

Get Rollin'

Complete Guide to Summer Car Care

August 16, 2006

**GETTING YOUR
CAR READY TO SELL**

**CAR CHECK LIST
BEFORE A LONG TRIP**

**HORSE TRACK
TURNED INTO THE
"INDY OF THE EAST"
AT OSWEGO SPEEDWAY**

A SUPPLEMENT TO EAGLE NEWSPAPERS

• Baldwinsville Messenger • Camillus Advocate • Canastota Bee-Journal • Cazenovia Republican • Chittenango-Bridgeport Times • DeWitt Times • Fayetteville Eagle Bulletin
• Hamilton & Morrisville Tribune • Liverpool Review • Marcellus Observer • North Syracuse Star-News • Oneida Press • Skaneateles Press • Solvay-Geddes Express • Syracuse City Eagle

Oswego Speedway gets smokin'

Once time horse track turned to the "Indy of the East"

By SARA G. VECCHIO

The Oswego Speedway, located in Oswego, wasn't always an auto racing facility. In 1951, owners Harry, George and William Caruso converted the Wine Creek Horse Track into a 3/8 mile dirt auto racing facility. When the track was paved in 1952, it remained a track until 1961 when it was enlarged to 5/8-mile size.

The Oswego Speedway has been a continuously run weekly racetrack since it opened in August of 1951. The track was sold in April of 2004 to Pat Furlong and Steve Gioia Jr., a former speedway super-modified driver, Track and Classic Champion. The speedway has undergone vast capital improvements and renovations over the course of its 50-plus years and updates are constantly being made to keep it a state-of-the-art racing facility.

It's mentioned in racing circles that the Oswego Speedway is the "Indy of the East." No fewer than a dozen of its past and present competitors have



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competed at the famed "Brickyard" including two-time Indy 500 winner Gordon Johncock, along with former Budweiser International Classic winners Bentley Warren, Joe Gosek and Davey Hamilton.

"This year marks the 50th anniversary of the classic," Marketing Director Steve Prior said.

The biggest winner at the 50th Annual Budweiser International Classic on Sunday Sept. 3, could be a fan in the stands. Uno Chicago Grill and Community Bank, N.A. present the "Numero Uno Break the Bank Classic Cash Contest" which will pay one lucky fan \$50,000 for predicting the top five finishers in order in the 50th Classic race.

According to Prior, The Oswego Speedway has hosted modified style racing since 1959,

paving the way for many drivers to make it on their way on to NASCAR.

"It's a nice unique place in launching careers," Prior said. "A lot of people have relocated to the Carolina area for racing and everybody knows the Oswego Speedway."

Prior said The Oswego Speedway is the only track in the country since 1962 that races super-modifieds on a weekly basis.

Josh LaRochelle has driven a limited super-modified in weekly competitions since 1991 and has already won two features this year. Eddie Horne owns LaRochelle's car and another car at the Speedway.

Prior explained that limited-super-modified racing is for someone who wants to get into racing but is on a budget.

There are more restrictions, but most drivers start off that way and then move over into super-modified.

Bill Moore is not only a limited driver, but he also owns the car he races, which is rare.

"I started racing in 2000 in Oswego and before that I raced a late model modified and all kinds of different cars," Moore said. "It's [Oswego Speedway] a great place for fun, I enjoy it. It's probably one of the most professional tracks that I've ever been to."

Moore said the Oswego Speedway is clean, greatly kept, has great pits and wonderful owners. He also agreed with Prior that his type of racing is a bit more affordable than racing a super-modified, extremely competitive and there are a lot of cars every week looking for that win. If there are a bunch of cars than you have to race your way into the actual competition, he said.

"I've had a funny year," Moore said. "I've run into every problem imaginable."

Moore said he was excited when he borrowed a car and got to compete in a race.

"It was the first race I actually took. I was happier than the guy who won," Moore said.

Friends and family play a large role in Moore's racing and said his family is very involved.

"My four grandchildren come, my wife comes every week and my daughter really enjoys it with her kids," Moore said.

Moore said he has certainly had his struggles, but he's also had plenty of good times.

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The place to go in Oswego



Central New Yorkers love coming to Oswego in July for Harborfest, Another great Oswego tradition is Shapiro Motors, Oswego County's number one

Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep and Dodge Truck dealers. Visit them at 410 West First St. in Oswego or on the web at shapiroautomotors.com. Call 343-6194.

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You can see their entire inventory online at par-k.com or visit Par-k at 825 South 1st St. (corner of Route 481 and 57) in Fulton. Call 598-8118 for more information on these great offers.

Car check list before a long trip

A long trip is a serious exam for your car. Even a small problem such as a worn wiper, out-of-balance tire or improper alignment may turn your trip into a nightmare. Here, you can find simple tips on how to prepare your vehicle for a trip including illustrated checklist.

