The STRAIGHTTALK

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The Newsletter

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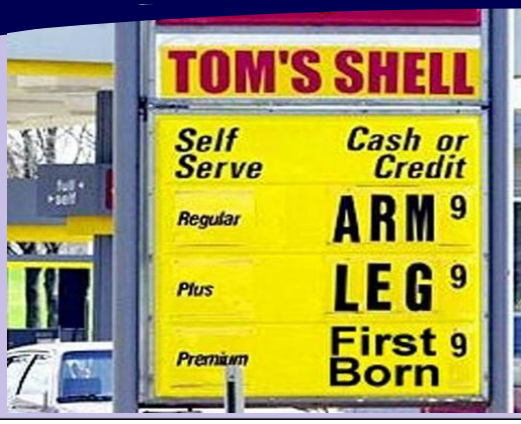
$aving at the Pump



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Calendar

- Cinco de Mayo 5/5
- Boating Season Opening Day 5/7
- Mothers Day 5/8
- Memorial Day 5/30

FREE Starbucks!!
See Back for Details

With skyrocketing gas prices– how can you maximize your fuel without buying a new hybrid vehicle?

With gas prices high and quickly approaching $4.00 a gallon, drivers are searching for ways to decrease their fuel usage, but there are certain things we simply can't cut back on such as our transportation to and from work. If you are not on a bus line and have no chance of carpooling you may feel stuck as you pay upwards of $50.00 every time you fuel up. We have provided a list of easy options to help increase your fuel efficiency without costing you a dime.

Top Fuel Savers

You may be shocked by how big a difference the following tips can make to your bottom line.

Cruise Control:

Cruise control can actually save you in more ways than simply preventing a speeding ticket. According to research by Edmonds.com , cruise control can save you big bucks at the tank. Edmonds.com compared a Land Rover LR3 and a Ford Mustang's fuel consumption while using cruise control at 70 mph vs fluctuating between 65 and 75 mph without cruise control.

The Land Rover had 14% better gas mileage with cruise control and the Mustang saw a 4.5% increase in fuel economy. Showing that, particularly for larger vehicles, using cruise control can make a big difference.

Accelerating and Braking Slowly:

Edmonds.com also discovered that avoiding slamming on the gas and brake can save a considerable amount of fuel. In fact, the Land Rover experienced a 35.4% increase in fuel efficiency and the Mustang saw a 27.1% increase.

The difficult part is realizing how much is too much. According to experts, the gas pedal should not be pushed down more than an inch from the resting position unless absolutely necessary. Instead, slowly accelerate when picking up speed and when a light turns yellow or red gradually coast to a stop rather than slam on the brake right at the stop line.

Putting the Savings in Perspective

The percentages seem high- but what exactly does it all equate to? Putting these numbers into perspective, on average, if you get 22 miles per gallon in your vehicle, you can bring that up to 30 miles per gallon by simply following the tips above- for a 20 gallon tank that is an extra 160 miles you can travel per tank!

You Have Questions– We Have Answers!

Question...
What should I do if I'm involved in an auto accident?

Answer...
1.) Get as much information on the at-fault driver as possible: name, contact information and insurance information

2.) Collect witness information. Not everybody who sees an accident will offer to act as a witness, so it is important that you approach anybody in the vicinity to ask if they saw the accident.

3.) Check for Surveillance Cameras. It is important to get these tapes as fast as possible, though, because they are usually taped over within a couple of days.

Memorable BBQ Burgers

These BBQ burgers will make your Memorial Day BBQ memorable!

Ingredients:
1 lb lean ground beef
1/2 cup beer*
1/4 cup Worcestershire sauce
1 tsp garlic powder
1/2 tsp onion salt
ground black pepper to taste

Marinate:
Shape the ground beef into three burger patties and place in a shallow dish.

In bowl combine beer, Worcestershire sauce, garlic powder, onion salt and pepper and pour over patties. Refrigerate patties for 15 minutes– flip and allow to marinate another 15 minutes.

Cook patties on a hot grill over medium heat for 2 minutes on each side– cook until desired doneness (5 minutes for well done)

* For best results, choose a beer with a full or interesting flavor – Heineken is my favorite for marinade.

Spring Family Fun!

Jason Epstein with his Family, wife Adrienne and son's Quinn and Kelley

Take Me Out to the Ball Game!

With a variety of family specials and packages a ball game can be an inexpensive and fun night out with the family.

May Schedule:

Rangers: May 3rd-5th
White Socks: May 6th-8th
Twins: May 16th-17th
Angels: May 18th-19th
Yankees: May 27th-29th
Orioles: May 30th-31st

More Info: www.SeattleMariners.com

Seattle International Children's Festival : *May 10th-14th*

Enjoy a variety of performances from around the world along with free crafts and art projects.

