



Tom Dwyer Automotive Services Monthly Newsletter for January, 2017

Tom's Tidbits

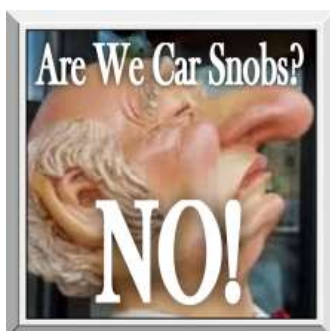
Don't believe your lying eyes!

Our Feature Articles



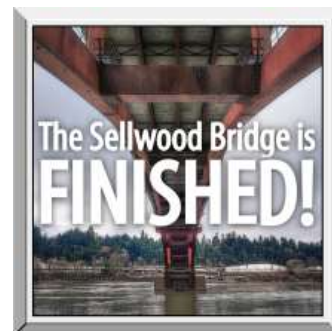
A Last Look Back At 2016

All our Feature articles from a very long year.



Are We Car Snobs? NO!!!

Why we have a 15-years-old-and-newer policy for NEW clients



The Sellwood Bridge is FINISHED!

A final look back at our wobbly neighbor's extreme makeover

Our Monthly Columns

"What NOW?!!" Toons

Keith Tucker's Take on 2016

Drew's Kitchen

Your 2016 Table is ready!

Shop Talk

Talkin' 'bout 2016 and votin' for our Referral Reward Winner!

Health Notes-

A Healthy 2016

Sellwood Bridge Update

GOODBYE to the SELLWOOD BRIDGE UPDATE!

Book Spotlight

2016's Bookshelf and Bonuses

Humorousness

Laughing our way through 2016

Popcorn Shorts

Cool and important stuff that's too short for a big article

- All our 2016 Popcorn... it never gets stale!
- Learning from the Tea Party
- Soviet visions of 2017
- Some great scenes from Portland's fight with Winter

News To Make You Furious

2016's Buffet of Bile



Tom's Tidbits

Don't believe your lying eyes!



Greetings!

Conventional wisdom says practice makes perfect, but the first week of the Trump Presidency proved conventional wisdom wrong. The Trump *Campaign* was a cesspool of documented, provable lies, big and small, consistently, on every subject imaginable, but this week's embarrassing display from the Trump *Administration* shows they haven't been getting any better at it. If anything their lies have become clumsier and more blatant. But since they aren't telling better lies, they've simply decided to lie more often and tell us not to believe our own lying eyes. And they have good reason to think it will work...

The record small attendance numbers for the Inauguration provided a spawning ground for "alternative facts", and as we know nothing about the Donald can be allowed to be perceived as small. [Throw in the lies](#) on illegal voting, illegal immigration, the Media, Obamacare, and the Border Wall and you have a pretty full week of distortion and deceit. The Media is struggling with how to report on this effluence; tiptoeing around the obvious with words like "misinformation" and "falsehood", and the even softer "though there is no evidence to support it" when all the evidence all points the other way. People used to avoid lying because of penalties when the truth came out, but in today's America the Truth is now pliable for the convenience of the moment, and the whims of the powerful. There is no truth so there are no lies, and no one ever is called to account.

The volume of sewage being pumped at us is no accident. It's intended to overload our personal and media bandwidth so it's impossible to examine any particular lie in-depth, much less any policy it might inspire. We're left to triage among the outrages, wasting time exploding lies rather than comparing competing truth-based policies. And for every fraud that's swatted down three more get through.

Some lies are actually necessary; we all lie about our friends' ugly hats and our children's performance in the play. The Trumpocracy is telling another kind of lies; intended to prompt us into decisions we wouldn't (or shouldn't) make if we knew the truth. The Donald is free to hallucinate in his private life but the world can't afford to indulge him *policy or action based on delusion or deceit*. There are consequences for everyone who lives in the reality-based community, whether we believe our lying eyes or not.

We have front-row seats for this occupation and we have an obligation to bear witness and document. With that in mind, we'll be adding a new section to our newsletter... "TRUMPWATCH". We'll try to keep track of the most egregious lies, the most insane policies, the most blatant violations of Constitution and basic human values that the Trumpocracy has to offer. In his prescient 1984, Orwell talked about the malleability of history... "The past was erased, the erasure was forgotten, the lie became the truth." There's absolutely no chance TRUMPWATCH will change anything in Washington but it will be part of our witness; our attempt to make sure the past isn't erased, manipulated or forgotten, and that "alterative facts" aka lies don't pass into history... at least unchallenged.

Take care and make a great day,

Our Service Advisor Dean's daughter, Whitney Scruton, eloquently expressed this poignant thought on Inauguration Eve... "Watch the inauguration tomorrow. Don't ignore it because your nominee didn't win. Watch it. Watch it because your kids will ask you about it someday. Watch it because they deserve the truth, whatever that may be. Trump may make history in all the ways we never wanted or in ways we could've never dreamed of. You owe it to your children, and to their children, to be the one thing they could not: a witness. A witness to an event that future generations will come to talk about for many years down the road. Tomorrow is a day unlike any other. A hated man, whether justified or unjustified, will be at an iconic location at a set time on a historical day repeating the words of so many before him to start his own history as the 45th President of the United States. Take a chance to be a part of that history, not for Trump or Hillary, but for yourself, so you can be the grandparent you once idolized for their stories, history, and experiences."



Now please sit back and enjoy our Tom's Tidbits from 2016!