- Under the hood
- Engine oil
- Transmission fluid
- Engine coolant
- Battery
- Other items
- Tires
- Steering and suspension components

- CV-boots
- Lights and mirrors
- Spare tire, wheel wrench and the jack
- Leaks

Check manual

Have a look in your vehicle's owner's manual. It's the best source of useful information, From how to use overdrive when towing a trailer to how to change the tire and where the jack is located.

Check the engine oil

Many engine problems are initially caused by simple lack of oil changes. If your next oil change is due soon, definitely do it before a trip. To check the engine oil, place

the car on a flat surface, warm up and stop the engine. Wait for a minute allowing the oil to pour down the oil pan. Locate the oil dipstick - usually it has some kind of bright colored handle that indicates "ENGINE OIL." Pull the dipstick out, wipe it with a clean rag or a paper towel and insert it back fully. Pull it out again and check the level - it should be close to the "FULL" mark on the dipstick. If the oil appears too black, it definitely needs to be changed. If the level is low you can top it up using the same type of oil as you already have in the engine.

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Large stylized text, possibly representing 'Dodge' in a decorative font.

PRE-OWNED INVENTORY REDUCTION...

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Getting your car ready for sale

If you have ever been set up on a blind date, your first thought is, "What does my date look like?" Selling a used car is no different. Since you only have one chance to make a positive first impression on your potential buyer, make it count. Your car has to look its best if you wish to sell it. You wouldn't show up for a job interview to sell yourself looking poorly would you?

Appearance issues include-washing and waxing, cleaning and organizing the inside, vacuuming and detailing, replacing burnt fuses, filling fluid levels, and don't forget to clean your windows.

For more in-depth items, you can either pay a mechanic or an independent service company to inspect and assess your car. They will identify problems that will better give you an idea of what your car is worth, and give you a chance to correct them if you wish to before a buyer looks at it.

Next, turn to your paperwork. Print out a copy of your car's history through carfax.com, which shows "good faith." If you can put together a service and inspection file with receipts on your car, this will suggest to buyers that you took care of your car. Finally, you should make a copy of your car's title. **Selling Price**

The first place to get an idea of what your car is really worth is to look up its value in the Kelley "Blue Book" under "Private Party Value." Another place to get a feel for what your car is worth is to check used car listings for similar cars. Also, you can visit dealers and see what they are selling their cars for. Just keep in mind that they will probably be higher because they can offer more features, warranties, and other services that you cannot.

You should take outstanding maintenance issues into consideration when advertising your selling price. Whether you decide to repair your car first or sell it "as is" you can advertise "price negotiable," or "or best

offer" (OBO). This is a tradeoff because while you may attract more possible buyers, you may also be opening the door for allowing your car to be sold at a lower price.

The most important thing

to remember regarding the price is to evaluate your car honestly and objectively. Keep in mind that the buyer will not be attached to your car and will, therefore, not look at it with nostalgia like you do.

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2006 DODGE RAM 1500
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Chrysler EP Discount \$5,493
Consumer Cash Rebate \$3,500
Lease Loyalty \$1,000

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\$28,357

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MSRP \$30,620

Chrysler EP Discount \$3,564
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Lease Loyalty \$1,000
Chrysler Financial Bonus Cash . \$1,500

Total Savings Up To **\$8,564**

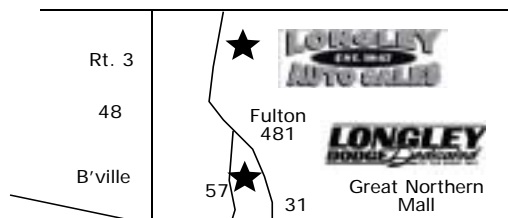
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"We sell less expensive vehicles that are trades from the Burdick new car dealerships," Hawelka said. "Most vehicles are one-owner new car trades and the Consumer Guide Vehicle History Report is available upon request."

With all the new car incentives that are available, how has that affected used car sales?

"We're selling 20 to 30 vehicles a month. Business has been good," Hawelka said. "We've got a good selection of cars, trucks, vans and SUVs in a wide range of prices. A great selection for back to school, too. Financing is available as well as warranties."

Burdick Economy Used Cars is worth the trip to Moyers Corners, 1.5 miles west of Great Northern Mall. They're open Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call Joe at 652-9000.

Auto FAQs

Q. How often should you wash and wax a car?

A. Wash it at least once a month with one of the many auto wash liquids, paying special attention to removing winter salt deposits from the undercarriage. Some motorists don't thoroughly rinse off dirt before washing a car; any dirt rubbed into the surface can cause scratches. Take the time to run the wash mitt or rag along the inside bottom edges of the doors, hood, trunk or hatch; those areas trap moisture and dirt and can cause premature rusting.

