

# SOUTH TRAIL TIMES

*Volume 6 / Issue 5*

## **MAY EDITION:**

### **7 TIPS FOR DRIVING IN TRAFFIC JAMS THIS SPRING**

Written by: Carl Pettit

When the sun comes out and the weather improves, a lot of folks hit the road. Although driving conditions might be better than they were in the winter, this means there will likely be much more traffic to contend with as well. You might not be dealing with ice and snow, but a buildup of vehicles can be just as dangerous as a stretch of slippery pavement. Here are a few tips to help you stay alert and safe when driving in heavy traffic:

#### **Slow Down a Bit**

If you run into a little (or a lot) of traffic, slow down a bit. Zigzagging along, while trying to find the fastest-moving lane, really won't save you much time. By slowing down, you can avoid potential collisions with jittery drivers who just don't have the patience to deal with traffic delays.

#### **Maintain a Buffer Zone Between Vehicles**

Driving a tad slower will also help you keep a better buffer zone between you and the vehicle in front of you. If you maintain a reasonably sized buffer zone, you'll have time to react to sudden braking by the cars ahead of you, or any erratic driving you might encounter. Sadly, you can't dictate the buffer zone with the vehicle behind you (that's up to the other driver), but any extra cushioning you manage to find will give you a few extra seconds to react to the unexpected—even in slow-moving traffic.

#### **Pay Attention to Your Situational Awareness**

Buffer zones, car mirrors and a general awareness of the traffic ahead of and behind you will help you build a mental picture of the driving conditions on your particular stretch of road or highway. By keeping track of your blind spots, and watching changes in the driving patterns of others, as well as road signs indicating detours, construction work or other obstacles in your way, you'll be building up your situational awareness. A better situational awareness will let you prepare for surprises down the road.

#### **Communicate Your Driving Intentions**

You have turn indicators and lights, and it's a good idea to use them in order to communicate your driving intentions to those around you. While this is true all the time, it's especially true in congested traffic. Letting other drivers know what you're about to do helps them prepare their own course of action, and reduces the risk of getting into trouble. You can also use your lights to flash and signal other drivers, warning them of potential problems, while increasing the visibility of your own vehicle.

#### **Stay Cool**

Traffic jams can be maddening, but still, try to stay as cool as you can. Aggressive driving should be saved for the racetrack (and 'Mad Max' movies). By yelling at other drivers and driving with anger, you'll only end up damaging your own car or truck, and possibly your body too. The high blood pressure and stress you'll pile on just isn't worth it. Zen is the name of the game in heavy traffic. Breathe in, breathe out, breathe in, breathe out ...

#### **Brake Smoothly**

Stop slamming on your brakes. Drive slower, maintain a buffer zone between vehicles, and brake smoothly. By stopping and starting your car without jerky motions, you'll avoid knocking into bumpers, and help traffic flow along at a better pace.

### Take an Actual Break

If you find it's too hard to be a considerate driver in a traffic jam (we've all had our bad days), try and leave the road for a spell. Take an actual break. Have cup of coffee, a donut, go for a walk, or just nap in your car for a few minutes. If the desire to slam into other vehicles and choke other drivers is overwhelming, get off the road. Save yourself—and others—a lot of grief. Once you've calmed your nerves down some, you can rejoin the rat race. "Because auto care isn't always a top priority for car owners, they might not realize they are doing things that adversely affect the performance, safety and value of their car," said Rich White, executive director, Car Care Council. "Routine maintenance can go a long way toward saving money, avoiding headaches and protecting your vehicle investment."

---

Happy 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary to us South Trail Tire!!

Don't forget to like us on Facebook for more savings and current promotions, contests & coupons  
@<https://www.facebook.com/southtrailtireandauto>

---

## **SALES:** SOUTH TRAIL TIRE & AUTO REPAIR 35TH ANNIVERSARY!!!

This year one lucky winner will get a lovely genuine cultured pearl necklace, bracelet and earring set. So, in the month of May in honor of our 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary we will be raffling off this beauty.



Contest rules are for every \$100.00 spent on any services performed here during the month of May: you will receive 1 ticket for the drawing on May 31st. Will notify winner close of the day.

\*Includes Tire Purchases: Previous services do not count to be entered in must have car serviced between May 1-30, 2017 for a ticket. Fleet accounts are not eligible, and your bill must be paid in full.

Happy 24<sup>th</sup> Birthday Chad (April 26<sup>th</sup>)



**Car Tips:** Proper air pressure in a tire helps to distribute the weight of a vehicle evenly across the tire's tread pattern, so the tire (and the vehicle) is at its most stable. When a tire is under-inflated or over-inflated, it loses stability, negatively affecting handling, cornering, and stopping.

## SHOP NEWS:

### WISHING A HAPPY ANNIVERSARY MONTH TO....

**John & Sheri**



On their Anniversary May 3<sup>rd</sup>!!! Very special Congratulations on their 33rd anniversary!!

**Mitch & Melissa**



On their Anniversary May 2<sup>nd</sup>!!! Special Congratulations on their 5th anniversary!

## **We are still having our Veterans Clothing Drive!!**

### **We would like all of your help to support our veterans**

We have a drop box in our office to **Support all Veterans**

This is a donation program please read below the acceptable donations you are welcome to bring in with you when you have your car serviced or just come in to drop them off. We are hoping this will be a success to help out our Veterans.

