

George Witt Service

Honda/Acura/Toyota/Lexus/Scion Specialists

Also servicing Subaru, Nissan, Mazda and Hyundai



Newsletter



“Great Service, Fair Prices”

September 2014

Page 1

Device Reduces Worry!

Whether it's a teen driver or an aging parent that you need to keep track of, our new “SmartLink” device can allow you to locate them when you get concerned.

When you're responsible for someone who drives and you worry when they're out of touch, wouldn't it be nice to check on them using your smart phone? You won't disturb them and they won't be distracted having to answer your call, since there is no call.

You can set up a “Geo Fence” and receive alerts

in the event an aging loved one gets confused and loses their bearings. You can even drive to where they are if it's necessary.

Most of us can recall past instances where it would have been great to have this technology.

This can also send alerts to our shop in the event of a dash warning light or a battery that's getting low.

Be one of the first to put this technology to work for you. SmartLink is designed to sell for \$349; we're looking for 3 people to test it. Pay only \$199 for the device, installed, then a monthly fee as low as \$9.99 and up, depending on the level of service you choose.

Can't Be Without Your Car?

We have a few loaner cars for regular customers who need transportation while we're servicing their car. If you need a big job done and really can't be without your car, ask if we have a loaner car available. We might be able to help.

In the meantime, if you see our cars

“It allows you to receive curfew and excessive speeding alerts and set boundaries with “Geo Fence”, which keeps track of where your teen or aging parent drives.”

driving around town, it's not us, it's one of our wonderful customers, enjoying a fabulous customer service benefit.

Get Taken For a Ride

We always ask if you need a ride when we take your appointment. If you do, we schedule that, so there's no waiting when you arrive. We have someone waiting to promptly drive you where you need to go. No sitting to wait for a shuttle, no tour of the city to drop off other people all over town. When your car is completed, we'll come right out to bring you back, as well. After all, we've

got your car, you've got the money, why wouldn't we come get you? ☺

Just to demonstrate the value of our maintenance, we'll chauffeur you in our 93 Accord with only 299,000 miles on it. Runs like a dream. We really do keep you going.

Well, Whaddya Know?

A lot, to drive a modern car, apparently. The 2013 Prius owner's manual has 20 pages on dash warning lights, alone. Maybe another reason to invest in a “SmartLink” device, so we can tell what that light means?

But, I digress. New designs have totally changed maintenance, as we knew it.

VSC or Vehicle Stability Control, uses braking applied to individual wheels to straighten a car that's slipping. It might also lightly apply the brakes when it rains, to warm up and dry off the brakes, so they're ready when needed. The point is, your car may be using the brakes even when you're not. This means brake pads can wear faster than ever. It's important to get brakes inspected regularly and not just think they're OK because you haven't driven hard. A brake inspection is the basic start of every scheduled maintenance, for good reason.

Avoid car trouble by getting your car checked by techs who fix it right. Call us for an appointment.



402.434.6961

www.georgewitt.com

Car Insurance Quiz

1. T or F—If you're in an accident that's not your fault, you generally have 2 choices. You can use the body shop chosen by their insurance company for free or use the shop of your choice but pay part of the bill.
2. T or F—After a certain number of years, you should consider canceling the collision and comprehensive insurance on your car.
3. T or F—Filing a claim for small things, like a cracked windshield, is the best way to get your money back from insurance companies.
4. T or F—The best car insurance to have is the one with the lowest rates.

Answers to Quiz

1. False—Tell them you don't like Door #1 or #2. You'll choose Door #3—you'll take it to the shop of your choosing and they'll pay the bill in full.

They'll sometimes tell you that you can't do that. Tell them to put it in writing. They'll soon give you the key to Door #3, because the State Department of Insurance prohibits Doors #1 and #2.

That is called "steering", meaning the insurance company is steering you to a shop and it's against the law. Getting bullied by an insurance company that's trying to reduce claims expense happens every day. This is why so many companies are advertising that "they'll take care of everything" if you wreck your car.

This may not be in your best interest, although it sounds attractive. We can recommend a good collision shop for you, just ask.

2. True—Pay off your car loan, then continue making payments into a savings account. When the account has enough money to cover the current book value of your car, and you're at a point where you're comfortable with the risk, cancel the collision and comprehensive insurance (not the liability, for Heaven's sake). Now, increase the payments into that savings account by the reduced premium. Insurance is to cover risks. If you can cover the risk yourself, you don't need insurance on it. You're on your way to being a fat cat. ☺
3. False—It's the best way to get your insurance premiums increased. Part of your rate is determined by your "risk" and risk is determined by past claims.