January- [America's Choices](#)

February- [Let's Make This Easy For The Pundits](#)

March- [Mitch McConnell's Slavish Devotion To Joe Biden](#)

April- [Business Healthcare Blues](#)

May- Space... [The Fiscal Frontier](#)

June- [Past Is Prologue](#)

July- [What's Happening To The Rule Of Law?](#)

August- [Endless War. Endless Squandered Opportunity.](#)

September- [Trump May Be Smart, But We Need To Be Smarter.](#)

October/November- [Can The Mail Save Representative Democracy?](#)

December- [Not The "Project For A New American Century" They Bargained For!](#)

What NOW?!! Toons

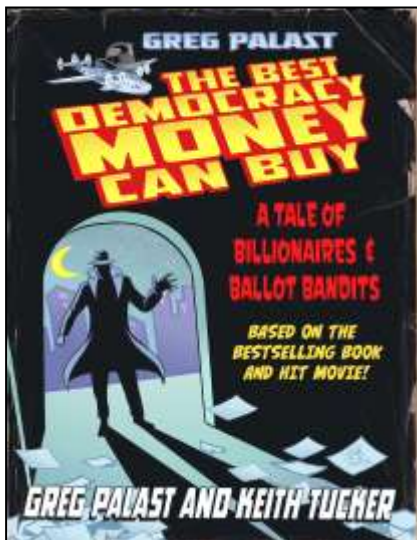
Keith Tucker's Take on 2016



"WHAT NOW?!!" © KEITH TUCKER
WWW.WHATNOWTOONS.COM

No one's stepped up to say we're wrong yet, so we'll make this bold claim yet again... we are the only auto repair shop in the country, quite possibly the world, with our own in-house political cartoonist! Multi-award winning artist, cartoonist, and sci-fi trailblazer Keith Tucker makes us proud every month as he brings us his unique What NOW?!! Toons and their slight editorial slant to our newsletter. In 2016 he went above and beyond, and we are just bursting to tell you Keith was central to Greg Palast's critically important movie "The Best Democracy Money Can Buy". Keith

storyboarded the film, did the initial title animation, and even created an entire comic book to accompany the movie! (By the way, if you haven't checked it out, Greg's movie is an incredible indictment of the 'card check' voter manipulation program that quite possibly gave us Donald Trump. We have free copies in the Shop if you'd like one). Check in for new Toons from Keith in 2017, and open up the Funny Pages to all these Tucker Toons from 2016...





WHAT NOW??



WHAT NOW??



WHAT NOW??



WHAT NOW??



GREENLAND'S ICE SHEET IS MELTING FASTER THAN PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT.



THE SAME ABRASIVE EGO MANIAC WHACKED OUT MISOGYNISTIC RACIST BIG DICKS COME TO KNOW AND SCRY



WHAT NOW??



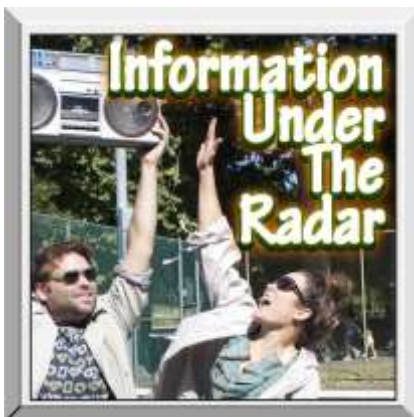
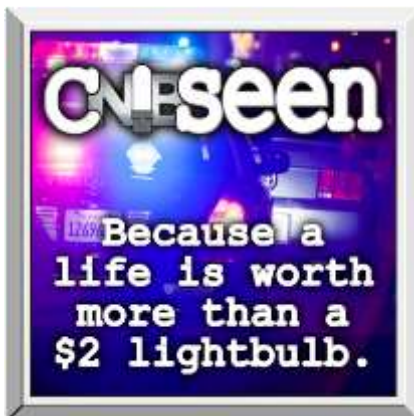
WHAT NOW??

A Last Look Back At 2016

All our Feature articles from a very long year



What kind of newsletter covers police violence, summer camps, labor motivation, single payer healthcare, community radio, screaming hot blues, and the best gasoline for your car? If you live in Portland then your one source for all that and more is your local mechanic! We promise that no matter what other newsletters you might subscribe to, Your Car Matters, our RestOfNewsletterTom Dwyer Automotive Services Newsletter, is vastly different. Tom's only editorial directive is to "make it quality; make it something people will want to read" so that's what we try to do. The result is somewhat eclectic, but from politics to mechanics we try to bring you valuable information with our own special spin. We can't promise what you'll see next, but we can show you what caught our eyes in 2016...



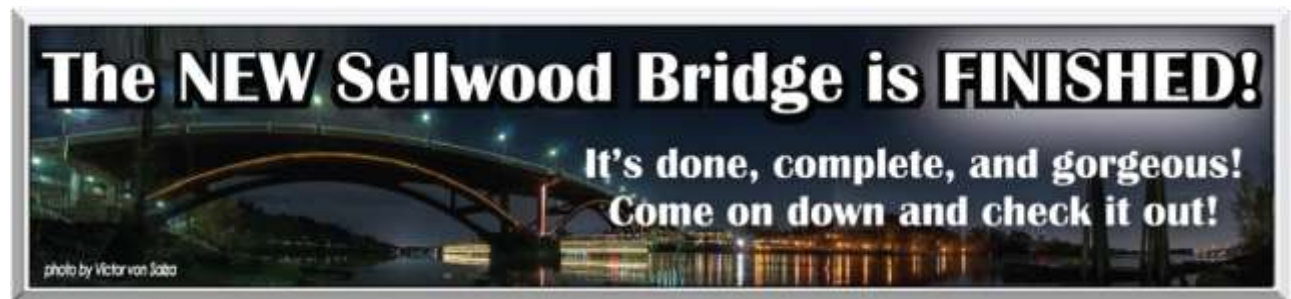


The Sellwood Bridge is FINISHED

Here's the WHOLE story on how it happened



Since 2008, the renovation of the Sellwood Bridge has been the defining reality of our life here at the shop. Construction has only been happening since 2011, but we've been there from the very beginning as the basic design was being worked out. The old Sellwood bridge was a crumbling death trap and desperately needed to be replaced, but it has cost us many clients, caused many headaches, and we're darn glad to see it finished! To start the New Year we'll look back at this amazing, once-in-a-lifetime project from beginning to end from our own prime seats where we've been for 30 years; right at the East End of the Sellwood Bridge...



