

A Free Monthly Newsletter From Your Friends At Ricky Ratchets Auto Repair

May Events

May 1st	May Day
May 4th	Star Wars Day
May 5th	Cinco de Mayo
May 8th	Mother's Day
May 21st	Armed Forces Day
May 23rd	Victoria Day
May 26th	Rick's Birthday!



Save Money On The A/C This Summer

Summer is coming, and you'll probably be relying on your air conditioning to stay cool. If you don't want to pay too much during the hottest months of the year, check out this advice:

- ✓ **Check your insulation.** Unless your home is brand new, chances are you're losing cool air through cracks and poorly sealed doors and windows. Contact your utility provider or a contractor for an energy audit to determine where the air is seeping out.
- ✓ **Position your thermostat correctly.** Don't place it near a hot window, for example, or it will turn on too quickly. Pick a cooler, shaded location so it won't think rooms are hotter than they really are.
- ✓ **Keep blinds closed.** This simple action during the hottest periods of the day will keep you cooler and will add a layer of insulation to your windows.
- ✓ **Turn on fans.** Fans use less energy, and keeping the air circulating will make rooms feel cooler.
- ✓ **Turn down the thermostat when you leave.** Many people assume that maintaining a steady temperature 24 hours a day is more efficient, but the truth is that you'll use less energy by turning the temperature when you leave the house for the air, then cooling down when you return.



X-Rays On The Battlefield, Thanks To Madame Curie

When World War I broke out in 1914, Marie Curie had already won two Nobel Prizes, but she wanted to help the war effort in France.

She knew surgeons on the front lines were performing surgery without the ability to take X-rays in the field or the time to transport soldiers to one of the few hospitals in France with X-ray machines. So she invented the "petite Curie"—a van housing a portable X-ray machine.

Curie asked French military officials about funding for her invention, but they refused her. Then she approached the Union of Women of France, who agreed to help. She sought additional funding from wealthy women in Paris and built twenty petite Curies.

Those twenty machines went to the front lines and allowed tens of thousands of soldiers to receive X-rays. Curie operated her own machine on the front line, along with women she had trained to operate others.

Curie also oversaw the installation of 200 X-ray machines at field hospitals—semi-permanent hospitals near the front. Because of her efforts, more than one million soldiers were X-rayed during WWI, saving countless lives.



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 reach out to us...

**Call us at
(519) 455-5351
Or visit our website at
www.rickyratchets.com**

Happy Mother's Day To All Our Moms!

Decode The Puzzle on Page 4 and call us with the Secret Message for a chance to WIN a Heeman's Greenhouse Prize Package Valued at \$100.00!



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.

Wayne Gavigan

Keep Employees Motivated With Growth Options

When employees can't grow professionally, they tend to lose their motivation and engagement in their jobs. Bloomberg Businessweek reports. What can a manager do?

Try asking your employees to set quarterly learning goals, and talk about how to they can meet them. They could pursue professional certificates or degrees online, work on a pet project, or sit in on higher level meetings to learn more about your organization.

One tip: Don't make employees feel like this is one more item on a to-do list. Give them the flexibility to work on their goals as they see fit.

U.S. Consumers Want 500 Miles For Their Electric Cars

Electric cars may be getting more popular, but not all Americans are in a rush to buy one. One factor: Driving range. Deloitte's 2022 Global Automotive Consumer Study, which surveyed 26,000 people of driving age worldwide (1,031 of them American), found that Americans, on average, won't be comfortable with an electric vehicle unless it has a range of 518 miles between charges.

So far, only one car on the market, the Lucid Air, can satisfy that demand, with an EPA-certified range of 520 miles for its Dream Edition—which sells for \$169,000. Drivers in other countries aren't quite as demanding. German drivers surveyed said they'd be satisfied with an average of 383 miles, and Chinese drivers would be OK with just 258 miles.



Bring Kids Into The Kitchen

Getting your young children involved in preparing your family's meals can teach them lots of valuable skills, and can also improve the bond between you and your kids. The Market Screener website advises teaching them these useful kitchen habits:

- **Following directions.** Learning to follow step-by-step instructions and seeing the results teaches kids patience, the value of doing things in order, and sticking to a program.
- **Creativity.** Let your kids experiment with the food around your kitchen to see what they can create without restrictions. You may be surprised by the results, and children will learn from their successes and mistakes.
- **Motor skills.** Measuring, pouring, mixing, and other tasks help your children learn control and steadiness. Older children can take on more advanced roles like kneading, rolling, and other skills.
- **Menu planning.** Sit down with your kids to plan the week's menu. They can help you decide on what to buy, when to go shopping, what to eat on what day, and who should help cook the family's meals.
- **Healthy eating.** Use the opportunity to point out what foods are good for children's growing bodies. Giving them some choice in what fruits and vegetables to buy is a good way to encourage them to eat a healthy diet.



Save Money With A Monthly Cleanse

Looking to find a little extra money in your budget? Try a "monthly spending cleanse." The NBC Select website advises picking one item every month to eliminate from your shopping: alcohol, eating out, new clothes, new books, etc. You'll find it easy to trim your spending if you know it's just for a month. Place the money you would have spent into your savings or checking account. Over time, you'll have more discretionary cash to spend on essential like food, rent, transportations, utilities, etc.



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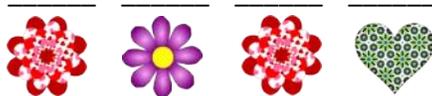
happy mother's day!



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DID YOU KNOW?

- * MORE CALLS ARE MADE ON MOTHER'S DAY THAN ANY OTHER DAY OF THE YEAR!
- * MOTHER'S DAY IS ONE OF THE BUSIEST DAYS OF THE YEAR IN RESTAURANTS!
- * EVERY YEAR APPROXIMATELY 152 MILLION CARDS ARE SENT ON MOTHER'S DAY!
- * IN CANADA, MOTHER'S DAY BECAME AN OFFICIAL HOLIDAY IN 1915!