Rainsticks • Chinese Face Changing Masks •Hula Hooping

Indian Beaded Bracelets • Oragami Lessons • Bouncy Balls

More Info: www.giantmagnet.org/international-childrens-festival

Seattle Maritime Festival: *May 12th-14th*

The maritime festival has a variety activities good for the whole family, most of which are FREE!

Chowder Cook Off •FREE Vessel Tours & Harbor Tours

Kids Activity Center •Kids Crafts: Wooden boat building

More Info: www.seattlepropellerclub.org

U-District Street Fair: *May 21st-22nd*

This is the longest running street fair in the United States with 42 years under its belt.

•Craft & Food Booths • Street Performers

Music • Dance • Comedy Performances

More Info: www.udistrictchamber.org/StreetFair/

Teens Against Distracted Driving Visits Holy Names Academy

Jason Speaks to Kids at Holy Names Academy About the Dangers of Texting While Driving

Jason and his organization, Teens Against Distracted Driving, paid a visit to Holy Names Academy last month to talk with students about the dangers of texting while driving. This is the second school that Jason has visited this year, and the assembly was so full that some students had to watch a video broadcast of the presentation in an overflow room.

The hour-long assembly featured a powerpoint presentation by Jason, as well as speeches by State Trooper Julie Startup, and Diana Jones – mother of texting while driving victim, Ashley Davis-Jones. The combination of speakers brought three different perspectives on why texting while driving is incredibly dangerous.

Jason kicked off the assembly with a powerful video showing a realistic reenactment of a texting while driving accident. This was followed by a presentation that focused on the rather surprising statistics behind texting and driving. Including, how much more dangerous texting is than drunk driving and how severely it distracts a driver.

Following Jason's presentation, State Trooper Julie Startup, spoke briefly about texting while driving laws. As the current Public Information officer for the state patrol, Julie has had plenty of experience in the field, and was able to speak about how common these preventable accidents are. The students were able to ask Julie questions as well, and get a better understanding of her perspective, and the law as a whole.

The assembly was capped off by an emotional talk with Diana and Cheryce Jones – mother and sister of Ashley Davis-Jones, who died in a texting while driving accident February 2011. The students were able to see what kind of effect their actions can have on their friends and family. The Jones discussed that texting while driving not only hurts the driver of the vehicle, but also can harm others on the road, and the family and loved ones of those involved.

At the end of the assembly, almost every person signed the pledge to never text and drive again.

For parents that were interested in hearing the TADD presentation, Jason held a small assembly that night to give a taste of what their kids heard earlier in the day.

We sincerely hope that the Holy Names students were able to bring the message home to their parents and that everybody stays true to their pledge.

Washington State Cell Phone Laws

The newest cell phone laws were signed into law March 26th, 2010 and upgraded texting & driving and talking on a mobile device without a hands-free device a primary offense. As a primary offense, a citizen can be pulled over for texting behind the wheel or talking on their cell phone without a hands free device without committing any other offense.

For younger drivers cell phone use is prohibited even if using a hands-free device.

So what are the consequences?

Offenders are tagged with a $124.00 ticket, which will not be reported to insurance companies and will not go on the drivers permanent record.

Thank You For Your Referrals!

- Heather Stevenson
- Joseph Goetz
- Brad Moore
- Macey Hauki

Take the Pledge 2 NVR TXT & DRV

Visit www.TeensAgainstDistractedDriving.com and take the pledge to not text & Drive. And look on the back page of this newsletter for a chance to win!

PLG
PREMIER LAW GROUP
PLLC

3380 146th Place SE
Suite 430
Bellevue, WA 98007

Phone: 206-285-1743
Fax: 206-599-6316
E-mail: jason@plg-pllc.com

To be removed from this mailing list:
call: 206-285-1743
email: Bailie@plg-pllc.com

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FREE Legal Resource Guides

- *The Truth About Washington Auto Accidents*
- *The Truth About Washington Motorcycle Accidents*
- *The Truth About Buying Washington Auto Insurance*
- *In Case of Death: Straight Talk on Washington Wrongful Death*

Contact: bailie@plg-pllc.com

Trivia Question of the Month

Memorial Day ranks #3 for holidays with the most traffic fatalities what is # 1?

First person to email the correct answer to **bailie@plg-pllc.com** will win a Starbucks gift card!!

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Pledge 2 NOT TXT & DRV and Win!!

Premier Law Group challenges YOU to take the pledge. And you could win a Starbucks Gift Card!

It's simple– visit www.TeensAgainstDistractedDriving.com and take the pledge– then send us an e-mail letting us know of your commitment and we will enter you into a drawing for a Starbucks gift card!
E-mail us at Bailie@plg-pllc.com

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