

A Free Monthly Newsletter From Your Friends At Riverside Tire Center

Starting College: A Family Learning Experience

Going off to college is a new beginning for parents as well as students. For prospective students, independence and the real world are just that much closer. For parents, it signals that they need to start getting comfortable with their child growing up and getting ready to go out into the world on their own. This transition can be easier for both of you with these tips:

- ➔ **Prepare to make new friends.** Chances are, your child is going to a college where he or she doesn't know many people. It can be hard to let the bonds from high school fade, but remember that college is a new experience, and with it come new friends who can only make the experience better.
- ➔ **Don't slack off.** Though colleges may make new students feel a good deal freer, it's still important that they go to class, study, and be on top of grades. This may seem fairly obvious, but the looser atmosphere of college, combined with the lack of parental supervision, can be detrimental to a student's work ethic and motivation.
- ➔ **Be open to new things.** Most colleges afford students the opportunity to explore new things. The diversity of peoples, ideas, and culture allows students to learn and discover new things outside the classroom. And don't let your student's major or concentration restrict them in terms of course selection. They should choose classes that interest them.
- ➔ **Don't buy into the stereotypes.** Forget what you've seen in movies. Those are Hollywood myths that are rarely found on college campuses. Not everyone is a drunken buffoon, and not every dean hates his or her students. College dorms are nowhere near as wild or outrageous as depicted, and, believe it or not, dorm food isn't that bad.

One Rule For Living... Don't Over-Specialize


The science fiction writer Robert A. Heinlein once wrote: "A human being should be able to change a diaper, plan an invasion, butcher a hog, conn a ship, design a building, write a sonnet, balance accounts, build a wall, set a bone, comfort the dying, take orders, give orders, cooperate, act alone, solve equations, analyze a new problem, pitch manure, program a computer, cook a tasty meal, fight efficiently, die gallantly. Specialization is for insects."

If that's not enough, here's a short list of skills that everyone should master to survive and prosper in today's world:



- ✓ **Operate a computer.** You should be able to go beyond locating the "on" switch.
- ✓ **Search the Internet.** Understand how to use Google and other search functions to gather and confirm information.
- ✓ **Perform CPR** (and the Heimlich maneuver). You can always be prepared to save a life.
- ✓ **Cook.** Everyone should know the basics of preparing a meal that isn't just microwaved.
- ✓ **Tell a story.** You can persuade and inspire people by telling stories that move them.
- ✓ **Change a tire.** Because you can't always wait for AAA.
- ✓ **Take good notes.** You can't remember everything. Develop a reliable system for documenting what you need to know in the future.

September Events

September 5th	Labor Day	
September 11th	Patriot Day	
September 16th	National POW/MIA Recognition Day	

Do You Have A Question About Car Maintenance That You Want Answered?

We love to hear from all of our good friends and clients who enjoy reading our monthly newsletter. If you have a question about anything related to your vehicle, feel free to give us a call at **979-885-4009**, email us at **INFO@RIVERSIDETIRE.COM** or visit us at **WWW.RIVERSIDETIRE.COM**

The Warranty On Your New Vehicle Stays In Effect When Maintenance Is Performed Here.

We are legally authorized to fulfill maintenance obligations on all vehicles, even new ones. We use appropriate parts & procedures, the vehicle's manufacturer is bound to honor its warranty obligations. Your vehicle's care starts at 00001 miles.



Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Special thanks go out to all of our clients and friends who graciously referred our shop to their friends and neighbors last month! Our business is built based on the positive comments and referrals from people just like you. We just couldn't do it without you.

Art Rodgers

Unsafe At Any Speed? Drivers Fail Safety Survey

You may be an excellent driver, but what about all those other idiots on the road?

A survey by GMAC Insurance found that approximately 36.9 million current U.S. drivers close to 5 percent—would fail a driving test if they had to take one today. And that's actually good news, as even more motorists (38 million) would have failed the test in 2010.

In the survey, over 5,000 licensed drivers in 50 states (plus the District of Columbia) took a 20-question test based on driving exams from state departments of motor vehicles. Drivers in Kansas had the highest average score; D.C. drivers scored worst.



Plate Replaces Pyramid For Nutritional Guidance

The pyramids of ancient Egypt disappeared under the desert sands, and the food pyramid—familiar to most Americans since 1992, when it was introduced by the Department of Agriculture—is joining them. In an effort to fight obesity by clarifying smart dietary choices, the USDA this year replaced the food pyramid with the “food plate” a new visual representation of how people should eat for health and nutrition.

Half the plate is filled with fruits and vegetables; the other half holds grains (bread, pasta, breakfast cereals, etc.) and protein (dry beans and peas). Dairy products like milk, cheese, and yogurt are on a smaller plate off to the side.

The guidelines emphasize a balanced diet, smaller portions, less fat, and drinking water instead of soda. For a detailed explanation of the plate, go to www.choosemyplate.gov.



Selling Your Home?

Before you put your house on the market, take the time to do a little snooping on your neighbors. Visiting a few open houses in your neighborhood can give you a better idea of what your home is worth and can highlight needed improvements.

If two or three houses on your block have recently redone their roofs or siding, for example, you probably should put that toward the top of your list so your home doesn't suffer from comparison once you start listing it.

Visiting open houses also gives you the chance to meet and talk to real-estate agents. You might meet someone with the experience and personality you want to work with, and you'll get a sense of his or her talent for sales.

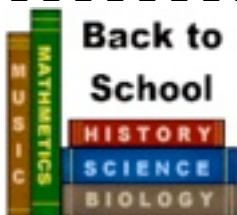


The Amusing History Of # 1-900 Numbers

Long-distance telephone numbers beginning with 900 first flourished in the 1980s, and for a time they provided a healthy vehicle for communication between celebrities and the public.

