



# “Your Car Matters”

Tom Dwyer Automotive Services Monthly Newsletter for July and August, 2018



## ElectroMagnetic Pollution

The questions, threats, science, and answers. Sort of.



## People Are Standing Up

People are standing up... on every corner in the country.



## Automotive Horror Stories

A look inside the dark, dank, dungeons of Dwyer



Can Self-Driving Cars Solve Ethical Dilemmas?



Uncle Sam's Achilles Heel... Hackable Weapons



New Faults on Mt. Hood Could Trigger "The Big One" in Portland



What to Do If a Parking Garage Damages Your Car

## Our Monthly Columns

**Tom's Tidbits-** Freedom is participation in power. Choose to be free.

**What NOW?!! Toons** Tucker's Toon for THE ELECTIONS!

**Drew's Kitchen-** Shrimp Scampi roll-Ups

**Shop Talk-** There's a finish date for the construction!

**Health Notes-** The neuroscience of pain

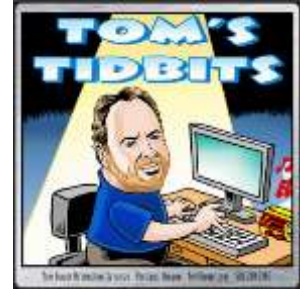
**Book Spotlight-** "Anti-Intellectualism in American Life" by Richard Hofstadter

**Humorousness-** Wild and wacky kindgom

**News To Make You Furious-** The calls are coming from INSIDE THE HOUSE!

# Tom's Tidbits

Freedom is participation in power. Choose to be free.



Greetings,

In October [Barack Obama said](#) “the threat to our democracy does not come from one person in the White House or Republicans in Congress or big money lobbyists. The biggest threat to our democracy is indifference.” He is correct that indifference is a problem, but wrong on so many other levels. It’s fascinating to me that this election has thrust this issue into the spotlight... indifference endangers our democracy, but the organized, naked, fascist efforts to remove voting rights shows how critically important our votes actually are...

Suppose you couldn’t shake the feeling that as citizens we’re obligated to vote, even if it does no good. Then, Red or Blue, Lib or Con, you should be appalled at the nationwide efforts to disenfranchise voters. These efforts take [many forms](#); [gerrymandering](#), [voting obstacles](#), [felon voting laws](#), [voter ID laws](#), and others, but the worst may be the mass voting purges going on in several states. The naïve may not be concerned because “their” vote isn’t in danger; [it’s “those” votes that are being purged](#). But the people doing the purging don’t care... any possibility of someone voting against them is a possibility they can’t have, and the whole point of purging is to eliminate entire groups of people to stop the possibility of individual undesirable votes... *anyone* who tries to take the vote of *any* American is your enemy. [Not all Republicans are part of the purges](#), but the Republicans who are part of it are your enemies, enemies of America, and enemies of Democracy. [When/if the Democrats start purging](#) they’ll be our enemies too, but until then I don’t see how rational, principled Republicans can stand with the vote thieves.



Purges and election restrictions are theoretically intended to ‘ensure the security of our electoral system’. A laudable goal if true, but the ‘problem’ they’re defending against doesn’t exist and the solution they’re proposing breaks the system rather than protecting it. [Study after study](#) has shown voter fraud does exist... in [rates of tens of fraudulent votes per billions cast](#), not enough to swing any election. But the Republicans’ proposed solution [disenfranchises tens of thousands](#) of people, far more than enough to affect results. This gives me yet another chance to brag on Oregon... for a secure system that also encourages participation, look no further than our mail-in voting system. Recognized as the easiest state to vote in the country, we customarily had high voting rates already but our 2016 “Motor Voter” law [increased participation from 64% to 68%](#). Our first-in-the-country vote-by-mail system (now joined by Washington and Colorado) is not only secure while voting, AND leaves an auditable trail, AND requires no time off to vote, AND has no voting lines, but it’s easy. One of our clients sent us a picture of he and his friends gathered together in a bar to vote, creating “Vote by Pub”!

Roman Senator Cicero once said that “freedom is participation in power”, and the word “idiot” was created by the Greeks to describe people who didn’t (or couldn’t) participate in public life,

content to live under laws and rules written by others whether or not they were in the interest of the idiot in question. In 2016 only about 36% of eligible voters chose to be free, leaving 64% who chose to be idiots. As America teeters on the brink of authoritarian fascism I hope our choice won't be whether to actively help dismantle democracy or stand meekly by while it happens. I believe we're better than a nation of idiots, I believe we're a nation of kings. Even if our kingship is shared, WE own the power to control our destiny... but ONLY if we participate in that power.



## Please, VOTE!

Make a great day,

### Digging Deeper...

[Voting by Mail in Colorado, Oregon and Washington](#), Nonprofit VOTE website

[Debunking the Voter Fraud Myth](#), Brennan Center for Justice, Jan 2017

[America hits new landmark: 200 million registered voters](#), Shane Goldmacher on Politico, Oct 2016

[Why Are Millions of Citizens Not Registered to Vote?](#) PEW Trust, Jun 2017

[Issues Related to State Voter Identification Laws](#), US Govt Accountability Office, Feb 2015

[How Oregon Increased Voter Turnout More Than Any Other State](#), by McElwee, Schaffner, and Rhodes in The Nation, Jul 2017

[Republicans Are Afraid Of Democracy, So They're Dismantling It](#), Carol Anderson on Huffpost, Oct 2018

[How Democrats Suppress The Vote](#), by Eitan Hersh on FiveThirtyEight, Nov 2015

[Republican Voter Suppression Efforts Are Targeting Minorities, Journalist Says](#), Interview with Ari Berman on NPR's 'Fresh Air', Oct 2018

[Judge orders Ga. officials to stop tossing absentee ballots over signatures](#), Amy Gardner in Washington Post, Oct 2018

[Georgia NAACP files complaints alleging voting machines incorrectly registered votes](#), Deborah Barfield Berry in USA Today, Oct 2018

[The GOP mailed wrong information to voters in a Senate battleground. It says that was a mistake](#), Eli Rosenberg in Washington Post, Oct 2018

[Rick Scott overwhelmingly restored voting rights to white Republican felons — after restricting black felons](#), Noor Al-Sibai on Raw Story, Oct 2018



[Barack Obama Still Doesn't Get It](#), Libby Watson on Splinter, Oct 2018

[Trump claims China won't stop meddling with the midterms, has zero evidence](#), Marissa Higgins, on Daily Kos, Oct 2018

[In leaked audio, Brian Kemp expresses "concern" over Georgians exercising their voting rights](#), PR Lockhart on Vox, Oct 2018

[News To Make You Furious-The Dumbing Down of America](#), Tom Dwyer Newsletter, Aug 2016

[Majority Latino city in Kansas just moved its one, yes one, polling place outside the city limits](#), Laura Clawson on Daily Kos, Oct 2018

[The Best Democracy Money Can Buy](#), movie, Greg Palast 2016

[Republicans are rigging elections to win. They're anti-voter and anti-democracy.](#), Abe Rakov in USA Today, Oct 2018

[Democrats need to fix their own voter suppression problem](#), Jeff Weaver on CNN, July 2018

["Blatant voter suppression"? Conservative group's mailer touches off furor in Washington's 19th District](#), Joseph O'Sullivan in Seattle Times, Oct 2018

[Democrats gear up for legal fights over voter suppression](#), Alexander Bolton in The Hill, Aug 2018

[Five Acts of Voter Suppression That Will Sway the Next Election](#), Tobias Stone on Medium, Jul 2018

[What Does Voter Suppression Look Like? Here Are 6 Examples](#), Kevin Mathews on Care2, Oct 2016

[Republican overseeing own race for governor 'concerned' if 'everybody exercises their right to vote'](#), Stephen Wolf on Daily Kos, Oct 2018

[Comparing the Voting Electorate in 2012-2016 and Predicting 2018 Drop-off](#), Lake Research Partners for the Voter Participation Center

[Democrats Hate Gerrymandering—Except When They Get to Do It](#), Matt Lewis in Daily Beast, Apr 2018

[NAACP issues warning about Texas voting machines: Votes for Beto O'Rourke changed to Ted Cruz](#), by Matthew Rozsa in Salon, Oct 2018

