

Industry Update



NW Automotive Trades Assn.

Car crashes – into body shop

In a tough way to end the year, Scottie's Auto Body in Hillsboro had a car crash into its building on December 29. The driver apparently ran a red light and hit another vehicle before crashing into front door and lobby of the building at about 6:30 a.m. Shop owner Sharon Cordrey said the crash knocked over desks, computers and files. The driver was hospitalized overnight but there were no other injuries.

Class to focus on Medicare changes

The recent "Medicare Modernization" legislation that requires employers offering prescription plans to notify employees whether the plan is "creditable" or "non-creditable," has a lot of people asking questions about Medicare. That's why NATA has scheduled a class on the topic for Tuesday, January 10.

The class will cover laws for coverage; understanding employer's responsibilities including the new required notification; and supplement policies. There will be plenty of time for questions-and-answers with our speakers from JBL&K and several insurance companies.

Two sessions of the class will be held at 11:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 10, at the NATA Training Room in Northeast Portland. Registration is \$20 per person and includes lunch or dinner. **You can now register for either session of this class – as well as all future NATA classes – online at our website (www.aboutNATA.org) or by calling our office.**

Watch for ballots for NATA election

The NATA nominating committee is finishing up its task of putting together a slate of candidates for officers and board members for the association for the coming year. Watch for your ballot in the coming week.

The election will culminate in the swearing-in of the board at NATA's annual meeting at the NATA Training Room in Northeast

Portland at 1 p.m. on Saturday, January 28. All NATA members are invited to attend. An agenda for the board meeting that will be held that day is posted on the NATA website, or call our offices for a copy.

What's your business worth?

Whether you're months, years or decades away from selling your business and retiring, it's never too early to understand what your business may be worth. Information on the factors that go into making that determination will be the focus of NATA's next "Express Lunch and Learn," being held Wednesday, January 18.

Popular speaker Darrell Dorrell of Financial Forensics returns to help show you how to calculate the value of your business – and how to improve that value over time.

The \$20 registration fee includes lunch at The Rheinlander Restaurant, 5035 N.E. Sandy Blvd., in Portland. The gathering begins at 11:30 a.m. and concludes by 1 p.m.

Visit the NATA website or call our office today to sign up for this chance to network with fellow NATA members and bring back some valuable information.

New warranty program available

NATA mechanical shop members can now offer every customer a 12-month / 12,000-mile nationwide warranty – that costs the shop just \$40 a month.

One of our members told us he was spending \$150 a month to offer such a warranty, but we've been able to put together a package with Automotive Business Solutions (ABS) that will allow that shop – and all our members – to offer their customers the same no-hassle warranty for just \$40 a month.

Watch for an article with full details about how the program works in the January *Northwest Automotive Journal* (also posted on the NATA website), or for more information or to sign up for the program, call our office.

For the week of
January 2, 2006

TRAINING AND EVENT CALENDAR

Advance Registration
Required

NATA Medicare Q&A

Tuesday, January 10
11:30 a.m. or 6 p.m.
NATA Training Room
Northeast Portland

NATA's 'Express Lunch and Learn'

Topic: What's Your
Business Worth?
Wednesday, January 18
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Rheinlander Restaurant
Northeast Portland

NATA Annual Members' Meeting

Sat., January 28 - 1 p.m.
NATA Training Room
Northeast Portland

HAVE QUESTIONS? WANT MORE INFO? WE'RE HERE FOR YOU!

Northwest Automotive Trades Association

(503) 253-9898 or (800) 730-7282 • FAX: (503) 253-9890
www.aboutNATA.org • 1710 NE 82nd Ave. • Portland, OR 97220