Q. How can you tell what size replacement tire is best?

A. To maintain your car's original ride and handling, make sure the aspect ratio of your new tires matches the ratio listed on your car's original tires or on the placard on the door edge, fuel filler door, glove box or visor. The aspect ratio is the ratio of the height to the width of the tire.

Q. Is it true that cars with 50,000 or more miles have timing-chain problems?

A. Cars with rubber timing belts should have them replaced at 50,000 miles to prevent engine damage. Cars with

timing chains can be driven considerably farther because chains are stronger and last longer--partly because they are oil-lubricated. But timing chains can still break.

Q. Are extended service plans a good deal?

A. Don't waste your money on a service plan. With good care, a new car doesn't need service protection beyond that offered by the factory.

Q. Do oil additives that contain liquid teflon help protect the engine?

A. Most of those products are a waste of money. You'll be fine just changing your engine oil and oil filter on a regular basis, using name-brand oil.

Q. What maintenance should be done during long car trips?

A. Check the oil level when you stop for gasoline on long trips, where autos are likelier to use more oil. Pull over immediately and call for help from a mechanic if the oil pressure light goes on; otherwise, the engine could be destroyed. If the car begins overheating, check for coolant leaks or broken belts. If there are no such problems, switch off the air-conditioner and turn on the heater to maximum to bleed

some heat from the engine.

Q. How should you care for cars not driven for extended periods of time?

A. Make sure someone you trust starts the car every three weeks--or preferably drives it until it is warmed up to prevent items such as gaskets from drying up. Move the car backward and forward in the garage if you don't want to take it on roads.

Q. Is covering a car in winter a good idea?

A. Many covers trap moisture and lead to rust. Have a fan--hooked to a timer--blow on the car a few hours a day to get rid of moisture.

Q. How do you protect yourself from being overcharged by mechanics?

A. First, use a repair facility with a good reputation. Then get a written estimate of repair costs before giving your consent to have work performed.

Q. Can spark plugs really go 100,000 miles before being changed?

A. I have heard of spark plugs found seized in cylinder heads of vehicles with as little as 60,000 miles. It took over four hours' labor just to remove the plugs. There are documented cases where it was necessary to remove cylinder heads just to get the plugs out.

Q. How do you know how much air to put in tires?

A. Inflate tires according to the vehicle manufacturer's recommended inflation pressure found in the owner's manual or on places such as the door post and glove box door. As the Tire Industry Safety Council puts it: "Just because the speedometer in your vehicle measures speeds up to 120 mph doesn't mean the manufacturer is suggesting 120 as a recommended cruising speed. The tires will result in a terribly hard ride and may adversely affect steering control."



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2001 Chevy 1 Ton Ext. 4x4 Dullie #G11185, 8.1 liter V-8, loaded, 61K \$14,990	2006 GMC Savannah 15 Pass. Van. #G61196, 6.0 liter V-8, Auto, AC, PW, PL, Dual P. Seat, Priv. Glass, front & read A/C - very rare, Only 124 miles. Compare new at over \$35,000. \$25,990	2004 Chevy Cavalier LS Chrome Wheels, Spoiler, PW, PL, Auto, 34K. \$9,990	2005 Jeep Wrangler #D51021, 4x4, Hard Top, 19K \$19,899	2005 Nissan Altima 4Dr., 19K, F52085 \$15,995	2006 Ford Taurus SE 18K, F62069 \$14,695	2001 Buick Century #G1190, Auto, A/C, PW, PL, P. seat & more. Only 42K \$7,490	2005 GMC Sierra Quadssteer #G05J1163, 5.3 liter V-8 Auto, A/C, leather, tow pkg., alloys, p. seat. 4500 miles. \$26,490	2003 Chevy Venture Ext. 8 pas., PW, PL, CC, 52K \$12,900	2006 Dodge Grand Caravan #D051009, sto-go, Rear entertainment, Previous Rental \$19,499	2005 Mercury Grand Marquis LS Loaded, 21K, F52121 \$16,995	2006 Mercury Milan Premier 16K, F62075 \$19,695	2002 Chevy Tahoe 4x4 LS #G21178, Full power, quad seating, tow pkg., 82K \$11,990	2006 Chevy Equinox LT AWD #G61071, 3.4 liter V-6, Auto, AC, PW, PL, 34,000 miles \$19,490	2004 Chevy Malibu Classic 43K, Auto, Air, CC, PW, PL, 4 new tires \$9,990	2005 Chrysler 300 #D51038, Power sunroof, PW, PL, CC, 25K, Previous Rental \$23,900	2004 Pontiac Grand Am 4Dr., SE, 6 cyl., 26K, F42105 \$12,495	2006 Ford Focus SE 18K, F62109 \$13,695	2002 Saturn L100 #G21189, 4 cyl., 5 spd., A/C, great on gas, 54K \$6,990	2005 Chevy Malibu #C05J1116, 4 cyl., Auto, AC, PW, PL, AM/FM CD, P. Seat, 15K \$10,990	2003 VW Passat GLS PW, PL, CD, P. Moonroof, 55K \$14,290	2005 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo #94635, 25K, Pre. Rental, PW, PL, CC \$18,900	2003 Olds Alero 2Dr., 49K, F31090 \$8,995	2006 Ford Escape XLT 4x4 17K, F62002 \$19,695	2000 Ford Windstar SE #G001159, 6 cyl., auto, AC, PW, PL, P. seat, quad seating, alloys, 54K \$7,990	2005 Pontiac Grand Prix GXP #P05J1076, 5.4 liter V-8, leather, moonroof, OnStar, dual p. seats, premium wheels, owners demo, only 7K \$22,990	2003 Jeep Liberty 43K, Auto, Air, 4x4, CC, PW, PL, Cruise \$12,990	2006 PT Cruiser #D6147, PW, PL, CC, Previous Rental \$14,900	2002 Lincoln Town Car Signature, 42K, F21084 \$14,995	2005 Ford Explorer 4Dr., 4x4, 19K, F52019 \$19,695