Our main way of communicating information about the progress of the Bridge renovation has been our Sellwood Bridge Update column, where each month we covered major milestones, kept folks briefed on closures, and tried to find bridge-related information during some of the slower parts of the project. We'll show you all those columns below if you'd like to browse through them, but before we do we'd like to direct you to some highlights about the project...



[The Great Sellwood Bridge Scandal... of 1924](#)

[How Safe Are The Bridges of Portland?](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Overruns Lead To Lawsuit From Contractor; Officials Kept Rising Costs 'Confidential'](#)

[Sellwood Bridge: First Steel Arch Pieces Arrive By Barge \(Photos\)](#)

[Sellwood Bridge's Construction Divers Brave Cold, Murky Willamette River For The Sake Of Industry](#)

[Pieces Of New Sellwood Bridge Float On River](#)

[Removing the first block of the last piling of the old Sellwood Bridge \(Video\)](#)



[The Bridge does stunt work for TV's "Leverage"](#)



[A new Bridge means TriMet's back.](#)



This before-and-after image from Victor von Salza is one of hundreds of stunning images of the Bridge and its construction available at the [Flickr Photo Pool for the Bridge Project](#).



The new Sellwood Bridge had its Grand Opening when it opened to traffic on Feb 27, 2016, although the project wouldn't be complete until Nov 2017. Here's coverage of the event from The [Oregonian](#), [YouTube](#), and the [Portland Tribune](#).



The once-in-a-lifetime project was a teachable moment for local schools



[Full time lapse video of construction](#)

Aerial Photo Gallery, May 2012 - September 2016

Updated September 26, 2016

Photos courtesy of the Oregon Department of Transportation

Images are listed with the most recent photos first. Hover over the left or right edges of each image to scroll through photos in this gallery.



September 12, 2016



August 17, 2016



July 13, 2016

SellwoodBridge.org has a great [series of aerial photos](#) shot each month during the project, as well as a [full gallery of pictures](#) of every aspect of the project from start to finish.



[Our recap of the first year of construction](#)



[Our photo essay from the work areas as the project passed the 50% mark](#)



["Which three Portland bridges are currently earthquake rated?"](#) ? The answer is [here](#).



Unbelievably, the Old Bridge was moved 60' to be the traffic bridge while the New Bridge was under construction. It was a record-setting, complex engineering feat and [we \(and a few other folks\) brought you complete coverage of the Move.](#)



[Our first behind-the-scenes look at the construction](#)

And here, as promised, are all 75 columns of our Sellwood Bridge Update column for you to enjoy. Each one is a priceless piece of writing that will inspire future generations, but we've noted some of the ones that are particularly interesting. Enjoy!

2010

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Our very first Bridge Update column](#)

2011

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Until the day it's rebuilt](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Fame visits our shabby neighbor](#)

[The Sellwood Bridge does stunt work for TV's "Leverage"](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Some things never change...](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- The](#)

[Sellwood Bridge wins an award. No joke!](#)

[The Bridge wins an award before the digging even starts](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- You'll never believe THIS...](#)

[The announcement of the plan to use the old bridge during construction](#)

[Sellwood Bridge measure 3-372- One of our KPOJ spots about the need for bridge funding](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Vote "Yes" on Measure 3-372- Funding for the Bridge went before Clackamas County voters...](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Looking forward after the Clackamas vote- ...and it lost.](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- THEY STARTED!!!- The first construction of any kind begins](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Drilling continues; mystery dock solved](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Closer... closer... closer...](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Crumbling bridge is focus for MoveOn.org rally- The Bridge was such an icon of crumbling infrastructure that it was the focus of a political rally advocating infrastructure investment](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Wasn't there a building under the bridge?](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- It's here! It's here! It's here!-](#)

The real construction starts



2012

[Sellwood Bridge Update- A year in the life of our wobbly neighbor- We recap the first full year of construction, including tattoos](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- More than a crumbling relic... a teachable moment!](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- It's quiet, but moving along](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Hurry up and wait](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Goodbye For Now, Trees-](#)

[Goodbye to the trees](#)

[on Hwy 43 on the west bank](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update-](#)

[Construction hits home- The buildings across from our shop were cleared to make way for the project](#)

[management trailers that](#)

would remain for the rest of the project

[Sellwood Bridge Update- How to save \\$287](#)

[Now they're getting serious](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Slowing down for Fall- River construction had to stop to avoid interfering with salmon... who knew?](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Shoo Fly don't bother me. Until January.](#)

2013

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Last year for the Bridge comes to a close](#)

[Welcome Back, Buddy- A photo essay on the Sellwood Bridge's big move- The Bridge move was a record-setting engineering feat that brought out all Sellwood](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Come try the like-new Bridge!](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- An explosive Bridge Update!](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Steady and mostly quiet](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- A sneak peek behind-the-scenes- Our Tom Dwyer Bridge Update Team was treated to a behind-the-scenes tour](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Construction continuing smoothly](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- What's missing in this picture?-](#)