[Gerrymanders, Part 1: Busting the both-sides-do-it myth](#), Princeton Election Consortium, Sep 2018

[America's shameful history of voter suppression](#), Andrew Gumbel in The Guardian, Sep 2017

[Post-Election 2016 Recap & Resources](#), Penn State University

[How Voter Suppression Works](#), Dave Roos on HowStuffWorks,

[The influence of elites, interest groups and average voters on American politics](#), Martin Maximino on Journalist's Resource, Nov 2014

[Greg Palast Sues Georgia's Brian Kemp for Purging 340,000 from Voter Rolls Ahead of Election](#), Democracy NOW!, Oct 2018

[Judge orders Georgia officials to stop rejecting absentee ballots without letting voters fix them first](#), NBC News, Oct 2018

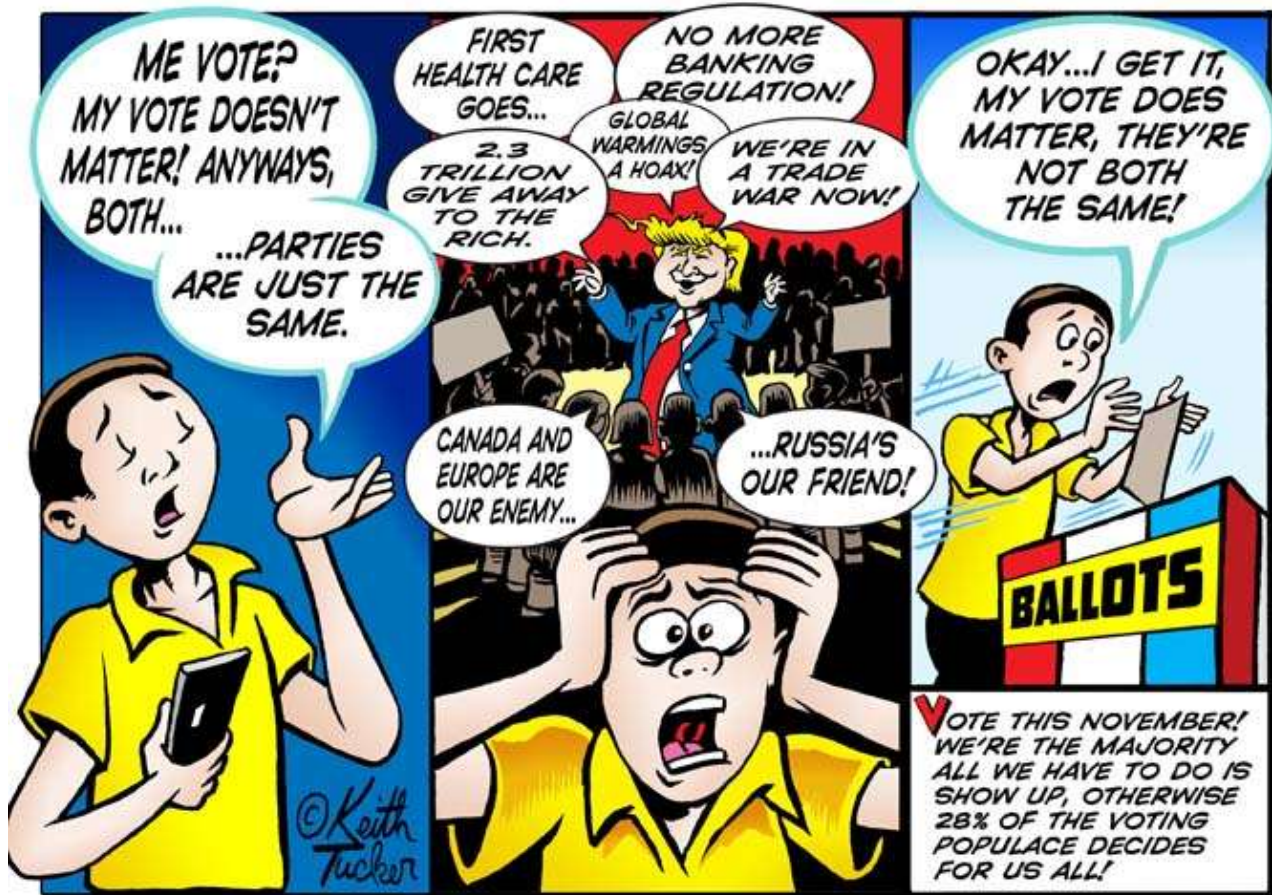
[Judge Says Georgia Can't Throw Out Absentee Ballot, So They "Go Missing" Instead](#), Farron Cousins on Ring of Fire, Oct 2018

[Georgia's Brian Kemp Pick The Wrong Target When He Tried To Purge The Woman](#), Video by Greg Palast, Oct 2018

[Votes for Democrat Stacey Abrams are being changed to Republican Brian Kemp: Georgia NAACP](#), Matthew Rozsa on Salon, Oct 2018

# What NOW?!! Toons

Keith Tucker's What NOW?!! Toon for THE ELECTIONS!



**"WHAT NOW?!!!"**

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WWW.WHATNOWTOONS.COM

# Referral Reward Program

This quarter's picks, and it's time to vote for our Yearly Winner



## How our Referral Reward Program works

Our Referral Reward Program is how we say "thank you" to the clients who recommend our shop to their family and friends. When a new client comes in and gives your name as a Referral Source we'll make a donation to the non-profit group of your choice, and all selections are eligible for Quarterly and Yearly awards as well. It couldn't be easier!

We've made **18 donations for \$601** since our last count; a total of **537 donations totaling \$23,399** since the program began!

**Here's who our clients chose to help in September and October...**

[Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization](#) by Francesca L. and Diane M.

[Oregon Outdoor School](#) by Rob N. [Raphael House](#) by Jay S.

[Oregon Food Bank](#) by Shari N. and Alain M. [Oregon Wild](#) by Rob C.

[Planned Parenthood of Columbia/Willamette](#) by Rikki S. [Bravo Oregon](#) by Judy M.

[Wireless Education Action](#) by Rodrigue D. [Doctors Without Borders](#) by Nicky S.

[Sisters of the Road Café](#) by June K. [Union Gospel Mission](#) by Heather C.

[Greater Portland Bible Church](#) by Mitch L. [Friends of Trees](#) by Tricia S.

[Oregon Zoo](#) by Jennifer S. [PFLAG](#) by Rebecca S. [RAINN.org](#) by Jason M.

## Please vote for our YEARLY award winner!

We mentioned Quarterly and Yearly awards above, and we always go to our clients for help selecting the winners. It's time to pick our YEARLY AWARD WINNER of \$500 and we need your vote to choose. Before we tell you who's eligible let us tell you who's not. We happily give to larger local and national groups throughout the year but when it comes to these bigger awards we try to leave them out. While \$500 can be a big boost to a small organization it can get lost in the flood of donations to large groups like Oregon Food Bank or American Cancer Society. They do wonderful work and we fully support them, but to make sure our Yearly Award goes where it will most valuable we made these bigger groups ineligible...

