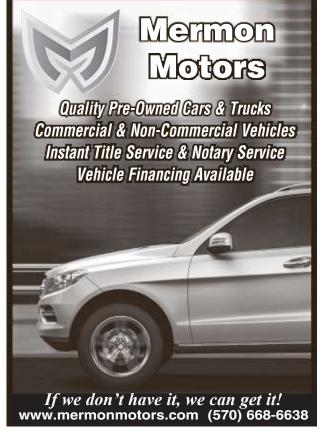
miles:

As noted, there is uniform guideline governing when vehicle components will need to be replaced. Hoses are a good example of that, recommendations regarding when to replace hoses range from 50,000 to 90,000 miles. That's a significant gap, but drivers can be on the safe side and start discussing the status of their hoses with their mechanics around the 50,000 mile marker. It's unlikely the hoses will make it all the way to 90,000 miles before they need to be replaced, but drivers can keep that mileage marker in mind and aim to replace the hoses before that

See **ISSUES** on Page 11

Mermon Motors currently celebrating 37 YEARS in business. business grown from serving the Tamaqua and Panther Valley area communities to customers all over the country through the world wide web. We continue to provide customers quality pre-owned cars, trucks, and commercial vehicles. We believe in offering the customer a quality product at a quality price. We take great pride in our customer service and we ensure our cars are cleaned, maintained, and ready for delivery. We offer full bank financing on late model vehicles. CREDIT PROBLEMS... WE CAN HELP YOU GET FINANCED AND YOUR CREDIT REHABILITATED - Ask us about our SUB-PRIME FINANCING options. Whether it's bad debt. bankruptcy, divorce we can help you. Drive your credit out of the gutter and back on the road to recovery. For the best price and best vehicles, stop by and see us. Help us celebrate 37 YEARS!





MAY 2024 SUPPLEMENT 11.

ISSUES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

point even if no issue has arisen. Timing belts also tend to fail between 80,000 and 100,000 miles, so this is another part to consider replacing as a vehicle reaches this point.

These mileage markers are not set in stone, and should only serve as a guideline for drivers who want to stay ahead of vehicle repairs. Drivers are urged to discuss any additional changes that might be necessary with their mechanics during routine maintenance appointments.





Stew's Tire Center, Inc. has become known as the local shop that maintains no hidden cost, no additional fees, and rock bottom prices for your motor vehicle needs. We know that you have high expectations, and since 1981, we have exceeded those standards with every service.

Trust Stew's Tire Center with all your tire needs and repairs. Want to do some research on your own? New to our website is the Tire Size Finder feature. By entering your car year, make and model, you can select from the inventory of top name tire brands such as Michelin, BF Goodrich, Continental, General, Cooper, Bridgestone, Firestone, Goodyear, Dunlop Hankook and all other brands. We are always available to help you with questions or assistance in finding the tires that fit your needs. We also offer tire services: Computer Spin Balance, Flat Repairs, Low Profile Tire Installations and Rotations.

In need of auto repair? Look no further. Our mechanics have over twenty years' experience in the industry and a knowledge base covering all modern and classic automobiles. With the most up to date tools available, we have the ability to effectively and efficiently repair and service your motor vehicle. Stew's Tire Center, Inc. offers all your car repair needs such as Brakes, Electrical: Starting/Charging/Batteries, Lube and Oil Change, Steering and Suspension, Wheels Alignment, Nitrogen Inflation, TPMS again with no hidden cost, no additional fees, and rock bottom prices.

STEW'S TIRE CENTER, INC.

3930 Independence Drive Schnecksville, PA 18078 (610) 799-4298 | www.stewstire.com





12. Supplement 2024

Tips to conserve fuel on road trips

remind Road trips just drivers of how thrilling the open road can be. For millions of individuals, nothing provides sense escapism as effectively as the open road.

Though road trips can be liberating, they do not allow a complete escape from reality, something drivers realize when the time comes to fill up the gas tank. Gas prices fell considerably by mid-December 2023, dipping to an average of \$3.12 per gallon of regular by the middle of that month according to data from AAA. That marked a significant decline from just a month earlier, when prices for a gallon of regular gas averaged \$3.36. But drivers know prices can spike just as quickly as they drop, so it pays dividends to recognize strategies to conserve fuel. Such strategies can be especially beneficial drivers about to embark on a road trip.