The old concrete supports start coming down

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Three big changes you need to know about](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Construction makes a U-turn](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- The "Saturday Night Live" bridge?](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- A different way to look at things](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- New traffic signal makes life easier](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Don't let the bridge bother you](#)

2014

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Rare bridge closure, February 15-19](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Movin' smooth... come on down!](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Computers power the reconstruction](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Save \\$200 during the upcoming Bridge Closure](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- A Peek At What's Coming Up- The first concrete supports go in, plus we get a first look at the gigantic steel arches being fabricated in Vancouver](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- A Bird's Eye View Of The Progress](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Gone Fishin'](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Tour- As the project reached 50%, we were treated to another behind-the-scenes tour. Fascinating pictures!](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- The Bridge Arches are done](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Goodbye to the last old support](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- The whole Bridge construction in 3 minutes- A look at the animation video of the construction plan](#)

[What happened while the Bridge was closed](#)

2015

[Sellwood Bridge Update](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- New Opening Date Announced- Small funding squabbles emerged; they didn't stop the project](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- The next set of arches is here](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update for April](#)



[2015- As the arches rose, the concrete was crumbling](#)
[Sellwood Bridge Update- When will the Bridge be finished?](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update for June- Our reporter takes a summer cruise under the bridge and brings back pictures](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Which Portland bridges are earthquake-rated?- The answer is, and was, terrifying](#)

[Bridge Update- Surprising answer to our Trivia question](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Will bad bolts bang the Bridge?- Faulty bolts were nothing more than a speed bump](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Big Westside changes on the way](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Major Westside traffic change](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Tentative opening date announced!](#)

2016

[2015 Got Us Much, Much Closer...](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Pull Back The Curtain... It's HERE!- The new Bridge would open to traffic \(but not be complete\) on Feb 27](#)

[Behind the Scenes of the NEW Sellwood Bridge- We got a final peek behind the fences just before the opening. More pictures!](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- A Tour of the Impossible- Tower cranes can't possibly exist. Yet they apparently do.](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- The naked bridge- With the new Bridge up, the old one was coming down](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Another Major Milestone](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- Goodbye to the Big Steel- The trusswork from the old Bridge was being lowered onto barges for recycling](#)

[What's up with the Bridge closures?](#)

[On-schedule, over budget, and artsy](#)

[Sellwood Bridge Update- They've handed it over to the goats](#)

[The long strange trip is almost over- The last guy with a hardhat had to be gone by November... they made it!](#)

[The last Sellwood Bridge Update column ever!- We](#)

[drop the mic on the project and head home. Peace!](#)

Are We Car Snobs? NO!

Why we have a 15-years-old-or-newer policy for NEW clients



It's our policy not to start NEW service relationships with clients with older vehicles; currently 15-years-old or older. Why not? Are we just being car snobs?

NO!

We have many longstanding clients with older vehicles, and we plan to keep them happy for years to come! We started maintaining those vehicles when they were newer and continued to service them as they aged. We have developed relationships with the clients, and both parties know the vehicle's current needs and conditions. We will continue to service these vehicles as long as it makes sense, but years of experience taught us not to start new client relationships based around older, often challenged vehicles.

There are many good reasons for this policy. First, our training and technologies are geared toward more recent vehicles and their particular needs. Second, older vehicles can be a "house of cards" due to their age, service history, or condition. This can lead to questions of "whose fault or responsibility is it" when systems fail during or after services.

We do our best to maintain trusting, long-term relationships with our clients, and a good service relationship is substantially based around the quality and condition of the vehicle being serviced. Many older vehicles need so much work to make them safe or reliable that the cost of needed repairs exceeds the value of the vehicle, a situation we call "economically totaled". We offer solutions based on our client's best long-term interests and don't like to be in the position of prioritizing repairs on vehicles that are beyond repair. Also, one of our biggest values is letting clients know when the economic viability of their vehicle has passed and it's time to move on to a different vehicle instead of just fixing the current failure and getting it back out on the road. Once we've built a trusting service relationship with a client, they listen to us if there is a glitch in a repair or we tell them it's time to part with their vehicle. It's impossible to build that kind of relationship around a vehicle that is already worn out.

Our maintenance programs will extend the life of your vehicle, but it's rarely worth playing "catch up" to get an older, poorly maintained vehicle running safely and reliably. We hate to say "no" to potential new clients, but we have too much respect to start a relationship that is not mutually beneficial. Vehicles will come and go, but the service relationship can last for generations.

If you have a vehicle older than 15 years that you think is in good condition and you just won't part with it, there are options. If you have a slightly older, good model vehicle with less than 150,000 miles we can do our Comprehensive Inspection (\$150.00) to document the actual needs and conditions of the vehicle. (Sorry, but if you choose to go this route then we can't apply any of our money back offers to the inspection cost if we decline service.) If, after our inspection, the vehicle is found to be in a condition we can support; we will. If not, we'll recommend you to one of the places we trust that handles older vehicles, but we hope you remember us when you trade up to your next vehicle.

As hard as we try to explain this policy, one of our clients may have done it better. So to close, here's an excerpt from a [review by Robb W. on Yelp](#) that puts it more succinctly (and perhaps a little more bluntly) than we ever have...

"Tom Dwyer's is solid as hell across all fronts. They know most makes and models and bend over backwards to make your experience there the best you could ever imagine...seriously. Is your car less than 15 years old? Then they will be able to take care of you in all likelihood. Why 15 years? Their philosophy is that after 15 years, your money is better spent on a newer car...that the repairs will mount and it is no longer cost effective to continue to fix your old hooptie. And no, they don't sell new cars as a side business...it's just smart thinking and they're not trying to take your money doing a bunch of avoidable repairs.

