

Industry Update



NW Automotive Trades Assn.

Next week's 'Express Lunch & Learn'

Whether or not you are among the growing number of automotive businesses using an outside payroll service, you won't want to miss next week's "Express Lunch and Learn" session in Portland. We've invited speakers to explain some of the services they provide that you might not be aware of but that could improve your business or save you time or money.

An outside payroll firm, for example, could help you set up or administer retirement plans or 'cafeteria-style' benefit plans. Some outside firms can provide human resource services like pre-employment screening and integrated time and attendance. Our speakers will also explain what you need to know about the new Pension Protection Act and what it means for your retirement plans.

Come hear what representatives of Merrill Lynch and ADP Payroll Services have to offer your company. The meeting will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, January 17, at the NATA Training Room in Portland. Registration is \$20 and includes lunch. Call our office to register.

NATA election, annual meeting

Watch your mailbox for your ballot for NATA's board of directors for 2007. This is a good opportunity to learn about the NATA members interested in helping guide the association as officers and board members for this coming year. The election will culminate in the association's Annual Meeting at 1 p.m. on Saturday, February 3, at the NATA Training Room in Portland. All members are invited to this meeting, during which the election results will be finalized, and the new board will meet for the first time.

Mileage reimbursement for 2007

Just a reminder that the IRS mileage rate for business use is 48.5 cents per mile for 2007, up from 44.5 cents in 2006.

Info for health plan participants

We continue to hear good things from our members about last year's switch to NATA's new health plan options. If you'd like to check out the flexible plans we offer at competitive premiums, give our office a call.

A couple items of note for those of you in the NATA plan (through Health Net or Kaiser) administered by Benu. First, remember that all adds, changes or terminations need to be promptly communicated directly to BENU. You can fax (650-523-4610), email (employerservices@benu.com) or telephone (650-242-8892) these changes to Benu Employer Services.

For questions concerning specific benefits or member level issues, please call the carriers directly: Kaiser (800-813-2000) or Health Net (888-802-7001).

Lastly, remember that if you switched to the new NATA plan from Blue Cross / Blue Shield that the life insurance policy you may have signed up for with Blue Cross / Blue Shield no longer exists.

For more information about the NATA plan, call Cathi Webb in the NATA office.

Shop scam attempt continues

Yet another Portland shop reports being visited recently by a tearful elderly woman saying her recently-deceased husband wanted the shop to have his restored 1950s pick-up truck. During the course of the conversation, she asked this shop owner for \$1,100 to help with needed home repairs (he declined), and as in the past, she never returns with the truck as promised.

NATA offers vacation scheduler, etc.

For a vacation schedule calendar (to track when employees will be out) or employee absence calendar for 2007, please call our office. We will have a limited quantity of them available at no charge for members.

For the weeks of
January 8-15, 2007

TRAINING AND EVENT CALENDAR

Advance Registration
Required

NATA's 'Express Lunch and Learn'

Topic: *Beyond Payroll*
Wednesday, January 17
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
NATA Training Room
Northeast Portland

NATA Safety Meeting

Topic: *Pers. Protect. Equip.*
Thursday, February 1
Noon - 1:30 p.m.
AJ's Auto Repair - Salem

NATA Annual Members' Meeting

Sat., February 3 - 1 p.m.
NATA Training Room
Northeast Portland

NATA Safety Meeting

Topic: *Pers. Protect. Equip.*
Wednesday, February 7
Noon - 1:30 p.m.
NATA Training Room
Northeast Portland

NATA's 'Express Lunch and Learn'

Topic: *TBA*
Wednesday, February 21
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
NATA Training Room
Northeast Portland

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

Northwest Automotive Trades Association

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