Slow down.

Pushing the pedal to the medal might be a romantic, if unsafe, notion of how to drive on a road trip. But that approach can be costly at the pump. According to the U.S. Department of



Energy, every five miles per hour motorists drive over 50 miles per hour is the equivalent of paying \$0.30 more per gallon of gas. That estimate is based on a gallon of gas costing \$4.32, but drivers can still conserve a considerable amount of fuel by slowing down.

Steer clear of city driving.

The stop-and-go traffic that is a hallmark of city driving can compromise fuel efficiency. The Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy notes that rapid acceleration and braking, which driving through cities with lots of stoplights and pedestrians, can lower gas mileage by as much as 40 percent.

Avoid rooftop cargo.

Rooftop cargo boxes might be a necessity when a car is packed passengers. with these luxuries come at a steep cost. A study from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory found that rooftop cargo boxes can reduce fuel efficiency by as much as 17 percent on the highway and as much as 25 percent on interstates where drivers is hard to avoid when drive at speeds between

65 and 75 miles per hour. The DOE reports that rear-mount cargo boxes are much more efficient, so drivers looking to conserve fuel may want to pack light and/or opt for rear-mount cargo boxes instead of rooftop boxes.

Utilize cruise control.

The auto manufacturer estimates utilizing the cruise control function on a vehicle can save drivers as much as 14 percent on fuel. Cruise control is not advisable when driving in cities or on roads with stoplights. However, when driving interstates, driving at the same continuous speed helps drivers avoid constant accelerations decelerations, and which compromise fuel efficiency.

When the open road drivers beckons, can make their road trips affordable more by implementing various strategies to conserve







Take to the road on various types of motorcycles

Motorcycles share the roadways with cars and trucks. Many enthusiasts enjoy riding motorcycles because they provide a visceral experience with the great outdoors. The feeling of the wind and sun is more pronounced on a bike than behind the wheel of a car.

Power says motorcycles account for a percent of all registered vehicles in the United 3 per convehicles in In vehicles in the United States. In 2022, there were 829,892 registered motorcycles in Canada, according to Statistics according to Statistics Canada. Registrations have increased each year since

the organization has kept track.

Individuals considering adding a motorcycle to their vehicular portfolio have a lot of options from which to choose. Some may be surprised to find out there are many different types of bikes.

Cruiser:

cruiser is American-style motorcycle designed for long journeys. They are large, heavy bikes with handlebars that keep the hands almost parallel to the ground. The seat also provides a relaxed position for the body, and a comfortable suspension

the road.

Sportbikes:

Sportbikes are costeffective, reliable and fast. They are easily customizable and come in a variety of sizes. Although they are popular, comfort is not one of the main features of sportbikes. Aggressive body position and a steep rake angle make these less comfortable to ride than other bikes.

Standard (Naked):

These are simple and versatile bikes that have no windshields, a more upright body positioning, and no

corrects irregularities of plastic parts or elements of lining. It is a category of sportbike that is stripped down.

Chopper:

These heavy bikes are designed for leisurely riding. They're traditionally associated with the biker subculture. Choppers will wide and high handlebars, many chrome parts, rake out fork, and a low-set seat. Riders sit with their legs extended forward. Although some are mass-produced, most choppers are custom-made.

See MOTORCYCLES

on Page 15



Kuhnsville Car Wash, Lehigh Valley's Finest Car Wash, celebrates 35+ years in business. Our Full-Service and Self-Service facilities provide state-of-the-art equipment for all your vehicles cleaning needs. Full-Service tunnel offers 4 Exterior Wash Packages plus an Express Interior Cleaning option. Self-Service includes 6 Bays with Vacuum and Shampoo stations available.

Spring is the perfect time to explore our 3 Unlimited Washing plans. Wash your car as often as you like for one low monthly price. Family rates available for even greater savings! Other specials include Senior Discounts, Free Birthday Washes, and Gift Card Purchases with a 10% bonus on orders of \$50+. Fleet Services are available for any size business conveniently billed monthly.

We pride ourselves in our Customer Service and are Proud to Service the Lehigh Valley! Our Employees Make the Difference!