Hell, sometimes they're not trying to take your money at all. I have been there on two separate occasions where they have put my car up on the lift, actually done some work and refused to charge me...not a single thin dime. This after taking me to work in their shuttle."

Drew's Kitchen

Your 2016 table is ready!

Drew Pearson, a Tom Dwyer Service Advisor for many years, brings his particular taste for simplicity, flexibility, and flavor in food into a unique combination that's been quite a hit with our clients. Drew's Kitchen remains one of our most popular columns each month, with people asking about it at the Front Desk throughout the year. Some of these are Drew Originals, some are from other sources, but all are time-and-taste-tested by Drew for your own enjoyment. Pull up a chair... it's taken a full year to prepare, but your 2016 table is ready!



Drew's 2015 Feast

Sirloin and Parmesan Meatloaf

Pot Roast Like Grandma Used to Make

Garlic Parmesan Baked Halibut

Cucumber and Celery Salad with Tuna

Scallop and Shrimp Kabobs

Drew's Perfect Picnic Menu... and more!

Fish Tacos

Grilled Corn With Cheese, Lime and Chile (Elotes)

Drew's Best Fried Chicken

Shop Talk

Talkin' 'bout 2016 and votin' for our Referral Reward Winner!



In *Your Car Matters* we proudly cover a lot of ground that has nothing to do with cars. On the other hand, we *are* an auto repair shop, so some information about cars from time to time wouldn't hurt! Our Shop Talk column is where it happens. Each month we bring you a comment from one of our clients, a review of our Referral Reward program, link you to auto recalls, tell you all our Special Offers, and occasionally tell you about something interesting here at the end of the Sellwood Bridge. Shop Talk is your go-to place for local automotive color, as these columns from 2016 prove!

January 2016 Shop Talk

Here's how your comments matter

Lots of Big Big Winners!

Shop Talk for April 2016

"Tom D."s Comment of the Month

Summer Concerts AND our Referral Reward Quarterly winner

One insider trick you MUST have for the Sellwood Park Concerts!

Comments from... cats

Election Party Update... it's not good news.

A Wordless Comment

Dave Gettmann moves on down the road

Comment of the Month



In 2016 we added “Comment of the Month” to our Shop Talk column. You’ve probably noticed the Post-Service Feedback card in your vehicle after you have it serviced, and we encourage you to use it! We take your responses on these cards very seriously and use them to improve our services in every way. There are a few comments that we get all the time and others that are unique, but we thought you might be interested to see what other Dwyer clients are saying about their service experience. This month, since we’re in our 2016 lookback issue, we’ll share a simple sentiment that’s come up in one form or another on many cards from many clients for many years...

“Love the politics!”

We’re an auto repair shop, not a political organization. We offer sterling value in repair and maintenance and we know that’s why you come to us. However, we think it’s the obligation of citizens to participate in their communities and in a city as politically aware as Portland we do so gladly. We try not to be partisan and try to deal with issues rather than ideology, but when we have an opinion on any issue of the day you can be sure we’ll share it with you, for better or worse. In the coming political climate this conversation will be critical; civil, reasoned exploration of our society’s choices is the only hope to move forward. If you love the politics you be happy to know we won’t be stopping. If you don’t, we hope you’ll love our auto service enough to look past it!

Referral Reward Program- Vote for our \$500 Yearly Winner!



Our Referral Reward Program is our way of saying “thanks” when our clients generously refer new clients to our shop. Every time a new client comes in, we ask how they heard about us. When they give us a specific person we can track down, we call that person and make a donation to the non-profit group of their choice. Our donation varies from \$10 to \$50 depending on the new client’s first-visit spending, and we can donate to any group the referrer wants. The program has been very popular, and since we started in 2014 we’ve been privileged to make **363 donations totaling \$15,777** including our quarterly and yearly awards! Don’t believe us? Then here’s the groups we donated to just in the last month...

Partners in Health
Loaves & Fishes
Street Roots
Boys and Girls Club
Portland Rescue Mission
Oregon Food Bank

Mahasiddha Buddhist Center
Free Geek
Boys and Girls Club
Oregon Humane Society-
OPB
Yakote Women Farmers Association

Speaking of those quarterly and yearly awards, we need YOUR vote to determine our 2016 Yearly Winner and recipient of \$500! We used to pick quarterly and yearly winners ourselves, but because we wanted to include our clients in the choice (and because it was agonizing to pick just ONE group by ourselves!) we opened it up for YOUR vote.

You’ll find all the groups we contributed to in 2016 listed below. Pick your favorite and **send an email with your choice to Charles Letherwood at Charles@tomdwyer.com.**

Please include “Yearly Award” in your subject line so we’re sure to catch it. Please vote only once, and we’ll announce the winner in our next newsletter. Good luck with a tough choice, thanks for your help!

(One request, please. Oregon Humane Society and Oregon Food Bank are wonderful groups! We give to them in our Referral Reward Program throughout the year, and we’ll gladly keep doing it. But please,

consider voting for one of the smaller groups as our Yearly Winner! They are big charities with lots of funding and our \$500 would make less of a difference to them than it would to one of the many smaller groups on the list.)