**These groups are INELIGIBLE for our Quarterly and Yearly awards:**

Oregon Food Bank	Planned Parenthood	Special Olympics
Oregon Humane Society	American Cancer Society	OPB Radio
American Red Cross	Mercy Corps	Salvation Army
American Civil Liberties Union		Sierra Club

**And here are the groups ELIGIBLE for our 2018 Yearly Award:**

[Immigrant & Refugee Community](#)

[Organization](#)

[Oregon Outdoor School](#)

[Oregon Wild](#)

[Bravo Oregon](#)

[Wireless Education Action](#)

[Union Gospel Mission](#)

[Greater Portland Bible Church](#)

[Friends of Trees](#)

[Oregon Zoo](#)

[PFLAG](#)

[RAINN.org](#)

[Northstar Civic Foundation](#)

[Transitions Project](#)

[Skaters for Portland Skateparks](#)

[Parkinson's Resources of Oregon](#)

[Hosea Youth Services](#)

[Sisters of the Road Café](#)

[Women's Crisis Support Team](#)

[Johnson Creek Watershed Council](#)

[Clackamas Rotary Club Foundation](#)

[Multnomah County Animal Services](#)

[Bernie Sanders](#)

[Returning Veterans Project](#)

[Portland Boys & Girls Club](#)

[Dove Lewis Animal Hospital](#)

[SW Washington Humane Society](#)

[Belmont Goats](#)

[RoseHaven](#)

[Llewellyn School](#)

[Portland Animal Welfare Team](#)

[North by Northeast Community Health](#)

[Center](#)

[Indigo Rescue](#)

[Raphael House](#)

[Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation](#)

[Oregon Center for Christian Voices](#)

[BARK](#)

[National Association on Mental Illness](#)

[Outside In](#)

[Esther's Pantry Food Bank](#)

[Bradley Angle House](#)

[Multnomah County CASA](#)

[St. John the Baptist School](#)

[Heifer.org](#)

[Animal Rescue and Care Fund](#)

[Children's Cancer Association](#)

[Operation Agua](#)

[Refit Portland](#)

[Columbia Riverkeeper](#)

[DKMS- Delete Blood Cancer](#)

[Human Solutions](#)

Please pick ONE group and call us at **503-230-2300**, email your choice to [\*\*charles@tomdwyer.com\*\*](mailto:charles@tomdwyer.com), or just tell your Service Advisor on your next visit. The winner will be announced in our next issue of "Your Car Matters".

**Thanks for your participation!**



# Current Special Offers

Take advantage of these special Dwyer offers!

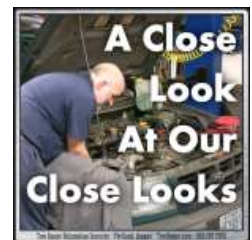


We're in a short window of beauty but Winter Weather is just around the corner. If you've been keeping up on your vehicle maintenance then you're probably ready-to-go for winter but it never hurts to check, and we want to make that check as easy as possible...

## Call to schedule a FREE 90-point Inspection

This is what other shops commonly call an "in-depth" or "multipoint" inspection. In ours, an ASE-Certified Technician does the most thorough inspection possible without invasive disassembly. We'll check everything you need for winter and give you peace-of-mind on everything else as well.

(If you'd like to know more about our industry-leading inspection process, click the link for "[A Close Look At Our Close Looks](#)")



*Offer expires 11/9/18*



# Wireless Dangers

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The questions, threats, science, and answers. Sort of.



In 2015, client Rodrige D.'s work with Environmental Electromagnetic Field (EMF) mitigation prompted us to write a short article on the issue. Recently he told us about "We Are The Evidence", an organization concerned with EMF Sensitivity and the threats of EMF Fields. Founder and director Dafna Tachover was in town and he offered to set up an interview with her. Of course, we jumped at the chance. As we were deciding what to pass along to you from our several hours of discussion we kept running into a fundamental question... EMF, its effects, and the solutions are controversial even within the scientific community. How do we, or anyone else, know whether a scientific concept is strongly established enough to take action on it? How does anyone determine if an issue is vapor or a real threat? We may not have a definitive answer for you, but we hope you'll find value in our search...

Two or three centuries ago it was at least theoretically possible for [one person to 'know' almost everything](#) in all fields of knowledge. The exponential expansion of knowledge now means a lifetime of education to probe the frontiers of any one field and necessarily ignoring the rest. No matter how much of an expert anyone is in their particular field, they're an idiot in most of the rest and there's no choice but to rely on other people to fill the gaps.

As a painfully relevant example, an auto shop may be spectacularly qualified to fix your car and still completely unqualified to render judgement on science or medicine. EMF field pollution and sensitivity are big issues but they're complex and unproven. They have implications for societal change and improvement if true and equal potential for scaremongering and damage if not. How do we know whether we're telling you about dangerous new health risks, or passing on mindless dismissals from corporate Quislings? Indeed, if we're going to write about any subject outside our expertise, how do we know we're providing any value at all?

The best answer is we don't know, and since we choose not to pretend we do, that became the basis for this article. Our dilemma strikes every person every day, whether they realize it or not- how do we form lucid opinions on issues when we have no choice but to rely on others? We'll tell you what we learned about EMF, what some of the arguments against it are, and what some of the fixes might be, and hopefully that will be valuable. But the biggest value of this article might be an exploration of how anyone makes evaluations about anything at all...

## The annoying process of science

Science doesn't tell us what's true. It tells us what's NOT true, and we build our reality from what's left. As science progresses it uses what it 'knows' from the past to learn about the present and future. It's a process we've seen play out many times but it IS a process, not an event... there's no 'finish line' where something gets declared objectively, scientifically 'true'.

Consensus on such things as geocentrism, atomic theory, germ theory, and relativity theory is so strong that we laugh at the cranks who go against them, but they were each crackpot ideas when introduced and new facts and understanding of reality could change any or all of these 'truths' at any time. All scientific ideas have a provisional doubt that fades (never completely) as evidence accumulates. Smoking is known to cause cancer even though there was 'doubt' for decades, and thalidomide is gone even though it was once thought to be safe. But other ideas are still going through the process. Evolution and climate change are about as well-understood as any other scientific theories, but there are still loud doubters. Anti-vaxxers still protest though science has examined and rejected their claims. Fluoridation may be viewed with suspicion but little evidence of actual damage. Still other ideas seem to have some legitimacy, but no definitive explanations. What about 9/11 illness, Gulf War syndrome, GMOs, DU Birth defects, Cuban embassy headaches, or a litany of other issues? We keep exploring and testing, trying to find the diamonds in the glass.

[Science controversies past and present](#), Steve Sherwood in Physics Today, Oct 2011

[Scientific Advances & Paradigm Shifts in Scientific Theories](#), David Wood on Study.com

[Science denialism politics – vaccines, GMOs, evolution, climate change](#), Skeptical Raptor, Oct 2017

[Scientific Controversies as Proxy Politics](#), Daniel Hicks on Issues in Science and Technology, Winter 2017

[God Versus the Neutrino](#), video by AntiCitizenX, Jul 2010

[Unknown Unknowns: The Problem of Hypocognition](#), by Daidi Wu and David Dunning in Scientific American, Aug 2018

[The Road to Pseudoscientific Thinking](#), Julia Shaw in Scientific American, Jan 2017

[Spurious Correlations](#), Tyler Vigen on TylerVigen.com

[20 years ago, a doctor published a study. It was completely made up, and it made us all sicker](#)

## What are the basics of EMF Sensitivity?

EMF Sensitivity seems to be beyond the beginning of scientific evaluation, but not yet to the point of consensus. EMF is [electromagnetic radiation](#), the waves of energy from normal phenomenon. It covers everything from low energy radio waves, through visible light, and on through high-energy x-rays and gamma rays. EMF is nothing new; we're bathed in a sea of it from the moment we're conceived from sources like the sun, the Earth's magnetic field, lightning, and more. In our modern world EMF comes from electrical devices like cell phones, wi-fi, cell towers and antennas, tablets, cordless phones, wireless "smart meters", powerlines, appliances, and imbalanced home wiring among other sources.

While EMF is radiation, it's not the same as radiation from sources like uranium or plutonium. We now understand that radiation from these substances causes damage at a cellular level when high-energy particles knock out other particles in the cell's nucleus, sending a "free radical" out to damage the cell and cause a chain reaction. While EMF seems to be connected to a variety of tumors and cancers, it seems unlikely it could cause these problems through the same mechanism as classical radiation... the EMF waves just don't have enough energy to disturb the cellular particles.

[Radiation Sources and Doses](#), US Environmental Protection Agency website

[Electromagnetic Sensitivity](#), Website from Environmental Health Trust

[Electromagnetic Fields And Public Health](#), Backgrounder from World Health Organization, Dec 2005

## What are the effects of EMF sickness?

Surveys conducted through 2006 indicate that 10% of the population was suffering from EMF sickness. Symptoms of exposure vary according to individual susceptibility, duration and frequency of the exposure, and intensity of the source. Symptoms range from mild to severe, from acute to chronic, and can include headache, tingling in the hands and legs, pain in the head and ears when using a cell phone, cognitive problems, brain fog, heart palpitations, difficulty breathing, sleep disturbances, exhaustion, tinnitus, nose bleeds, dizziness, and nausea.