The VVA accepts many donations the **RED** ones are the donations **we will accept in our office:**

#### **WE ESPECIALLY NEED CLOTHING!**

- **Clothing of all types & sizes (men's, ladies, children's, baby's)**
- **Clothing accessories**
- **Shoes (all kinds)**
- **Baby items**
- **House and glassware**
- **Books, small toys, bikes**
- Stereos, radios, portable TVs
- All bedding, **draperies, curtains**
- Kitchenware
- Usable small furniture & rugs
- Small appliances
- Tools (all kinds) **small tools**
- **Jewelry and unopened cosmetics**

**If you would like to help out more or donate items above that are not highlighted or money you can email [Melissa@southtrairtire.com](mailto:Melissa@southtrairtire.com) for more information.**

This will be an ongoing clothing drive for our veterans until further notice. We are hoping that we can give some back to the men and woman who risked it all for our freedom. So please go through your closets, cabinets, and home and start clearing out unused or cluttered items and let's give them to one amazing cause!!!!



**Happy Memorial Day!**



**Show us some love by liking us on Facebook or following us on Twitter!**

## **35 YEARS AND STILL COUNTING OF QUALITY SERVICE!!!**

**WE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, MAY 27th FOR MEMORIAL DAY AND WILL RESUME NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS ON TUESDAY, MAY 28TH!!!**

**GET A \$25.00 GIFT CARD OFF YOUR NEXT SERVICE!!!**

EARN A \$25.00 gift card for referring you friend: must be a new customer have them tell us you sent them in and we will mail you the gift card: It's like getting a FREE oil change ☺ There will be a surprise for some of you with a \$25.00 Omaha Steaks gift card for people who reach a certain number of referrals as well!

**A referral thank you!**

**Please accept our \$25.00 Gift Card**

**South Trail Tire & Auto Repair**  
"Where Quality Isn't Expensive, It's Priceless"

**John Zadrovitz**  
President

Phone: (239) 433-4241  
Fax: (239) 433-2817  
Zadthe3rd@southtrailtire.com  
www.southtrailtire.com  
5751-B Youngquist Rd.  
Fort Myers, FL 33912

**Don't forget to REFER a friend and you will receive a \$25.00 GIFT CARD in the mail!!!**



## DON'T MISS OUT ON OUR SPECIALS, RAFFLES & GIVE-A-WAYS!!!!!!!

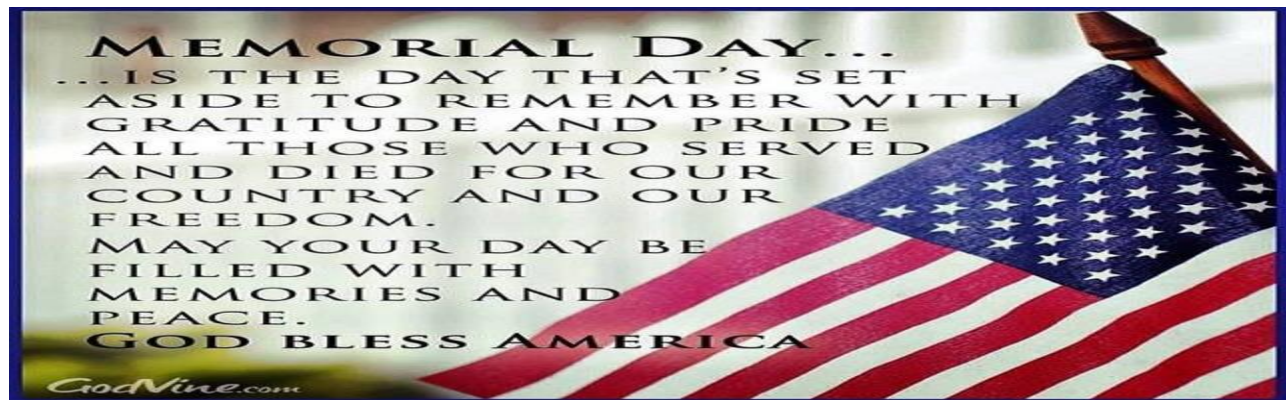
Print out the coupons for some special savings .....

### Anniversary Deal

\$49.95

Includes: Oil change and filter, lube front end, check battery & alternator operation, inspect belts & hoses, check coolant, inspect brakes, check struts, shocks, & CV joints, check lights, rotate tires and receive a **FREE** pair of wiper blades.

For most cars and light trucks (some restrictions apply) up to 5 qts of conventional oil. Some restrictions apply. Not valid with any other offer. . **DO NOT PRINT THIS OUT AS IT IS A SPECIAL NOT A COUPON OR VOUCHER! JUST CALL AND SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT.**



### Memorial Day Savings

**\$10.00 OFF** any Service Over **\$100**

**\$20.00 OFF** any Service Over **\$200**

**\$30.00 OFF** any Service Over **\$300**

Expires: 05/31/2019. Not valid with any other offers. Certain Conditions may apply. Excludes Tire Purchases.

### Don't forget to refer a friend & receive **\$25.00 GIFT CARD!!**

When they come in for service: Mention you are the one that referred them and you will receive in the mail a \$25.00 GIFT CARD off your next service!!!

Offer is on valid for new customer referrals: person receiving the gift card must be an existing customer. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Gift card is only valid at South Trail Tire & Auto Repair. Some restrictions apply

**This is not a coupon or voucher you will receive that in the mail!**

Some repeat offenders may get a \$25.00 Omaha Steak gift card in appreciation for their loyalty!!