| | | |
|--|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1000 Friends of Oregon | A Social Ignition | ACLU |
| American Diabetes Assn | ARC of Multnomah County | |
| Artichoke Music | Audobon Society | Baby Blues Connection |
| backline | Bicycle Transportation Alliance | Bitch Media |
| Boy Scouts | Boys and Girls Club | Brady Campaign for Gun Violence |
| Central City Concern | ChildFund International | CLEAR Fund |
| CNBSeen | Colorado Rocky Mountain School | Common Cause |
| Community Cycling Center | Community Music | Doctors Without Borders |
| Doernbecher Children's Hospital | Emily's List | Environmental Defense Fund |
| Feldenkrais Educational Foundation North America | | Feral Cat Coalition |
| Free Geek | Friends of Columbia River Gorge | Friends of Haystack Rock |
| Friends of Multnomah County Library | Friends of Tryon Creek | Friends of Trees |
| Garibaldi Maritime Museum | Girls Inc. of the Pacific NW | Greater Portland Bible Church |
| Health Care for all Oregon | House of Dreams Cat Shelter | Humane Society |
| Jeremy Wilson Foundation | JOIN PDX | KBOO |
| Llewellyn School | Loaves & Fishes | KMHD |
| Make a Wish | Mercy Corps | Mahasiddha Buddhist Center |
| Multnomah County Library | Morrison Family Services | |
| NW Medical Teams | Neighborhood House | Neighbors for Clean Air |
| Oregon Hospice Association | NW Pilot Project | OPB |
| Oregon Wild | Oregon Humane Society | Oregon Food Bank |
| Outdoor School | p:ear | Oregon Public Broadcasting |
| Planned Parenthood of Col/Wil | PONGO Fund | Pet Food Bank |
| Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center | | Partners in Health |
| Potluck in the park | Project Lemonade | Portland Rescue Mission |
| Providence Cancer Research | Project South | Rebuild Center |
| Sacred Stone Defense Fund | Planned Parenthood | School House Supplies |
| ScrapPdx.org | Sage Metro PDX | Sellwood Jr. Baseball |
| Self Enhancement Inc., | Sellerswood Jr. Baseball | Sisters of the Road Café |
| Shriners Hospital for Children | Sierra Club | |
| Southern Poverty Law Center | Special Olympics Oregon | |
| Street Roots | Yakote Women Farmers Association | |

Current Discount Offers



If your 2017 resolutions include catching up on long-neglected vehicle repairs, then the new year is already looking good because for a very limited time you can save 20% on Labor Charges on any Service Recommendations in your file before 1/1/17 with NO UPPER LIMIT! This is one of our most generous discounts, so act quickly because appointments will fill up soon!

Expires 1/31/2017

Your reviews and referrals matter



We are constantly grateful for the supportive and loyal clients we have developed over the years. Your comments and appreciation keep us on the right road to providing the superior automotive service you deserve. Your reviews and referrals are not only the highest compliments we can receive, but they're the lifeblood of our new business. If you like what you've found at Tom Dwyer Automotive Services, please tell a friend or take a minute to write a review on [Yelp](#), [Angieslist](#), [Google](#), or the review site of your choice. Thank you!

Latest Automotive Recalls



Automobiles are just like any other product; occasional flaws in manufacture or design can cause problems once they leave the factory. When an issue is identified the manufacturers and government work hard to bring the vehicles back in for refit or repair, but not all recalls make the front pages. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration maintains a [constantly updated list of recalls from every manufacturer](#). The last month's recalls are below, but clicking the button at right will take you to the full list at the NHTSA website.

"In Our America" Signs



Our [Technician Chris W.](#) is married to Melanie, a very nasty woman. She's so nasty she's in a whole group of Nasty Women called "Nasty Women Get Shit Done PDX" where the Trump resistance will be centered in Portland. The Nasty Women are selling "In Our America" yard signs, posters, and bumper stickers to support the Resistance, and if you'd like to pick up your Nasty Women materials then swing by Tom Dwyer Automotive, an official distribution site for Nasty Women! (Yard signs are \$10 each with the spiffy wire frame; posters and bumper stickers are \$3 each). If

you can't come by our shop then please drop by their website at www.nwgsdpdx.com. It's not just a great place to get your Resistance Kit, but a great place to join up!



Health Notes

A Healthy 2016



We pride ourselves on a holistic approach to vehicle care; caring for your vehicle as a whole unit and not just an assemblage of unrelated systems. With that in mind, what's the most important system in your vehicle? Well, YOU of course! Our Health Notes column is designed to keep YOU running in top shape, and when you're in top shape then everything else falls into place. Take a few minutes to tune up with these articles from Health Notes in 2016...

[Staying Fit in 2015](#)

[Health Notes Cures the Common Cold](#)

[We know you better than you know yourself](#)

[Health Notes for April 2016](#)

[Does breathing affect your diet?](#)

[Food keeps you alive... for now](#)

[A New Prescription for Chronic Pain](#)

[Stress, emotion, and disease](#)

[Eat what you're told to... by the Sugar Industry](#)

[For Optimal Health, Savor Life](#)

[The good news about REAL butter](#)

Sellwood Bridge Update

The Sellwood Bridge Update is that there is NO
MORE SELLWOOD BRIDGE UPDATE!



Are you here looking for your monthly fix of the Sellwood Bridge? Sorry, you're outta luck. We ran [our very last Sellwood Bridge Update column](#) last month, and any future news about the Bridge will have to come from your more standard news outlets. We won't leave you disappointed, though, because one of our Feature articles this month is a [full retrospective of the entire Bridge Construction project](#), with all our Update articles, pictures, videos, and more. We can't say we'll never have another Sellwood Bridge Update column, but we can (with great pleasure) say it won't be for decades to come. Thanks for reading, and enjoy the BRAND NEW SELLWOOD BRIDGE!



Book Spotlight

2016's Bookshelf and Bonuses



One of our most popular features here at the shop is our unique Book and Bumper Sticker library. You can take one of our Bumper Stickers free with each visit (they're magnetic so they won't damage your vehicle's paint), we have a few videos you might like (also one free per visit), and all our books are available for checkout (just ask your Service Advisor). With that library backing us up, it's no big surprise that we like to offer recommendations that might make your reading life a little spicier. Here are the books we recommended in 2016, along with some great reading lists from other people and groups we think you'll enjoy...