330 South Center Street **Box 203**

Tamaqua, PA 18252 Phone: 570-668-2093

Fax: 570-668-6088





5627 TILGHMAN ST - KCWASH.COM

14. Supplement May 2024

4 signs it's time to replace your tires

Inflation has been a hot topic for several years, as the cost of everything from groceries to gas to housing has increased considerably since 2019. Cars are no exception that phenomenon, and anyone who has purchased a new car over the last half decade likely experienced some sticker shock when they started their search for a new vehicle. Data from Kelley Blue Book indicates the average cost of a new car was \$37,590 in 2019. By 2023, the average cost had risen to \$47,899. That marks an increase of more than 27 percent in a four-year period.

Cars are indeed a significant investment, which underscores the importance of vehicle maintenance. Maintenance is more than just tending to what's



under the hood. Tires also require drivers' attention, as aging, damaged tires pose a safety risk that also compromise vehicle performance. Tires are easily overlooked, but the following are four signs tires need to be replaced.

1. Worn tread:

The automotive experts at AutoZone®

note that tread depth is the most prevalent indicator that a tire needs to be replaced. AutoZone® notes that tread depth should always be at least 2/32 of an inch throughout the tire. Depth should be measured across the tread and around the circumference. If the tread is at or below 2/32 of

an inch, the tire should be replaced.

2. Bulges, gouges or cracks:

Geico® notes that a deflated tire bulges at the sides, and that can compromise the safety of everyone in the vehicle. AutoZone® says bulges occur when air gets between the inner liner and outer rubber layers, which can happen after hitting a curb or driving over a sizable pothole. A gouge or cut that is deeper than the outer layer of the tire also necessitates replacement.

3. Poor grip:

Drivers may be able to feel certain tire problems, including poor grip, while driving. In such instances, tires may feel as though they are slipping. The tire experts at Firestone note

See **SIGNS** on Page 15

How to avoid hot weather automotive breakdowns

When the weather warms, many people take to the outdoors to enjoy the sunshine and rising temperatures. Summer road trips or vacations are the norm, but it is important to realize that hot weather can take its toll even on a new, well-maintained vehicle.

Battery

Excessive heat can shorten the life of a battery because it causes battery fluid to evaporate more quickly. This, in turn, can damage the internal structure of the battery. AAA reports that car battery issues are the most common breakdown calls.

Cooling system

Cooling systems work hard to keep the flow of air to the engine and prevent it from overheating during warm seasons. Compromised cooling fans or lack of coolant can be troublesome. To avoid overheating, check coolant levels before getting on the road. In addition, have the cooling system checked by a trained mechanic prior to the summer driving season. It's a small price to pay to avoid extensive engine damage from overheating.

Tires

Hot weather causes the pressure inside of tires to rise. Overinflated tires can wear down prematurely or result in blowouts. Check the tire pressure routinely in the summer, when tires are cold. Follow the guidelines in the owner's manual for recommended air pressure. Look for improper tread wear, weak spots or other tire damage that may end up causing flats.

Fluid levels

Hot weather can put extra demand on all fluids and engine components. Check transmission fluid, power steering fluid, brake fluid and engine oil levels. Top off or change when necessary.

KRAJCIRIK AUTOMOTIVE

343 W. Patterson St., Lansford 570-645-5760



Auto Repair & Service Center



- Official State
 Inspection Station
- AAA 24 Hr. Emergency Roadside Service
- Computer Diagnostics
- Full Under Car Care
- Computer Wheel Alignment
- Tire Sales

All Major Brands

KRAJCIRIK AUTOMOTIVE

343 W. Patterson St., Lansford 570-645-5760 Mark Krajonnik - Owner



MOTORCYCLES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Motocross:

These bikes are for those serious about dirt riding. Most motocross bikes are not legal for road use and are featured in strictly offroad racing. They're often called dirtbikes.

Adventure:

Adventure bikes are designed for having fun. They are sturdy and usually outfitted with a tall seat height, tall windshield, upright seating positioning, and ample suspension. Some adventure bikes have luggage options and also may come equipped with on-road/off-road tires.

• Touring:

SIGNS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

that low tread can reduce

tire traction and cause

wheels to slip, which may

be more noticeable when

accelerating from a stop

or driving on wet roads.

