

Industry Update

News and Information for NATA Members



January 2019

School wins grant from band's foundation



Clackamas Community College is getting a big boost from a major rock band. CCC is one of 10 recipients of a \$100,000 grant from the Metallica Scholars Initiative, funded by Metallica's All Within My Hands Foundation. The foundation provides direct support to community colleges to enhance career and technical education programs.

Among the items the funds will cover will be half the cost of tools for 12 automotive and autobody students; welding tools, textbooks and personal protective equipment for 20 students; \$5,000 for a marketing video featuring students in the school's new Industrial Technology Center; and travel costs for two staff members to attend the Workforce Development Institute.

We asked Dave Bradley, chairman of CCC's automotive department, why the school was selected for the grant.

"I could really spin a yarn here about how my band used to open for Metallica back in the early 80s, and we're still real tight, but unfortunately, that's not quite true," Bradley said. "We don't know any of them. We have on staff a wonderful grant writer, Amy Cannata, who discovered the All Within My Hands Foundation about three weeks before the application deadline. She got a few of us together, and compiled a very impressive application."

Two other Northwest community colleges, North Idaho College and Spokane Community College, were among the other nine grant recipients nationwide.

NATA Health Plan offers vision option



As you probably noticed with your health plan renewal packet, NATA members enrolled in the NATA Health Plan can now select VSP Vision as an add-on benefit for employees. Enrollees will not receive an ID card; policyholders can just go to a provider and provide a birthdate and

Social Security number.

You'll get the lowest out-of-pocket costs in vision care. You'll see savings on frames, lenses, contacts, eye exams and more. Typical annual savings are more than \$200 with the Standard Plan.

VSP has the largest independent doctor network in the country, including Walmark and Costco. Go to VSP.com to find an eye doctor near you.

Whether you're looking for classic styles or trendy frames, you'll find the perfect pair for your style and budget.

Technician group plans monthly meetings

The Northwest Automotive Technicians Society (NATS) is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the knowledge, skills and efficiency of the working automotive technician in the greater Portland-Vancouver area. Its monthly meetings are typically based around a topic, and are set up for interactive discussion, not as a

Upcoming Events

Salem Roadster Show

February 16-17
Oregon State
Fairgrounds

[Click for details](#)

SkillsUSA Competition

March 15-16
PCC-Sylvania

Portland Roadster Show

March 15-17
Portland Expo Center

[Click for details](#)

Automotive Training & Expo

March 22-24
SeaTac

[Click for details](#)

Automotive Industry and Education Roundtable

April 27, 2019
World of Speed
Wilsonville, Ore.

[Click for Details](#)



seminar style class. In-shop demonstrations and hands on sessions are occasionally scheduled as topics warrant. There are currently no fees to attend NATS meetings; attendees are asked to come share their experience. For any questions or to be added to the NATS email list, send an email to:

nwautotechs@nwautotechs.com.

The topic for the NATS meetings this month is: "The Technician Shortage - Is it Real and What Does it Mean to You?" For some it seems the technician shortage that had been touted for years may actually be here (or perhaps it has been here for some time?). Whether technician or shop owner, come discuss what this means for you and the industry.

NATS South will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, January 28, at Clackamas Community College's Barlow Hall Room B113 (note the room change). NATS North will be held at that same date and time at Sellberg's Tavern, 2110 St Johns Blvd, Vancouver, Wash.

'Swag' sought for student competition



will host the automotive service technology event.

This year's SkillsUSA competition in Oregon takes place on March 15-16. Most of the event takes place at Camp Withycombe in Clackamas, however, once again this year, Portland Community College's Sylvania Campus

Up to 60 students compete over the course of six hours. Only two move on to the national competition.

Margaret Ragan, Outreach Coordinator at NATA, will be the technical chair of this event. Each year Margaret collects swag (keychains, mugs, t-shirts, pens, etc.) for the students. Please contact Margaret if you have items to contribute.

"I think it's important that the students be rewarded for the effort and don't leave empty handed," she said.

DEQ proposes hike in fees



DEQ is proposing a \$25 fee in the Portland inspection area as of July 2019, and a \$15 fee in the Medford inspection area. The proposal calls for additional increases in Medford in 2021 and 2023, bringing the fee by that time to \$25.

DEQ is accepting public comment on the proposal until February 4. For more information, [click here](#).