2015's Pile of Publications

["Deep State" by Mike Lofgren](#)

["Pacific" by Simon Winchester](#)

["War Is A Racket" by Smedley Butler](#)

["The Case For Mars" by Robert Zubrin](#)

["Listen, Liberal" by Thomas Frank](#)

Unmasking our own internal biases

(5 books)

["The Making of Donald Trump" by David Cay Johnston](#)

["Hitler" by Volker Ullrich](#)

["The Populist Explosion" by John B. Judis](#)

["Why Americans Hate Politics" by EJ Dionne](#)

Willamette Week- [Eight Portland Authors Weigh In On Their Favorite Books from 2016](#)

Brain Pickings- [The Greatest Science Books of 2016](#)

Brain Pickings- [The Best Children's Books of 2016](#)

Brain Pickings- [16 Overall Favorite Books of 2016](#)

Brain Pickings- [Carl Sagan's Reading List](#)

Brain Pickings- [Bookshelf](#)

Bill Moyers- [Books for the Trump Years](#)

Bruce Springsteen- [28 Favorite Books That Shaped His Mind and Music](#)

Science Friday- [Five Back-to-School Books for Science-Loving Kids](#)

Sam Harris- [12 Books Everyone Should Read](#)

And for those of you who *don't* read...

The Federalist- [The Top Ten Books People Lie About Reading](#)
[How To Talk About Books You Haven't Read](#) by Pierre Bayard or

Huffington Post- [13 Books Nobody's Read But Says They Have](#)

Humorousness

Laughing our way through 2016



C'mon, how hard can it be to write a humor column? Go online, download a couple jokes, and BOOM, it writes itself! Think again. You may be surprised to hear this but the Intertubes are full of less-than-appropriate humor, and certainly for a semi-family publication like Your Car Matters. We can find topical, we can find clean, we can even find funny, but putting all three together can be quite an undertaking! Here's the humor we found for you in 2016, and remember the most important thing **TIMING** about humor is always!

2015's Hoard of Hoodwinks

Political Cartoons 2016

Stuck inside this Spring? We can help

REAL political insults

Trump... The Motion Picture

20 Signs Your Mechanic Is An Idiot

The Conventions in Cartoons

Cringeworthy Album Covers

SNL Tackles the Presidential Debates

Late Night Elections

Christmas Lists

Popcorn Shorts

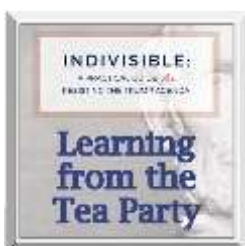
Cool stuff that's too small for a big article



Just like it says, Popcorn Shorts is about the kind of things we think are really interesting, but don't really need a large article to explain them. From the sublime to the ridiculous, check in here for crunchy bits of info you'll love to munch. By the way, most (but not all) of our delicious Popcorn comes from articles we've posted on [our Facebook page](#). If you're on Facebook, please stop by and "Like" us and we'll keep a fairly-constant-but-not-frequent-enough-to-be-annoying stream of these coming to your virtual door!



Learning from the Tea Party



The Tea Party has been one of the defining political movements of recent years, and if there's not much to like about them at least there's still a lot to learn from them. A group of former congressional staffers recently released ["Indivisible- A Practical Guide For Resisting The Trump Agenda"](#), which outlines strategies and approaches they've learned from years of dealing with the Tea Party in congress. It's good, basic stuff that will help anyone in the trenches during the next few years, but also it's good, basic civics that should be being taught to every potential citizen in a free and self-governing society. Just sayin.

Soviet visions of 2017



When the Soviet Union existed, they certainly planned as though the future had them in it. We heard a fascinating [piece on NPR](#) about a [Soviet educational filmstrip from 1960 predicting what the world of 2017](#) would look like, which led us to an [article with an array of Soviet magazine covers](#) showing transportation of the future and then [this article about Soviet Sci-Fi](#). There's no real point to this particular Popcorn, except maybe that even the Russians seem to have envisioned a future with a lot of chrome and tailfins!



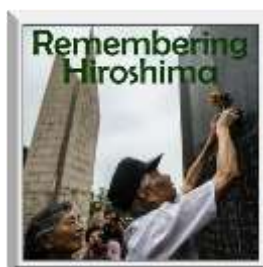
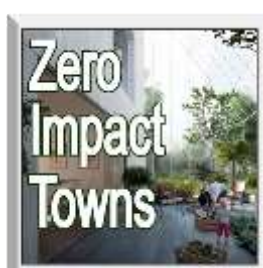
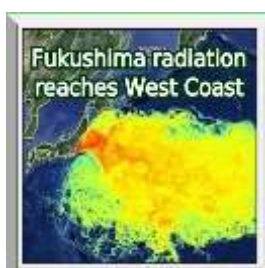
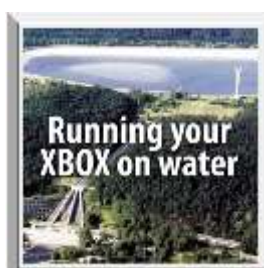
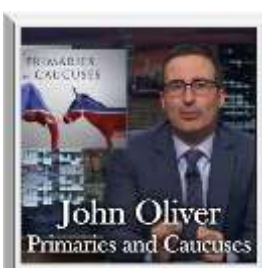
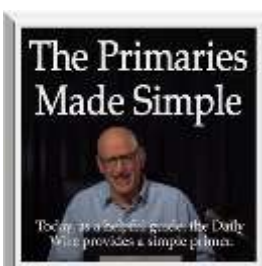
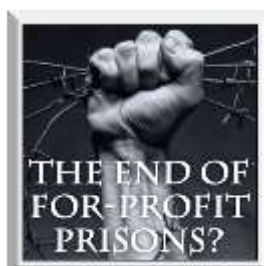
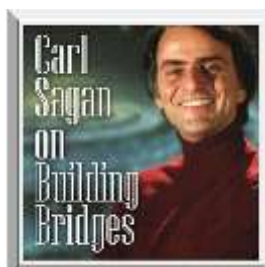
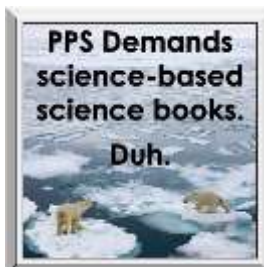
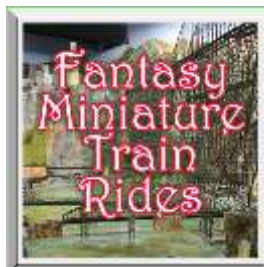
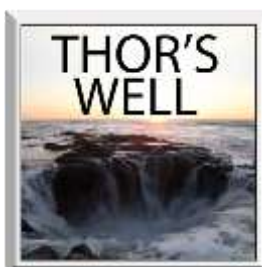
Some great scenes from Portland's fight with Winter.

