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THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MANATEE COUNTY FEATURES A STUDENT AND A CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION TEACHER

Newspaper in Education Presents
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CAREER
Biz & Buzz



High Tech Training

Cecil Trumbo teaches Automotive Service Technology at Manatee Technical Institute (MTI) and there is a lot to learn in this 1800-hour program. Today's automotive technician is a highly skilled problem solver with a laptop, a complex array of sophisticated tools and diagnostic equipment, and a solid paycheck.

MTI's automotive technology building houses a state-of-the-art 10-bay garage, a large classroom for instruction, and a computer lab outfitted for online training and testing. Students work towards mastering core knowledge and the skills needed to diagnose and repair automobiles in this National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) and National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation, Inc. (NATEF) certified program.

Teaching is a passion for Cecil and he strives to emphasize learning on your own. "The automobile is in a constant state of change and each new component or system requires new learning," he says. Cecil is also a SkillsUSA advisor and encourages his students to compete in SkillsUSA events where they can bolster their competitive edge and develop leadership and communication skills.



ACADEMIC
Biz & Buzz



Savvy Students

Driving Toward a New Career

Jorge Mere formerly worked in the food service industry. It was a good job but lacked the opportunity to advance, and the long hours took him away from his family. Jorge decided to change jobs and started working in the construction field...until the building slowdown. After being laid off, Jorge decided to return to school and enrolled in MTI's Automotive Service Technology program.

"Everything happens for a reason," he said. "I thoroughly enjoy coming to school. Gaining knowledge gives you self-satisfaction and pride so you can do what you need to do. Putting forth effort is a satisfying feeling."

Today Jorge is working his way through the program, studying the automobile and its systems. He has mastered the electrical, brakes, and steering/suspension systems and is preparing to move on to the heating and air conditioning, engine, automatic and manual transmission, and maintenance units.

Jorge is driving toward a challenging and rewarding future thanks to hard work and to his newly acquired automotive skills.

InnoVators

**MTI Automotive Technology
 Car Smarts**

There are countless tips out there for how to take good care of your car, to make it last longer, to make it the most efficient and the least harmful to the environment. Here are a few tips to keep your car running at its highest potential.

First, check your car's fluids often, particularly the three most important ones: oil, transmission fluid, and brake fluid. Your car uses oil to lubricate the engine and to keep it from catching on fire, and transmission fluid helps the gears to shift smoothly and also acts as a coolant. If you see a warning light on the dashboard indicating a problem in any of these areas, make sure to fix the problem as soon as possible.

Next, try to minimize the amount of short trips you make. Because the engine doesn't have time to warm up, the excess water from the engine combustion doesn't evaporate and thus stays inside the tailpipe, causing parts of your car to rust. The water also dilutes the oil needed for engine lubrication.

As you drive, don't accelerate too quickly, as this puts more strain on the engine. Rapid acceleration also uses more gasoline. Look ahead and be a careful judge of how much time you need to slow down; slamming on the brakes will wear them out sooner. You don't want to experience the smell of burning rubber!

Other things like changing the air filter and rotating your tires are important, too. A clean air filter helps your engine run better and with more power. Since front tires are worn down more quickly than the back ones, rotating your tires evens out the amount of wear and prolongs their use.

It takes little effort to let a car wear out; our daily travel contributes to their wear and tear. But like any other systems that need to be maintained, cars need attention in order to keep them running smoothly for a long time. What you put into it is what you'll get out of it, so be smart in the way you treat your car.



DISCOVER
 the
Future



Regional Careers: Here are examples of related occupations and current wages in the Suncoast Workforce Region.

Occupation Title	Entry Level	Experienced
Minimum wage	\$7.21	-
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	\$11.38	\$23.53
Automotive Body Repairers	\$16.27	\$21.22
Auto Insurance Sales Agents	\$14.55	\$29.63
Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians	\$16.29	\$28.92
Driver/Sales Workers	\$8.48	\$19.08
Truck Drivers, Light or Delivery Services	\$8.72	\$15.94

Source: <http://fred.labormarketinfo.com>
 FL Labor Market Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics & Wages Program

Career Pathway: Students desiring a career in any of these areas can find related educational programs at these schools*:

*Manatee Technical Institute,
 Manatee Community College,
 University of South Florida*

*Other Manatee schools may offer similar programs. Listed schools are related to today's issue.

Explore
 IT

Improve Your Gas Mileage

If you're driving, you know how expensive it is to fill up the tank. Save money and drive "green" with these gas-saving strategies.

1. Don't top off the tank. Extra gas slops around or seeps out. Stop pumping at the first sign of automatic click off.
2. Tighten the cap. Loose or missing gas caps cause gasoline to evaporate.
3. Pump up tires. Underinflated tires wear out quickly and cause lower gas mileage due to the increased resistance of tire-to-road. Driving on low tires may reduce your mileage up to 15%. Check tire pressure once a month.
4. Use the correct oil. Look for "energy conserving" oil and use the right grade as recommended by your manufacturer.
5. Replace dirty air filters. Your car becomes more fuel efficient with a clean air filter.
6. Keep it cool. Park in the shade or keep it in a garage—hot cars cause higher evaporative emissions.
7. Drive sensibly. Aggressive, fast driving burns more gasoline.
8. Take a walk or ride a bike!



InquiziKidz page is published every Wednesday in Bradenton Herald. Provided by Newspaper in Education, Christine Fritch (941) 748-0411 ext. 5464, cfritch@bradenton.com, Julie Beacham-Hooie, Page Editor.

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- www.ase.com
- www.autoshop101.com
- www.manateetechnicalinstitute.org/programs/career/industrial/automotive.html
- www.skillsusa.org