Beyond symptomology there is evidence of physical damage. The fullest review to date of the scientific studies on EMF harm comes from the 2012 [Bio-Initiative Report](#), but studies are uncovering specific mechanisms of harm. A [2015 study](#) conducted on about 700 people with ES symptoms indicated serious physiological damage to the blood-brain barrier, hypothalamus and immune system, as well as neurodegeneration. A [2016 US Government study](#) found EMF caused both tumors in glial cells in the brain as well as malignant schwannoma of the heart. [Additional studies](#) have confirmed these as well as general increase in cancers and tumors in the larger population. EMF has also been implicated in [sperm damage](#), [autism](#), and [ADHD & behavior disorders](#). New research on EMF and its causes is ongoing; just as we were finishing this article we found [a new study linking EMF to cancer](#) in rats.

[We Are The Evidence- Wireless Technology Injured Advocacy Group](#), website by Dafna Tachover  
[What Is Electromagnetic Sensitivity?](#) WeAreTheEvidence website  
[A Scientist Explains What It's Really Like To Live With EMF Sensitivity](#), Rachel Straub on MindBodyGreen,

## What's the deeper story on EMF sickness?

The subject of EMF Sensitivity seems to be near the start of the scientific investigation process. A growing number of people are reporting a range of symptoms that seem to be strongly correlated with EM fields. However, the causative links necessary for a complete explanation have not been found.

[Science Says Wi-Fi Allergies Are Fake—But People Are Still Sick](#), Chris Stokel-Walker in Newsweek, Jun 2018

[Dafna Tachover Testimony on Michigan House Energy Policy](#) video, 05/29/18

[Wireless Wake-Up Call](#), video by Jeromy Johnson, TEDxBerkeley, Feb 2016

[Is EMF Pollution The Next Health Risk To Watch For?](#) Tom Dwyer Automotive Newsletter, Sep 2015

[Is Your New Phone \(Apple iPhone, Perhaps\) Cancer Causing, Too?](#) Jess Root on TreeHugger, Feb 2010

[EM Watch- Electromagnetic Radiation Health and Safety](#) Website

[WeAreTheEvidence](#) Website

[Safest Level Of Alcohol Consumption Is None, Worldwide Study Shows](#), Joel Achenbach in Washington Post, Aug 2018

[Alzheimer's Study Sparks New Debate Over Amyloid Hypothesis](#), Damian Garde and Andrew Joseph on KQED Science, Jul 2018

## Critiques of EMF research

There's lots of research on EMF to date with more on the way, and of course there's critiques of all the research. As with the EMF research itself, some is good and some is bad. Most of the good critique comes in the form of "you haven't demonstrated causality" which is critical before EMF can be diagnosed, treated, or prevented. That can be a solid critique, but goes too far when it continues in to "therefore there is no problem." Not *knowing* the causality is not the same as there not *being* causality.

[Do High Voltage Power Lines Cause Cancer?](#) Steven Salzberg on Forbes, Sep 2014

[Critique of "Risk of Brain Tumors from Wireless Phone Use"](#) by Lorne Trottier on ScienceBasedMedicine, Feb 2011

[Review of Studies Concerning Electromagnetic Field \(EMF\) Exposure Assessment in Europe: Low Frequency Fields \(50 Hz–100 kHz\)](#), Irena Cosic in US National Library of Medicine, Sep 2016

Some of the bad comes from industry groups poo-pooing possible threats to their businesses. It's not enough to assume results are biased because they were industry-funded, but history and human nature have taught us to treat such research with suspicion.

[A Group Suggested Pregnant Women Can Drink. It's Funded By The Alcohol Industry.](#) Kristine Phillips in Washington Post, Aug 2018

[Jury Awards Terminally Ill Man \\$289 Million In Lawsuit Against Monsanto,](#) Vanessa Romo on NPR, Aug 2018

[Coca-Cola Is Funding Controversial Research That Claims Bad Diets Don't Cause Obesity,](#) IFLScience  
[Coffee Does Not Merit Cancer Warning Label Ordered in California, FDA Says,](#) Sasha Ingber on KQED News, Aug 2018

[Big Nutrition Research Scandal Sees 6 More Retractions, Purging Popular Diet Tips,](#) Beth Mole on ARSTechnica, Sep 2018

One final point on critiquing EMF or any other subject... a critique must actually reflect the content of the material under review. Dr. Joel Moskowitz did a wonderful chart showing the “spin” of a National Institute of Health report on cellphone radiation...

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 Director, Center for Family and Community Health  
 School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley

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 Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/SaferEMR>  
 Twitter: @berkeleyprc

### SPIN vs FACT: *National Toxicology Program* report on cancer risk from cellphone radiation

The National Toxicology Program (NTP) of the National Institutes of Health [reported](#) partial findings from their \$25 million study of the cancer risk from cellphone radiofrequency radiation (RFR). Controlled studies of rats showed that RFR caused two types of tumors, glioma and schwannoma. The results "...could have broad implications for public health." Below are some biased statements, or "Spin," about the study that tend to create doubt about data quality and implications, as well as "Facts" from decades of previous research.

SPIN	FACT
Conclusions are faulty. Dr. Michael Lauer, deputy director for extramural research at the National Institutes of Health, "I am unable to accept the authors' conclusions."	The NTP is world-renowned for toxicology research. This is <a href="#">"by far ... the most carefully done cell phone"</a> toxicology study of RFR carcinogenic effects. Criticisms by Dr. Lauer and other scientists who reviewed the study were <a href="#">rebutted in the study report</a> .
Study reports a "low incidence" of tumors in the brain and heart in rats exposed to RFR.	The study found that <b>one in twelve (8.5%)</b> of the 540 male rats exposed to cellphone radiation developed <b>cancer or pre-cancerous cells</b> as compared to none of the 90 rats in the control condition.
Relevance of animal studies to humans is questionable.	The cells that developed tumors are the <b>same cells</b> that display elevated tumor risk in studies of long-term, heavy <b>cellphone users</b> . Rats are the <a href="#">preferred animal model</a> for carcinogenicity studies.
<a href="#">International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)</a> , rated cellphone radiation a "possible" human carcinogen (Group 2B), the same rating given to coffee, pickled vegetables, and talc.	The report provides strong evidence that RFR exposure causes cancer. <a href="#">Major studies</a> published since the 2011 IARC meeting consistently find that long-term, heavy cellphone users have increased risk of brain tumors. Group 2B carcinogens also include DDT, lead, and diesel fumes.
Prior research contradicts NTP study results (e.g., <a href="#">Danish Cohort Study</a> , British <a href="#">Million Women Study</a> ).	The Danish study has been criticized by many scientists for excluding heavy cellphone users. The British Study has also been criticized; but, it found <a href="#">evidence for acoustic neuroma</a> (a form of schwannoma).
Epidemiological studies fail to show an increase in brain tumor incidence since 1992 even though cellphone use has mushroomed.	The <a href="#">incidence of nonmalignant tumors has significantly increased</a> in the U.S. since cellphones. Moreover, the <a href="#">incidence of glioblastoma multiforme</a> , the most serious type of brain cancer, has increased in <b>parts of the brain proximal to where cellphones are held</b> . Brain cancer can take decades to develop, so it is premature to see overall increases in malignant tumors in the general population.
There is no mechanism to explain how cellphones could cause cancer. Unlike ionizing radiation, <i>non-ionizing</i> radiation from cellphones cannot damage DNA.	A <a href="#">review paper</a> reported that in 93 of 100 studies RFR <b>produced a cellular stress response</b> which can lead to DNA damage and cancer. The NTP study also found evidence of <a href="#">DNA damage</a> . Several <a href="#">published papers</a> present evidence for different mechanisms by which RFR may cause cancer.
The research has not been peer-reviewed.	The NTP report has been peer-reviewed by experts. Some <a href="#">reviews appear in the report</a> along with the authors' responses.
Findings are preliminary, it is premature to conclude we should take precautions or change policy.	These are not preliminary findings. According to NTP, the effects of RFR on these two tumors, glioma and schwannoma, are final. The federal government released this <a href="#">partial report</a> because the results "could have broad implications" <b>for the public due to widespread cellphone use</b> . The NTP posted on its <a href="#">website</a> a link to the FDA's recommendations on how to reduce cellphone radiation exposure.