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Family, customer satisfaction make Summit peak

By PAUL ANBRO

The Summit Auto Group of Syracuse went from zero to three dealerships in just one year, running on a simple market strategy that combines the inventory of a large dealership with the personalized flair of a country store.

The Summit dealerships are all located just a quick drive west of the State Fairgrounds. The original Summit Buick Pontiac GMC is located on 100 W. Main St. in Elbridge. Summit Ford is located two miles east at 1465 State Route 5 in Elbridge. Val's Summit Dodge can be found on 756 State Fair Blvd. in Syracuse.

Co-owner/operator Thomas Kristoff, who has 27 years of sales experience formerly with Burdick automotive, formed the Summit Auto Group with his sister, Karen Kristoff-Chiarizia, and "buy-

er turned seller" Stephen DiMarco when they bought the Buick Pontiac GMC location in Elbridge a year ago. Louis Valerino III joined the Summit team when he sold his family-owned Val's Motors, Inc. to Summit for an ownership position within the group.

The four owners' diverse backgrounds allow them to efficiently manage every angle of the expanding, 90-employee operation.

Summit's commitment to customer service is also evident in the service and collision centers found at the recently renovated Summit Ford, which was formerly Pirro Brothers Ford, Inc.

To speak with a Summit Auto group representative, call Summit Buick Pontiac GMC at (315) 689-3911; Summit Ford at (315) 689-3971; or Summit Dodge at (315) 487-6211.

Tips for safety before and after accidents

According to government statistics, 42,643 people died in automobile accidents during 2003. With hundreds of deaths a month from auto accidents, a few preventative measures could mean the difference between life and death for drivers and passengers on the road.

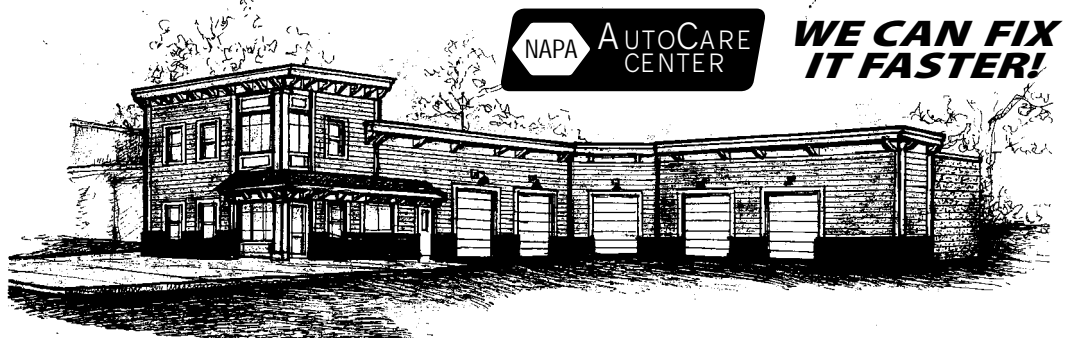
If you crash: State laws require the driver of any vehicle involved in an accident to stop at the scene of the accident and exchange information with any other drivers involved in the incident. Do not block traffic any more than necessary. If the accident involves an unattended vehicle or other property, attempt to locate the owner. If unsuccessful, leave a note, with your name, address and vehicle registration number.

According to attorney David I. Fuchs of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., pulling to the side of the road is essential to avoid another collision. "If you can pull over to the side of the road you need to," advises Fuchs.



The Summit Auto group owners in front of their new collision center at 1465 State Route 5 in Elbridge. (From left) Thomas Kristoff, Karen Kristoff-Chiarizia, Louis Valerino III, and Stephen DiMarco.

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