

Industry Update



NW Automotive Trades Assn.

Health plan enrollment period nears

The open enrollment period for the NATA Health Plan is this fall, so watch your mail soon for details on what this plan has to offer you. Great rates, a choice of HealthNet or Kaiser Permanente, and a dedicated NATA staff person to help with questions help make the NATA Health Plan a great option for NATA members. Call our office for details or a Quick Quote.

NATA back in offices – almost

Thanks again for your continued patience during our office remodeling this month. We are back in our regular office space, and we are getting the final electronic glitches solved. In the meantime, you can always reach us by phone if you have trouble with fax or email. We should be settled in with all systems-go shortly.

NATA members look at curriculum

As we've been outlining over the past year, NATA is taking an active role in trying to improve the automotive training options for students throughout the state. One important change the state has made has been to require all students as of the class of 2012 (so those entering high school in fall of 2008 or later) to complete three years (rather than the current 1-year requirement) of a foreign language, arts, or career and technical education (which includes such things as automotive training).

Oregon's Department of Education has been involving NATA to ensure such automotive training is based on sound curriculum and helps give students the math and reading skills they need to succeed as well.

We want to thank the following NATA members who recently met with Tom Thompson of the Oregon Department of Education as part of this process: Nancy Scheewe of DuFresne's Auto Service,

Margaret Ragan of Automotive Marketing Support, Jim Houser of Hawthorne Auto Clinic, Bob Anderson of AJ's Auto Repair, Todd Weedman of Todd's Import Automotive, Mary Ann Trout of Hillsboro Auto Wrecking, Scott LePlante of Sherwood Auto Repair, Dennis Mattoon of Reynolds High School and John Billups of Meek Professional-Technical High School.

First aid, new CPR training coming

NATA will offer first aid and CPR training (including the latest revised CPR techniques) on Wednesday, August 8, at our Training Room in Northeast Portland. You must register by Monday, August 6, and as with all NATA training and events, refunds for registration fees are not available unless cancellation is made at least two business day prior to the class. The CPR certification class will run from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and is \$30 for NATA members. For those who wish to stay for first aid training which follows (until 10 p.m.), registration for both is \$40.

Fewer shops in State Farm DRP

About 40 percent of the 20,000 collision repair shops nationwide that participated in State Farm's "Service First" direct repair program (DRP) are no longer part of the insurer's new "Select Service" program that is replacing Service First.

Some shops did not like the terms of the new Select Service agreement and chose not to apply, but the insurer also accepted into the program far fewer shops than it previously had. The percentage of shops dropped by the insurer varied by market.

State Farm in the past said nearly two-thirds of its auto claims were being processed through its DRP. The insurer acknowledges that the percentage of claims handled by the smaller number of shops participating in Select Service has dipped slightly during the transition, but "still a majority of our customers select the program."

**For the weeks of
July 23-30, 2007**

TRAINING AND EVENT CALENDAR

*Advance Registration
Required*

First Aid / CPR

*Wednesday, August 8
5:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.
NATA Training Room
Northeast Portland*

AWA Benefit Concert

*Sunday, August 19
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
19605 S. Unger Road
Beavercreek, Ore.*

NATA's 'Express Lunch and Learn'

*Topic: Tire Pressure
Monitoring Systems
Wednesday, Sept. 19
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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