### What you can do... and not do

There's strong *evidence* that EMF causes health problems, but not yet definitive *proof*. How should we, societally or individually, act in the face of unproven threats? We could overreact and panic, shutting down wireless technology altogether or locking ourselves in mobile Faraday cages to block EMF completely, on the *possibility* that EMF is dangerous. A more appropriate societal response may have to wait for clearer science and on cooperation between companies and nations, but there are very simple steps we can take as individuals in the meantime to protect ourselves without giving up the 21<sup>st</sup> century technology we love.

### What you SHOULD do

These are simple, common-sense solutions that seemed common across all sources. They're either cheap or free, and will definitely reduce the EMF from point-sources



- Limit exposure to EMF when possible
- Switch off EMF-generating devices whenever possible
- Move furniture as far away as possible from EMF sources
- Replace wireless devices with wired alternatives
- Use corded headphones instead of BlueTooth headsets
- Use shielded, grounded extension cords

If you think EMF is a more critical problem for you personally there are more in-depth solutions. These may involve an evaluation of your home or work to determine sources of EMF you're personally exposed to.

[Protect Your Family from EMF Pollution](#), EMF Analysis Website by Jeromy Johnson

[10 Ways to Protect Yourself from EMF Exposure](#), Devin Byrne on NaturallySavvy, Apr 2009

EWG's (Environmental Working Group's) [Guide to Safer Cell Phone Use](#)

[Zapped: Why Your Cell Phone Shouldn't Be Your Alarm Clock and 1,268 Ways to Outsmart the Hazards of Electronic Pollution](#), Ann Louise Gittleman, Oct 2011

[Healthy Spaces Now](#) Website

### What you MIGHT do

EMF-protectant cloth is available, as blankets or ready-made clothing. A shield will work to stop most emissions from one direction but does nothing to stop the EMF coming in from other directions. Nevertheless, it might be helpful in blunting EMF from devices like laptops.

[Does Belly Armor Block Pregnant Women from Radiation?](#) Sara Novak on Treehugger, Feb 2012 Maternity clothing made with "silver ions" that claim to protect unborn babies from daily doses of electromagnetic radiation can actually increase the wearer's exposure from sources like mobile phones according to Chinese experts.

[Radiation Proof Clothing Fails To Protect Mums To Be Says Chinese Scientist](#), Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association, Oct 2018

### What you SHOULDN'T do

Since the science and threat are ill-defined, there are inevitably hucksters out there selling snake oil to solve it. While there is the philosophical possibility these gadgets may work we're gonna go out on a limb and say there is no theory, extrapolation from theory, or even rumored hypothesis that would enable these things to have any effect on EMF pollution. Things like these are as effective as rabbits' feet... don't get suckered.

- [BioShields](#)- "This Bio Shield comes in the form of an attractive pendant which can be worn around your neck. Designed as a personal EMF shield the pendant encases a special matrix of crystals which refract a wide spectrum of EMF Frequencies."
- [EMF Blues](#)- "While most EMF Protection Devices on the market are aimed at blocking or shielding EMFs, Crystal Catalyst® Resonators go one step further! These ceramic resonators harmonize electromagnetic frequencies so they are no longer harmful to your body. This makes them powerful EMF Protection Devices AND Life Energy Enhancers."
- [Waverider EMF blocker](#)- "The WaveRider mitigates the harmful effects of man-made EMR from all our devices and alters the pattern to mimic a more natural "white noise" type of wave that the human body can tolerate... without changing the actual structure of the EMF." (and it's a steal at only \$997)



### What if I just don't give a damn?

If you've lived this long without developing EMF sensitivity, it's either complete BS or you have a high enough tolerance that it hasn't affected you. If it's BS there's obviously nothing to worry about. If it's not, your tolerance may not protect you. Aging increases sensitivities to environmental factors so the level that didn't make you sick today could cripple you tomorrow. But also, the amount of EMF you're exposed to is about to increase. The new 5G standard for wireless is already being built, and the experiment will be run on us all. Whether we give a damn or not.

[Electronic Stickers To Streamline Large-Scale 'Internet Of Things'](#), Purdue University, Jul 2018  
[5G Is Almost Here — Here's How Everyone's Getting Ready](#), Chaim Gartenberg on The Verge, Sep 2018

### **Was this article useful at all?**

If you've never heard of EMF Sensitivity we hope we gave you a reasonable introduction. If you're well aware of the issue you probably have strong feelings one way or the other, and even if we didn't change your mind maybe we gave you a look at the thoughts of "the other side". If you're on the fence, wondering whether EMF is something to worry about or ignore, but ready to learn and form a reasonable response, we hope this was most useful to you. We live in a world where both solid and absurd proposals are thrown at us all the time. Few of us have the time, training, or resources to confidently make good decisions, but people with the same (or worse) qualifications are lined up to eagerly and confidently tell us what the truth is whether they know it or not. In a world of confusion, spin, and provisional truth, one of the most important tools is the ability to recognize our own ignorance. But if you're not willing to stop there, if you want to do the deep thought necessary for conclusions that work, we hope it's reassuring to know there are still ignorant people out there thrashing along with you. Good luck to us all!

# People Are Standing Up

People are participating in power... on every corner in the country.



From Occupy to the Women’s March to the ICE protests, dissatisfaction has brought people into the streets by the tens of thousands. Mass demonstrations may be important, but they’re big, flashy, short-time events. Also, every person in them becomes a nameless voice in the crowd rather than a speaker for their individual position. “Stand On Every Corner” is rethinking this paradigm of short-term mass protests by coordinating a long-term individualized option... a network of people, spread across the country, who Stand on Every Corner to spread their own opinion on just what’s going too far. We’ll introduce you to the people who have already staked out one corner in Portland, and ways to

get in touch if you want to Stand On a Corner of your own...

From the national website, [StandOnEveryCorner.com](http://StandOnEveryCorner.com)

#StandOnEveryCorner is a growing national movement of people coming together to hold regular, peaceful, family-friendly protests in their own neighborhoods.

The protests began on June 20, 2018 when one man, Bryce Tache in Minneapolis, went to his neighborhood park to demand the end of the Trump Administration’s family separation policy. He vowed to protest daily until Election Day - or longer.

Since #StandOnEveryCorner has grown, it’s become a stand by all of us to protect our democracy from corruption and treason. A stand to insist on the rule of law and honesty from elected

officials. A stand not at your State Capitol, but in your own backyard. Not once every few months, but as often as you can.

This movement isn’t about left vs. right. Or blue vs. red. It’s about right vs. wrong. It’s about standing up and speaking out for truth. Justice. Equality. Kindness. It’s about holding our elected representatives accountable. It’s about being there for each other.

Now it’s your turn. And it’s easy. Find a protest near you. If there isn’t one close by, claim a corner and protest on a schedule that’s convenient to you. Invite your friends and neighbors. Whatever you



Click the map for the SOEC national site

care about, make sure your voice is heard.

By the way, when we say “take a stand,” we mean metaphorically. People of all ages and abilities have participated. Many attend their protest from a chair, wheelchair or stroller. Every one of us makes a difference simply by our presence.

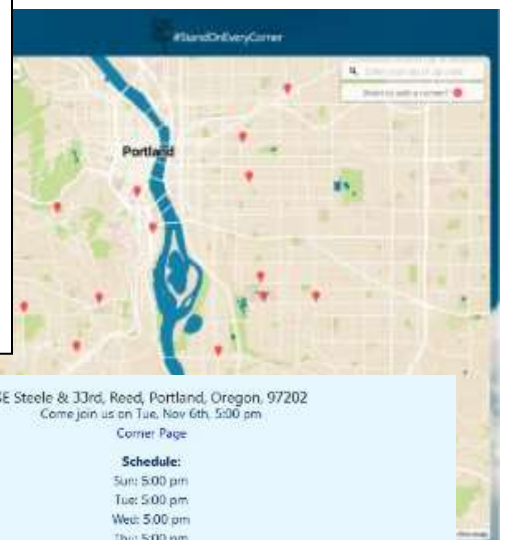
We first came across StandOnEveryCorner when our intrepid Your Car Matters reporter encountered Amy and Robin on vigil on SE Steele, night after night on his way home from work. It was our introduction to SOEC and it can be yours as well... stop by and say to Amy and Robin when you pass by, offer your support, or better yet, CLAIM A CORNER OF YOUR OWN!