From the magazine *Mental Floss* come a few groundbreaking strategies that 1-900 numbers introduced:

- **The space shuttle.** Originally created for journalists to listen to shuttle astronauts talking to Mission Control, NASA eventually provided a number for space buffs to hear flight status reports and press conferences for 35 cents a minute.
- **Larry and Robin.** In 1983, a *Saturday Night Live* skit challenged viewers to decide whether Eddie Murphy would boil “Larry the Lobster” on TV by calling one of two phone numbers. (Larry was saved.) In 1988, DC Comics asked readers of the *Batman* comic book to call in and vote on whether Batman's new sidekick (the second Robin) should live or die. (Readers voted to kill him.)
- **Dial-a-President.** In March 1977, Walter Cronkite moderated a TV broadcast in which viewers could call a 900 number (at normal long-distance rates) to ask President Jimmy Carter a question. In 1980, potential voters were invited to call a 900 number to vote on whether President Carter or Republican challenger Ronald Reagan had won the 1980 presidential debate. Callers named Reagan the winner (as voters would that November).



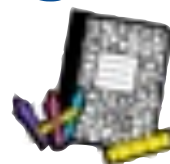
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Congratulations To Our Client Of The Month!

Every month, we choose a very special client of the month. It's our way of acknowledging our great clients and saying thanks to those that support our business with referrals and repeat business.

This month's Client of the Month is

Warren Hoskinson

Too Much Of A Good Thing

Two sea monsters were prowling the waters of the North Atlantic looking for food. They spotted a ship on the horizon, dived beneath the surface, and attacked. The sailors were all able to reach their lifeboats, but the creatures happily gorged on the cargo of potatoes that stuffed the ship's hold.

Soon after, they spied another ship and attacked again. Once more the sailors were spared, and once more the sea monsters feasted on a load of potatoes.

Hours later, a third ship approached. And the sea monsters once again capsized it. They again found another cargo of potatoes, which they ate.

By now their stomachs were full, and they were feeling bloated and ill. The first sea monster said, "Why do we keep doing this?"

The second replied, "Well, everyone knows you can't eat just one potato ship."

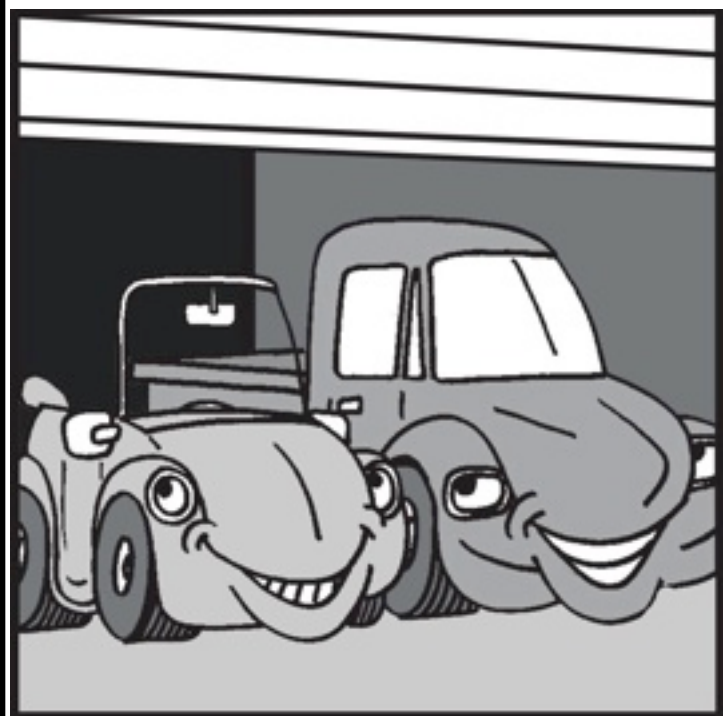


College Savings Month

Most parents need to plan ahead for the cost of a college education for their children. Sponsored by the College Savings Plans Network, College Savings Month emphasizes the importance of a higher education and the need to prepare for it well in advance of the first day of class.

Get the facts at

www.collegesavings.org.



YOUR VEHICLES ARE GONNA LOVE US!

Do You Want To Win A Weekday Green Fee From Stephen F. Austin Golf Course?

The first 10 people to call with the correct answer will be eligible to win. At the end of the month we'll draw one lucky name. That winner will receive a weekday green fee from Stephen F. Austin golf course! Here is this month's trivia question: In 1983 what was the name of the lobster in the Saturday Night Live skit that Eddie Murphy performed in?

(Hint: the answer is somewhere in this newsletter)

- a) Larry
- b) Lawrence
- c) Lloyd
- d) Leroy

Call right now with your answer!

Last month's trivia challenge was, *Which one of these Bens' was the co-founder of Ben & Jerry's ice cream?* d) *Ben Cohen*. Congratulations to last month's lucky winner!

Harvey Stuessel

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What's Inside?

- The Plate Replaces Pyramid -
- The Amusing History Of The 1-900 Numbers -
- Drivers Fail Safety Survey -
- A Family Learning Experience -
- Win Free Golf Green Fees -
- September Events -
- Money Saving Offers -
- & Much More!



What's The Answer?



What Is The One Rule For Living?

Unsafe At Any Speed?

Who Won The 1980 Presidential Debate?

What Should You Do Before Selling Your Home?

Why Was The 1-900 Number Originally Created?

*The Answers To These And Many
More Questions Are Inside*