Drivers who feel their

A sportier version of cruisers, these motorcycles are designed to take comfort to the extreme. Smooth handling, heated seats, cruise control, and even cup holders make touring bikes perfect for long trips.

Supermoto:

A Supermoto is a singlecylinder motor bike with the fast action of a dirtbike that is allowed on the streets. Its youthful appeal makes it quite popular.

Scooter:

Scooters are less popular in North America than in Europe, but they've gained some steam here in urban areas. They are

tires are slipping can test the tread and replace tires that are low.

4. Vibration:

Vibration is another issue drivers may feel rather than see. And identifying the cause requires noting where the vibrations are felt. Geico® notes that a feeling of

that feels like it's coming from under the seats may indicate the tires are not balanced. A suspension issue could be to blame if the steering wheel feels like it's vibrating. Either feeling should be brought

the attention of a

vibration or thumping

Tire issues affect vehicle performance and compromise the safety of drivers, their passengers and fellow motorists. When vehicles are not performing at peak capacity, drivers should not overlook various tire issues as a potential cause

usually automatic, making them easier to ride for novices. The frame design of scooters is called an underbone, which leaves plenty of space from the

rider's legs to the front of the scooter.

Motorcycles come in many different styles, ensuring there's one to suit all types of riders.



At Pranzo Automotive, we love what we do, and that basic fact fuels our business. We are dedicated to our customers, and that's why they stick with us. Our family of technicians and service staff sees their work here at Pranzo's Automotive as more than a job. It's their vocation and livelihood. Each member of our team is invested in your satisfaction.

We were founded on the basic idea that everyone deserves respect. It is our mission to treat each person that comes through our door with dignity and sensitivity. We believe this attention to detail has paid off by providing us with our loyal, friendly family of customers. That's what makes Pranzo's Automotive the best car service in Emmaus!

What sets us apart:

Trust: When it comes to auto repair in Emmaus, it's all about earning loyalty and trust by doing our very best every day. We are determined to earn and keep your trust. **Talent:** At Pranzo's Automotive, you can rest easy knowing that our highly-skilled, experienced auto service professionals are handling your car. Our technicians bring years of experience, skill, and education to the Emmaus auto repair table.

Time: We take the time we need to provide you with top quality car service and we take the time to talk to you about what that means. We listen to you so we understand your needs and goals for your auto repair.

Experience the Pranzo difference - call (610) 347-8317 to set an appointment



16. Supplement May 2024

We've all been there. Something is wrong with our car. It isn't running right, the check engine light is glowing on your dashboard. You need to find a place you can trust to find the problem and fix it. Look no further. Visit the Cottman Man of Emmaus, Jeff Umstead.

Jeff has been fixing transmissions

since 1976 and opened a Cottman Transmission back in 1984. He began with his father, Richard, and has since moved his location to 950 Chestnut St. in Emmaus. For quality service and a great experience, the Cottman Man is still the Man for everything auto repair related. While specializing in transmission rebuilds, the crew at Cottman can and will fix anything related to your vehicle....everything from an oil change to batteries, brakes, belts, hoses, alignment, exhaust systems and more.

When you visit Cottman of Emmaus, you can expect to be treated with the utmost respect. You will be greeted by their friendly staff, the technicians will diagnose your vehicle and answer any questions you may have. They are here to serve all and go out of their



way to make sure everyone feels comfortable.

When it comes to expert service, Jeff and his technicians have your back. Most of the technicians have over 30 years of experience in transmissions and total automotive car care. They will do all they can to get you back into your car as soon as possible.

So the next time you need automotive service, think Cottman of Emmaus.

And with today's rising gas prices, here are a few tips for getting optimal gas mileage:

- •Ensure your belts, hoses, tire pressure and fluids are checked each time your have your oil changed.
- •Schedule regular appointments for brake check-ups.
- •Don't be afraid to ask your technician questions. They should be happy to help.
- •Always get a written quote on any auto repairs needed.

Call today to schedule your appointment. 610-967-6692





OUR SERVICES:

Auto Repair Belts & Hoses Brake Repair Car Battery Services Check Engine Light
Clutch Repair and Service
Driveline Repair and Service
Engine Repair

Exhaust System
Power Steering and Suspension
Transmission Rebuilding
Transmission Repair