Make #StandOnEveryCorner your own. You'll feel empowered. Hopeful. Inspired. Because you're making a difference.

All it takes is you and a corner.



Amy K. and Robin D. Stand On Every Corner! Well, not every one, but at least this one on SE Steele in Portland.



SE Steele & 33rd, Reed, Portland, Oregon, 97202  
Come join us on Tue, Nov 6th, 5:00 pm

Corner Page

**Schedule:**

Sun: 5:00 pm

Tue: 5:00 pm

Wed: 5:00 pm

Thu: 5:00 pm

Fri: 5:00 pm

Sat: 5:00 pm

**Notes:**

In these last couple of weeks before the midterm elections on November 6, I find myself wanting to mobilize voters to use the ballot box to drive out corruption, cruelty, and authoritarianism. I'll be taking advantage of the many options here in Portland to Get Out The Vote & increase engagement in those elections. Therefore, Amy & I will not be at this corner on a set schedule, but as we are able. Time will stay from 5-6 p.m. We encourage others to follow your passion; please volunteer with a local campaign or issue phone bank, write postcards, canvass & knock on doors. OR, if you are moved to speak out to your neighbors by waving signs, etc. keep the corner going at this location or one closer to your house!

Here in Portland, start by signing up for the Election Sprint Challenge & get your game plan: <http://onepagerapp.com/oq0117>

Find resources & aggregated action opportunities here: <https://www.nvgsd.org/standuwave>

Canvass, phone bank, etc. for Kate Brown Jamie McCleod Skinner (OR-02) & Carolyn Long (WA-03). Schedule here: <https://www.indivisible.org/events/mid-us-house/> for volunteer opportunities.

APANO, NARAL, Working Families, Flip 4 Clackamas, and Multnomah & Clackamas County Democrats also have many things you can do to help fight harmful measures like 105 and 106, as well as state-level campaigns. See their websites to sign up.



Great article on the history of SEOC



# Automotive Horror Stories

A look inside the dark, dank, dungeons of Dwyer



In this Halloween Season we're all about fear, and for some people there's nothing scarier than a trip to the mechanic. That fear can be justified because take it from us, some scary stuff rolls through our doors. If you're in the mood for some Halloween shivers then you'll enjoy this selection of Automotive Horror stories. You'll find mummies, stakes through vital organs, kittens in peril, bodies torn apart, ghostly brakes, and one of our favorite stories of a car brought back from the grave. Most are from our shop but all are true, and the ALL HAVE PICTURES! So turn up the scary music, turn down the lights, huddle up close, and prepare to be automotively terrified...

## Horror Is Always Just Around The Corner

Before moving to the uniquely ghastly we'll start with the commonly awful... this is what we have to do to your vehicle every time we repair things deep inside. The top pictures show a van in for an engine replacement. The second set is even worse, showing the dismembered body of a Honda Pilot in for a heater core repair. Why worse? While it's not surprising that new engines are major surgery for any vehicle, small and inexpensive heater cores can generate the same horrifying bill. These systems are 'just behind the firewall', and it's necessary to remove the entire steering and dash assemblies to get to them, meaning many hours of labor are needed to change a relatively inexpensive part. Scary!



## The Mummy



If you're a rat, your dream house is something dry, warm, and safe from predators. Unfortunately, that also describes a car's engine. We occasionally find rats, mice, chipmunks, and other little furry creatures that have made a bad choice in real estate and paid for it with their lives. Here's one that briefly made its home behind the vehicle's bumper. Not much to say about this other than it's vaguely interesting and that odd smell from your vehicle may not always be mechanical.

## Haunted House



The Mummy Mouse above was a loner just passing through but we frequently run into vehicles that have become long term haunts for whole families of spiders, rats, and mice. These pictures come from a vehicle that had sat unused for years before the client decided to dust it off. The fairly elaborate rat nest in the manifold was an obstacle at first, but we were able to exorcise the evil spirits rodents and get him back on the road again.

## Kitten in Peril

Our “Rodent of the Month” (the Mummy, above) made for our most popular Shop Talk column ever so we immediately followed up with this story about what happens to an [adorable fluffy kitten that takes a 1000-mile trip... INSIDE a car's engine](#). (Spoiler Alert: the story has a happy ending.)



## Chipmunk On The Brink Of Extinction



Animal rescue really hit home at the shop when we were faced with saving the life of an endangered chipmunk. Chipmunks aren't endangered, you say? This one was...

From the moment the Toyota Highlander slid into Andrew's stall he knew he was facing a unique problem. The owners had seen evidence of rodents partying in their vehicle, but when they tried to break it up the rodents scattered like... well, like mice. Most got out but one took a bad turn and got stuck in the windshield pillar, nestled against the side curtain air bag. After waiting unsuccessfully for him to leave, the owners brought the Highlander in to us before the squeaking stopped. Getting Chippy out was no problem, but getting him out alive? The clock was ticking. Andrew loosened the cowl and gently prodded the very dazed chipmunk into an ASPCA-approved transparent polymeric small-animal transfer container. The whole Dwyer team helped transport the chipmunk to his new home in the blackberry bushes lining the Springwater Corridor. As Andrew opened the transfer container the chipmunk staggered out to the tune of “Born Free”, somewhat the worse for wear but ready to start his new life.

## Bodies Torn Apart

An invisible killer stalks the highways and byways east of the Rockies, waiting silently on icy roads, reaching out to grab unsuspecting vehicles. Once it has a fingerhold it never lets go, and spreads a cancer through its victim that always ends in death. We're talking about road salt, and the aggressively frame-killing rust it causes. We're frequently asked to inspect vehicles that have escaped this terror of the East and all-too-frequently have to say it's time to part with the vehicle when we find rust... rust damage to a vehicle's frame can be deadly in an accident, and can sometimes kill the car without one. This picture isn't from our shop, but from another that tried to revive a truck with frame rust... somewhat unsuccessfully.





## Ghost Brakes



The invisible killer of rust claimed another victim, but we stopped it before it claimed the driver as well. This was another vehicle that a client had just bought from back East (without a pre-purchase inspection). The Dealer had bought the car at auction and must have noticed the brake system had almost completely rusted away, because rather than fixing it before sale they re-hung the original calipers and left all the other remaining corroded parts in place. The driver was left with a ghostly reminder of where brakes should have been but no actual brakes that could have stopped their car! This was a potentially deadly situation and one of the scariest reminders of why PRE-PURCHASE INSPECTIONS FOR YOUR VEHICLE ARE SO CRITICAL.

## Stake Through Vital Organs



We quickly figured out why the windshield washer system wasn't working; the end of the branch was a dead giveaway. The driver hadn't even noticed when the limb pierced through their grille, crushed their washer bottle, and broke off to be an unnoticeable little stub; they'd only noticed their washer had quit. The fix was quick and obvious, but the dismembered washer bottle was a conversation piece in our lobby for quite a while.

## Aliens Bursting From Stomachs



Few things are scarier than tire problems because if a tire fails while you're driving then a "roadside breakdown" is one of the GOOD possibilities! That's why we were so glad this tire failed so dramatically, and in our shop instead of on the road. The manufacturing defect in the sidewall popped out as soon as we aired it up but there was no help... it was off to the tire graveyard. (Just FYI, it's usually possible to repair punctures on tires if the puncture is ON THE TREAD AREA. If it's on the sides of the tire, it can't be repaired and you're going to have to buy a new tire.)