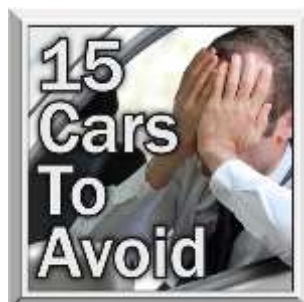
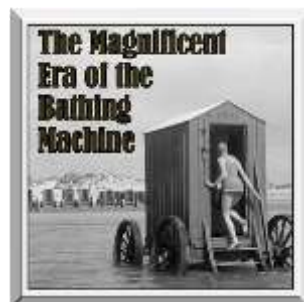
As we write this, Portland is getting ready for more ice on top of the snow already choking the city. Return with us now to a time only 6 days ago when it was still fresh and beautiful and a [Portlander sent his drone on an aerial recon of the city](#). When you're ready to fight back on Winter's own turf, [check out this list of winter hikes near Portland](#). Get out and enjoy the cold; a microbrew awaits your return!



Popcorn from 2016 Never Gets Stale

You never know what to expect from our Popcorn Bucket, but you know it will always be interesting! Just in case you missed an issue in 2016, here's your chance to catch up on everything we covered last year. Hope you'll be around to pass the Popcorn with us in 2017!



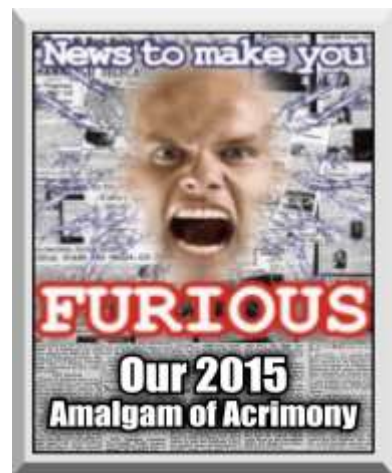
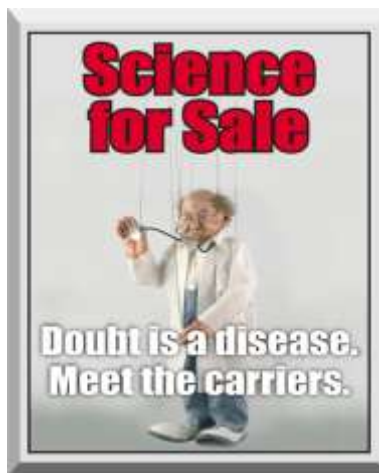
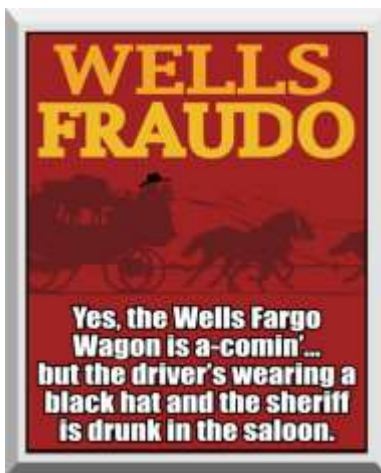


News To Make You Furious

Our 2016 Buffet of Bile



Your Car Matters covers the spectrum of funny to quirky to serious, but we always try to bring you things you may not have seen elsewhere. This preference for the overlooked led us to start our News To Make You Furious column. Watching the news these days seems to be little more than an exercise in identifying the latest outrage, but some outrages slink by unnoticed and should be spotlighted. Each month we find a new flamboyant desecration of common sense that's passing under the radar, give you links and information to understand it, and often suggest things to do to make it better. Yes, the news is a series of outrages, but sometimes the ones that are making the headlines aren't the ones really deserving of our thought and attention. Here are the stories that boosted your blood pressure in 2017...



**Kiss Your Courts
GOODBYE!**



**Forced Arbitration is
making courts a thing of
the past. And guess what?
It's apparently your fault.**

**The dumbing down
of
America**

**Get A
BRAIN!
MORANS**

**We're all idiots in some way, but
it's getting worse for everyone.**

**GO
USA**

**Puerto Rico in
the Crosshairs**



**The tiny island is about to
get its very own Financial
Control Board. What could
possibly go wrong?**

**Do you live
on the edge?**



**47% of America is
right there with you.**

**Poisoned trees
DON'T produce
poisoned fruit!**



**At least according to
the most recent
Supreme Court decision**