Do everything within your power to avoid filing a claim, even when it might be legitimate. A history of "no claims" puts you in a position of strength when buying insurance and can save you the most over the long term. If you have young drivers, this is critical, for inexperienced drivers are considered the highest risk.

4. False—The best car insurance company is the one that pays the claim when you need for them to do so.

Insurance rates are based on 3 things—overhead, interest rate and cost of claims. So, if their rates are super low, where do you think the reduced cost comes

from? You don't want it to be chintzey claims.

The best way to shop for good insurance is to take a collision shop owner to lunch and talk about which insurance companies make it the easiest to repair a car correctly. Then buy that insurance.

Oh, by the way, if you know the owner and staff well at any collision shop, you might want to take our safe driving class. ☺

Quick Hits for Savvy Car Owners

Prevent rock chips from rusting—Dab a little clear nail polish on them. Dries quick, it's an easy repair.

Wrinkled upholstery? Use a fabric steamer and a stiff-bristled brush to take wrinkles right out. Don't do this to leather.

"Dents" or dimples in the dashboard can sometimes be removed by heating the area with a hair dryer. A little heat can stretch the plastic back to its original shape. Be careful around the air bags, you don't want a big surprise.

Check your headlights and signals when stopped in traffic at night. Look at the reflection in the car in front of you. It can often reveal whether all your lights are working or not. Gotta look at something. ☺ Check rear lights when parking or backing up.

Won't come out of Park? Check the brake lights. If the brake lights don't work, the release mechanism for the shifter may not get the message that you're on the brake. Check the owner's manual, there's an over-ride procedure to get it out of Park anyway.

Food warmer for tailgate parties. Lift the hood and nestle your food right in with the engine. The heat will keep hot food hot for quite a while after the engine has been shut off. Need we remind you that paper burns, so don't put paper on the exhaust pipe? Cough, cough Really? ☺



Don't go nuts. The oak trees will be shedding nuts soon and the little animals will be stashing food for the winter, except the grasshopper, of course.

If you have pet food or bird seed in the garage, be sure it's in metal containers with secure lids. Any blankets or nesting material of any kind should also be secured in mouse-proof places. They're looking to move into your car and it can get messy if they do.

Deep subject. We've all seen the videos of cars pushing a wave of water driving through flooded areas on CNN. Also seen are pictures of cars stalled in the water. Yes, there's a connection. It only takes an ounce or two of water snorted into the engine air intake to break the engine. Go very slow in standing water and don't

drive through moving water that's outside the normal "gutter" of the road. We do sell engines, if you need one.

Benefits of plastic. Plastic fender liners around the wheels prevent water from invading wire harnesses and getting into the air intake. If one is missing from your car, it's a good idea to replace it. Same with splash shields under the car. They're not just for keeping out squirrels.

Don't light up. When the picture of the battery lights up, but your car still starts, it's not because you have battery troubles. The charging system has quit working. If you don't do something, you WILL have a dead battery. You can drive as long as the battery lasts, but the light is red for a reason. Look for a place to stop or get it in for repair. Even I wouldn't recognize a picture of an alternator. ☺



Warranty Worries?

If you have a new car covered by warranty that has a little issue and the service department tells you not to worry about it, it means everything is OK.

Not always. Sometimes "don't worry about it" means they don't care to mess with it. Any little quirk that's a "normal" thing for a new car is readily duplicated by driving another car on the lot. Make them show you another car that does the same thing. If it does, it's normal. If not, they can worry about fixing it.

Pay with your smart phone?

We just got the very latest in credit card processing technology. It even lets you pay your bill using your smart phone. New phones will soon have a little transmitter that enables this process to happen. You'll be reading about this in the next few weeks. As always, we're ready ahead of the pack. (Dumb phones can still pay check/cash or card). ☺



Quick Tips to Save Your Car

Don't squeeze in the last dollar's worth of gas. When it clicks off, you can round up to the next nickel. The system chokes on too much liquid. It requires some vapor to handle the venting of fumes properly. Avoid damage to your evaporative emission system.

Don't hammer the accelerator when the engine is cold. This can damage the insides of the engine. It only takes about a mile of driving to start to warm up. You wouldn't appreciate having to go full bore right out of bed. Neither does your car.

Don't leave it running when you go into a store to get coffee. Do that enough times and you'll be running—after your car when it drives away without you.

Back in to park whenever possible. Most accidents happen backing out. Pull straight out, it's easier.

Ideal Grocery Bacon

Some time ago, we gave away my favorite Applewood Smoked Bacon from Ideal Grocery. We've had a ton of feedback on how incredibly good that bacon was.