## Zombie Car Returns From The Grave



This is the best kind of horror story, one with a moral that can help us all, but beware... it's not for the faint of heart! A client (who we'll call "Mr. X") brought their vehicle in with a check-engine light, power loss, rough idle, and a severe oil leak. The vehicle had been running fine until all of a sudden the problems hit. We put the car on the rack and quickly diagnosed a leak in the valve cover gasket, likely caused by pressure building in the engine and pushing out the gasket. A little investigation gave more insight. Mr. X was overdue for an oil change... 20,000 miles overdue! Luckily, Mr. X brought the car in immediately before more major damage was done. We were able to clean the sludge off of the internal components, but not before we took the

graphic and horrifying pictures below...



### Before

Over the miles, the engine oil had broken down into its basic parts and formed a tar-like black sludge that coated the entire engine. The first two pictures show the top of the engine with the valve cover removed. The sludge had packed the engine such that the engine parts and oil had to fight through the goo in order to move. The second picture shows just how thick that goo was... that screwdriver is stuck into the sludge about 1½ inches!



### After

It took a while, but we were finally able to clean everything out. In the third picture you can see the moving parts that were covered by the burnt oil. The last picture shows that same chamber that had the screwdriver stuck into it, now clean as a whistle. Once again, this is an engine that's ready to run cleanly and efficiently.

Now go and enjoy your Halloween, but remember... automotive horror is always out there, waiting to HAPPEN TO YOU TOO! BWAAAA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HAA HAAA HAAAAAAA!



# Shop Talk

There's a finish date for the construction!



## Comment of the Month- Thank you Ken!



Our Comment of the Month this month is really nothing special. Client Michael M. wrote on his Post-Service card...

*"Appreciate that Ken explained we didn't need an oil change, as we have synthetic oil. Like the checkup you do for any obvious problems."*

We're glad Michael is happy and we'll certainly try to keep him that way, but we get many comments like his. Why focus on this one? Precisely *because* we get so many and Michael's is just the latest. "Ken is so great", "I'm so glad Ken is there because I count on his advice", "Ken keeps things running so smoothly", "I've trusted Ken for years"... Ken, Ken, KEN! Michael's comment is an ideal excuse to thank our Shop Manager Ken Bartz for his years of dedicated service; 22 years as of Oct 30. Ken's been the rock at the front desk forever, dispensing gruff advice, understanding chuckles, and even the occasional sympathetic word to clients going through vehicle bereavement. Many of our clients have never known a Tom Dwyer Automotive without him, and we can no longer imagine it ourselves. Thank you Ken for 22 years, and our best wishes for another 22 more to come!



## What are they building across the street, and when will they be done?

[Sellwood Bridgehead](#), being built across the street from us at 8222 SE 6<sup>th</sup>, will be a 119 unit multi-family housing project with 49 underground parking spots. Everyone seems to ask about it when they come by the shop, so we're bringing you a couple shots each month as our newest Sellwood neighbor takes shape. This month we're coming down to the wire. The structural work is mostly done and they're working on the exterior. Brick facades went up a couple weeks ago, and Halloween week was occupied with adding the balconies and inside appliances. But the big news recently is we now have a target date for completion. Word is that construction should be **DONE ON DEC 15, and new Sellwoodians can start moving in on Jan 1 2019**. So the construction traffic will finally, blessedly end in about 6 weeks... until they start on the project on the empty lot north of us. Count on us to keep you posted then as well!



Hydraulic cranes were installed to build a platform to apply the brick facade



With the brick in place, the balconies started going into place



## **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.



Hate to say it, but Thanksgiving is on the way. We're not giving you recipes for turkey or mashed potatoes, but if you're looking for a unique side dish that will steal the spotlight from the stars? Drew's got you covered...

### Shrimp Scampi Roll-ups

#### Ingredients:

- 3 Tbsp butter
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 3 Tbsp all-purpose flour
- 2 1/2 cups whole milk
- ¼ cup freshly chopped parsley, plus more for garnish
- Pinch of crushed red pepper flakes
- ½ cup dry white wine
- 1 ¾ cup shredded mozzarella, divided
- ½ cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 1 lb. large shrimp, peeled and deveined, roughly chopped
- Juice of 1 lemon
- 10 cooked lasagna noodles
- 2 cups ricotta

#### Preparation:

1. Preheat oven to 350°. In a large skillet over medium heat, melt butter. Add garlic and cook until fragrant, 1 minute, then add flour and whisk until combined and golden, 1 minute more. Stir in milk, parsley, and a pinch of red pepper flakes and let thicken, 2-3 minutes. Add wine, ½ cup mozzarella, and Parmesan, and season with salt and pepper. Add shrimp and cook until pink, about 2 minutes more. Stir in lemon juice.
2. On a large baking sheet, lay out cooked lasagna noodles. Spread a thin layer of sauce in a large baking or casserole dish. Spread each with a layer of ricotta, then top with a thin layer of scampi mixture. Roll up and spoon more sauce on top of roll-ups. Sprinkle with remaining ¾ cup mozzarella.
3. Bake until golden and melty, 20 minutes. Broil 2 minutes if you want the tops to look golden.
4. Garnish with parsley and serve.

**Prep time 0:10, Total time: 0:40, Serves 6**  
**Original recipe from Delish, Mar 2017**





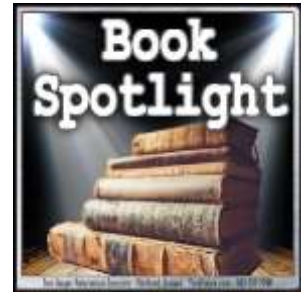
“Rate your pain on a scale of one to ten”. If you’ve never been asked that question you’re lucky, but most of the rest of us have heard it at least once. Vital signs such as blood pressure, respiratory rate, temperature, or kidney function are quantifiable, but pain, no matter where it seems to originate, is ‘all in your head’. It’s totally subjective, and a host of factors can influence both the experience and reporting of pain levels. For example, while the 1-10 scale is trusted and about as accurate as other scales, it has inherent problems...

*“The 2014 edition of the textbook “Nursing: A Concept-Based Approach to Learning” warned practitioners that Native Americans “may pick a sacred number when asked to rate pain,” and that the validity of self-reports will likely be affected by the fact that Jewish people “believe that pain must be shared” and black people “believe suffering and pain are inevitable.” Last year, the book’s publisher, Pearson, announced that it would remove the offending passage from future editions, but biases remain common, and study after study has shown shocking disparities in pain treatment.”*

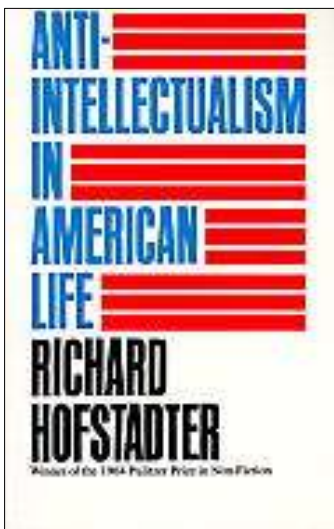
Scientists have been working with Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) to watch the brain’s response to pain in real-time, while the pain is being inflicted, and the results are fascinating. [Click here for an excellent article from The New Yorker on the history of pain studies](#), how fMRI is opening new doors on our understanding of pain, what one woman’s experience as a pain guinea pig was like, and what the implications of objectively measurable pain could be for medicine, law, and the rest of our world.

# Book Spotlight

## “Anti-Intellectualism in American Life” by Richard Hofstadter



So many books from the past are getting a second read because of their resonance with our situation today. [“It Can’t Happen Here”](#) by Sinclair Lewis or [“1984”](#) by George Orwell are classic examples. This month we bring you another in the canon of political philosophy, “Anti-Intellectualism in American Life” by Richard Hofstadter. It won the 1964 Pulitzer Prize for Nonfiction among many other awards, but ironically it was decrying the devaluing of intellectualism just as America was at the apex of its love affair with science and engineering. One shudders to imagine what Hofstadter would say if he could see the venomous tripe passing for intellectual debate today, but you don’t have to wait for his critique of yesterday... just dig in!



### [Anti-Intellectualism in American Life](#)

*By Richard Hofstadter*

Excerpt from “Richard Hofstadter and America’s New Wave of Anti-Intellectualism”, by David Masciotra on Daily Beast, Mar 2014

“Twenty-first century philistines, suffering from a lack of imagination and curiosity, have seized upon understandable economic anxieties since the financial crash of 2008, to shepherd an increasingly large flock of American sheep into the livestock freight carrier Pulitzer prize winning historian, Richard Hofstadter, called “anti-intellectualism.”