Latest "Who Pays" survey under way



Collision repair shops have until January 31 to complete the latest "Who Pays for What?" survey conducted by Mike Anderson (of Collision Advice) and CRASH Network. This national survey (one of four conducted throughout the year) focuses on not-included refinish-related, asking shops which of the items they bill for and how frequently they are paid for them by the eight

largest auto insurers. The survey will take about 15-20 minutes, and can be completed by any shop owner, manager or estimator who is familiar with the shop's billing practices and the payment practices of the largest national insurers. [Click here](#) to take the survey.

Deadlines nearing for 'OregonSaves'



"OregonSaves" is an easy way to help your employees save for retirement, and **there are deadlines approaching to register or exempt yourself if you already have a 401(k) plan.**

"OregonSaves" allows employees to take responsibility for their own financial future by saving now, through payroll deduction, into a Roth IRA account in the OregonSaves program.

Research shows that employees are 15 times more likely to save for retirement if an option is available at work. OregonSaves can help employers compete to attract and retain good employees, while still only having a simple and limited role in their employees' retirement savings and planning.

[Click here](#) for more information for employers about the program, including the simple registration process. There's also a [video](#) overview of the registration process.

NATA members get discount on training event



ASA-Northwest has graciously extended a significant discount for NATA members on the training being offered at the 2019 Automotive Training & Expo, being held March 22-24 at the Double Tree Hotel at the SeaTac airport. [Click here](#) for a full 7-page schedule of the dozens of classes being held. Click on "NATA member" on the drop-down menu on the [registration form](#) to receive the \$430 discounted pricing.

Automotive program hosts prospective students



The Chemeketa Community College Automotive Service Technology program hosted the Tri-County Leadership Institute (TALI) on December 6. TALI targets high school juniors and seniors who are considering a career in automotive technology or a related industrial field at Chemeketa. This all-day event included workshops, demonstrations, tours, lunch, awards and prizes.



NATA member shop celebrating anniversary

Congratulations to DuFresne's Auto Service in Portland, which marked its 50th anniversary in business last month.



Tee DuFresne said her parents, Nancy and John, started the company in December of 1968 (at the time, it was known as Ron's Shell in Southeast Portland) when she was just 3 years old.

"It was a very snowy and cold year," Tee posted on the company's Facebook page.

"Mom and Dad spent many nights at Grandma Grace's house because it was closer."

At one time, the company had four gas stations, but when Shell pulled out of the market in the 1990s, DuFresne's remodeled the Cedar Mills location where the company remains located today.

School offers preview of remodeled auto shop



The Beaverton School District recently held two Auto Tech Training Program "Industry Preview" events as they expand

the facility for the school's NATEF-certified program. One goal of the remodel is to increase access for students interested in careers in automotive. If you have any questions, contact Janine Weir, (503) 356-4337, Janine_Weir@beaverton.k12.or.us.

NATA welcomes its newest members



NATA is pleased to announce our newest members: **Truck 'n Travel**, a full-service truck stop in Coburg since 1976; and **German Master Tech, Inc.**, an automotive repair shop in Bend. Welcome to the association!

High school adds automotive curriculum



Santiam High School has begun an automotive curriculum that is integrated into the construction course. It is called "Construction Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance." It focuses on basic automotive and machinery maintenance, like oil changes, fluid changes, brakes, diagnostics, electrical and other maintenance tasks. Students have developed a student-run maintenance shop that services staff, student and public vehicles. If you can offer any support or suggestions, contact Chris Lindemann at (503) 897-2311,

christopher.lindemann@santiam.k12.or.us.

Mileage reimbursement rate rises for 2019



Businesses should be aware that the 2019 mileage reimbursement rate has risen to 58 cents per business mile.

Roadster shows coming up

Make your plans now for a couple of upcoming roadster shows. The 13th annual [Salem Roadster Show](#) will be held February 16-17, followed the next month by the [Portland Roadster Show](#) on March 15-17.



Oregon agencies offer business training



Three Oregon agencies offer regular training for companies within the state.

The Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industry (BOLI) offers training seminars on such topics as wage and hour laws, discipline and discharge, and the latest developments in employment law. Details are available by [clicking here](#).

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality invites businesses that handle hazardous waste to sign up for a class covering basic management of such waste. Registration is free but on a first-come, first-served basis. [Click here](#) for more details.

The Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) offers classroom workshops and online training on such topics as hazard communications, safety meetings, lockout/tagout, personal protective equipment, etc. [Click here](#) for current class description and schedule, call (888) 292-5247 (option 2) or send an email to ed.web@oregon.gov.

Need to reach us?

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