There may only be 12 slices to a pound, but 3 slices can flavor an entire casserole. They actually sell it *by the slice* because it's so thick. Yes, you can buy a few slices at a time. We're giving out recipes, too.

So, we now declare this to be Bacon Month! We're giving out Free Bacon from Ideal Grocery*.

***Spend \$100, get a half pound of bacon, spend \$200, get a pound!**

Special ends October 24th, may be combined with other offers.

3% Cash Discount Coupon

We are delighted to encourage those who strive to stick to a budget and pay cash for things. Simply present this coupon for a 3% discount when you pay by cash (U.S. currency) or paper check. Offer ends 10/31/14. No cash with red dye on it out of a bank bag, please.

"Better" Oil Change Service

\$43.50+ Tax
Parts & labor incl.

4-month, 4,000-mile oil

change. Ideal to use with oil monitor, get car checked 3 times a year. Same service as below, only the oil is different. Ends 10/31/14. For best protection, change the oil when the monitor reads "20% oil life remaining". **No extra charge for 0W20 oil.** We're very sorry that there is no "environmental fee or hazardous waste fee". I guess you only pay what we advertise.

"The Best"

Premium Synthetic Oil

\$75.50+ Tax
Parts & labor incl.

6-month, 8,000-mile oil

change. Includes oil filter and motor oil specially rated for long-life service. Includes a multi-point inspection by a Technician who knows your car. This oil protects your engine better than any other oil, regardless of drain interval. Up to 5 quarts, additional oil extra charge. Some trucks more. Regular price \$78.00. Ends 10/31/14. **Good only with Coupon** Go ahead, be rebellious and don't present coupon at time of order". Just spring it on us after we've done the bill. We can take it. The world has enough rules already.

George Witt Service 402-434-6961

We'll Wash Your Car FREE!

Simply spend \$50 or more with us and we'll give you a coupon for a FREE car wash at Randolph Car Wash, Lincoln's best car wash, 21st and N Sts. Good til 10/31/14. Keep hands and feet inside the car when going through the wash.

50 Wittbucks on Timing Belt

This coupon good for a cool 50 bucks off timing belt replacement on our already ridiculously low prices. Packages include water pump, drive belt replacement and a premium brand timing belt. Tensioners, idlers and oil seals are extra charge. We want to fix it right, the first time, *for the least possible money*. Besides, with the oil we're using, most oil seals will probably never leak, anyway.

Regular prices on most models: Civic \$495, 4 cyl. Accord, Camry \$595, 6-cylinder Toyota/Honda \$695.

Special offer ends 10/13/14. Offer void on cars that won't shut off.

Visit our website—You can make an appointment, ask a question or learn new things. New Odysseys can make a noise from the front going slowly over bumps. Low washer solvent level. No kidding.

Save money by avoiding machining of brake drums and rotors. Machining adds cost, shortens life of brake parts—direct from Mother Honda, herself.

Incorrect oil weight in a Prius can shut down the engine or reduce power. Yes, really.

These things are posted on our website. Fun way to learn about your car. You can also read past Newsletters, we have a section for that. georgewitt.com



7am-5pm Mon-Thurs & Fri 7am- 4pm

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402-434-6961

Newsletter for Owners of Select Asian Cars

George Witt Service, Inc. (Since 1995)
 "We help protect you and your transportation investment"
 3341 N. 35th St. (2 blocks north of Cornhusker)
 Lincoln NE 68504-1559

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 Lincoln NE



Free Refills!

When we service your car, if you'd like fluids checked or tires aired up in between services, we gladly do this for no charge and refills are free. Call us and set up a time. It's like an oil change without the oil change. And it's fast!

Warranty Service? Yes, we can perform all the necessary maintenance services required to keep your new car warranty in force. You get to choose who does this if you're paying for it. We're trained, we're approved.

No Time Wasted Here. In order to give you the best service, we pull the parts off the shelf or order them when you make your service appointment. They go into a basket with your name on it. When you arrive, the parts are ready and so are we. We give fast service you can depend on. Every time. Call us today for great service.

E-Mail: service@georgewitt.com



Dress for Success

We're collecting nice clothes for the Lincoln City Mission. The Mission helps homeless families get back on their feet. We want to provide some nice clothes that school children and adults can wear proudly to job interviews, to work or school.

Bring us 3 articles of nice clothing and we'll give you \$30 credit toward new wiper blades for your car.

Special offer ends October 15, 2014. Please don't wear the clothing to the shop. We don't give change or gift certificates if it's less money.

Inside: car insurance tips that can save you money.



What this light means and much more exciting action!