Anti-Intellectualism in American Life—one of Hofstadter’s best, among many great books – was a pile of dynamite in 1963, when it was first published and blew a sizable hole in the house of America’s self-comforting delusions of intellectual superiority. In 2014, one can only hope that some of its initial blast still reverberates, as media commentators, university administrators, and even the President, have exposed themselves as adherents to what Hofstadter indicted as the “lowest common denominator criterion” of thought and “technician conformity” of lifestyle. Suspicion, and often outright hatred, of ideas is making American culture as riveting as oatmeal. By reading Hofstadter, one learns that the resurgence of a new anti-intellectualism isn’t new, at all. In fact, Hofstadter identified the particularly poisonous strain of the virus that now infects the American mind and kills the imagination.

Hofstadter wrote Anti-Intellectualism in American Life after observing, with dismay and disgust, how the Republican Party, much of the media, and many Americans insulted and mocked Adlai Stevenson as an “egghead” throughout the 1950s when the former Governor of Illinois, ran for President. The result is a book of “personal passion”, to use its author’s words, that traces the ugliness of anti-intellectualism throughout American history. From the populist stupidity of glorifying the everyman, while denouncing the expert, to the superstition of religion, and the excessive egalitarianism of the left, the country founded by men of Enlightenment, is often dim.

Anti-intellectualism, according to Hofstadter, is a “resentment of the life of the mind, and those who are considered to represent it; and a disposition to constantly minimize the value of that life.” He was very clear in his insistence that Americans are not dumb. There is great intelligence in Americans, just as there is great professionalism. The problem is that professional intelligence is mechanical and functional – utilitarian. It is about the completion of an assignment, and the execution of a formula. Due to it having the operative mode of a machine, the preferred way of exercising the mind, for many Americans, takes on what Hofstadter labeled “mediocre sameness.” There are only so many ways to do a job, and since many Americans learn at a very young age, that their entire lives are about the job they will one day have, they begin to think with the variety of appliance assembly methods in an instructional manual...”

# Humorousness

## Wild and Wacky Kindgom



W.C. Fields said “Never work with children or animals” because he knew they’d make him look bad by comparison. We co-opted Fields’ maxim... use children or animals every time you can, because they’ll make you look good in any situation! With that cynical thought in mind, this month’s Humorousness proudly brings you [pictures of cute animals doing funny things](#). These are the finalists of the 2018 Comedy Wildlife Photography Awards, and if you find one you particularly like they want to hear from you... there’s a [People’s Choice award](#) that’s waiting on your vote. Winners announced November 15.

A screenshot of the website for the Comedy Wildlife Photography Awards. The header includes the logo for 'The Comedy Wildlife Photography Awards' with the tagline 'Conservation through Competition', a 'BUY OUR BOOK!' button with a monkey icon, and the 'AFFINITY PHOTO PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD' logo. There are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, and a 'Join our Mailing List' button. A navigation menu includes: Home, Conservation, Buy Prints, Books, T&amp;C, Judges, Prizes, Gallery, Press, Contact, and Exhibit &amp; Sponsor Us. Below the menu is a list of years: 2018 Finalists, 2017 Winners, 2017 Finalists, 2016 Winners, 2016 Finalists, and 2015 Winners. The main content area is titled 'Gallery 2018 Finalists' and displays a grid of ten humorous wildlife photographs. The photos include: a blue bird with its beak open, two white bears wrestling, a blue fish jumping, three penguins standing in a row, a blue parrot on a branch, two brown bears wrestling, a green lizard on a red rock, a brown bear on a snowy slope, and a group of penguins with one in the foreground.



# 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, much (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!



## Can Self-Driving Cars Solve Ethical Dilemmas?



from [Science Daily](#)- A massive new survey developed by MIT researchers reveals some distinct global preferences concerning the ethics of autonomous vehicles, as well as some regional variations in those preferences. The survey has participants from over 200 countries weighing in on versions of a classic ethical conundrum, the "Trolley Problem", which involves scenarios in which an accident involving a vehicle is imminent, and the vehicle must opt for one of two potentially fatal options. "The study is basically trying to understand the kinds of moral decisions that driverless cars might have to resort to," says Edmond Awad, lead author of a new paper outlining the project. "We don't know yet how they should do that."

## Uncle Sam's Achilles Heel... Hackable Weapons



from [Washington Post](#)- Almost all of the U.S. military's newly developed weapons systems suffer from "mission-critical cyber vulnerabilities," a review of government security audits conducted from 2012 to 2017 found, suggesting military agencies have rushed to computerize new weapons systems without prioritizing cybersecurity... "From 2012 to 2017, DOD testers routinely found mission critical cyber vulnerabilities in nearly all weapons systems that were under development," GAO researchers wrote. "Using relatively simple tools and techniques, testers were able to take control of these systems and largely operate undetected"...

## New Faults on Mt. Hood Could Trigger "The Big One" in Portland



from [Willamette Week](#)- Geologists have discovered new faults on Mount Hood that could trigger a highly destructive earthquake in the Portland area. The faults are separate from the Cascadia subduction zone, which for nearly a decade scientists have warned could cause a massive earthquake dubbed The Big One. There is an "extensive network of geologic faults extending north and south of Mt. Hood," that could "generate large earthquakes and may pose a significant hazard to surrounding communities, critical infrastructure, and even the city of Portland." Researchers predict the faults could trigger a 7.2 magnitude earthquake, larger than the Loma Prieta earthquake hit the San Francisco Bay Area in 1989...

## What to Do If a Parking Garage Damages Your Car



from [Jalopnik](#)- "One day when the valet pulled the car out, I noticed a fresh scrape along the right side of the front bumper. I called the valet back over and pointed it out to him. Predictably, he didn't know anything about it. He might not have even been the one who put it there. I asked if the manager was around. He said no, as it was a Saturday. I demanded a damage claim slip. The valet had no idea what I was talking about. Furious, I took multiple photos of the scrape, took down the name of the valet, and went on my way. There was nothing else I could do. Once I got to where I was headed, I called Steve Lehto, an attorney who specializes in consumer protection law and a friend of Jalopnik. Lehto gave me a few points of advice, should something like this ever happen to you..."

# News To Make You Furious

The calls are coming from INSIDE THE HOUSE!



We're told to fear unarmed migrants, to run in fear from ISIS and the Taliban, to cower from the dark skinned folks who want to steal elections that rightly belong to white folks. We're pushed to fear "the other" because "we" are under threat, and it's an extremely useful tactic to those vile enough to use it.

But the bombs, bats, and guns of domestic terrorism are a much bigger threat than the foreign-born bogeymen under our beds. They're worse not just because they kill more of us than the foreigners, but because they ARE "us". They're our own people, striking from inside our own camp at everything we (and they) theoretically believe in.

The semi-literate thugs of Proud Boys, Aryan Nation, and the KKK are real threats, but they aren't the worst. The worst are the ones who don't just espouse these diseased thoughts, but are in positions of power as well...

As the very ugly 2018 midterms are ending we found someone who is a stand-out motivator for madness. Even as your bile is bubbling for so many good reasons make room for one more... meet Matt Shea, current State Representative in Washington from the Spokane area and candidate for re-election. He's got a vision of the future he'd like to share... a roadmap to overthrow the government he's currently a member of and replace it with a violent Christianic theocracy. Here's some of the not-nearly-enough coverage of Matt, who let us remind you is the INCUMBENT in the race.

[Rep. Matt Shea Takes Credit, Criticism For Document Titled 'Biblical Basis For War'](#), Chad Sokol in Spokesman-Review, Oct 2018

We highly recommend this article as a primer on this fine patriot because it includes a link to a 13:07 video Shea produced 'explaining' his in-depth examination of Just War Theory. It did little, in our opinion, to cast him in a better light.

[Washington state lawmaker Matt Shea defends advocacy for 'Holy Army' as Spokane sheriff refers his writings to FBI.](#) Chad Sokol on SeattleTimes.com, Nov 2018

