

MANAGER'S MINUTE

Let's start February with a great big HAPPY BIRTHDAY to my son, Jackson! I couldn't be more proud of the young man he has become and the amazing technician he continues to grow into every day. Watching his dedication, work ethic, and skills develop has truly been something special, and I'm grateful to share this journey with him.



Next up is something very close to our hearts — Brakes for Kids. For the entire months of February and March, when brake work is needed, customers will receive FREE brake pads or shoes, and 10% of all brake labor will be donated to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Through Repair Shop of Tomorrow, we proudly partner with repair shops across the country, combining all the funds raised each year to make an even bigger impact for St. Jude. St. Jude does truly incredible work, providing world-class care for children facing serious illnesses — and families never receive a bill for treatment, travel, housing, or food. Their focus is on helping kids live, and that's something we're honored to support. This is our third year participating in this fundraiser, and each year it continues to grow. We are incredibly proud to be part of an effort that not only keeps families safe on the road but also helps children and families in need. Thank you to our team and our customers for making this possible year after year.

And finally — Happy Valentine's Day! Whether you're celebrating with chocolates, flowers, or just a really good brake job, please know how much we appreciate our customers and our employees. We're fortunate to have such a dedicated team and such loyal customers — we truly feel the love every single day.

Sincerely,
Ted Heitbrink



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Thanks for the Kind Words!

"Easy to schedule an appointment, and I really like the inspection program. I feel assured that my vehicle is in good working condition. Thanks for a job well done and excellent service."
—Ronald K.

"Very friendly staff, easy booking, and speedy service. I told my neighbor about it before my appointments, and he called to get his done. After mine were completed, I let him know how pleased I am. I had the undercoating service done on my 2014 Escape and 2019 F150 Super Crew." —Jerry L.

6 FOODS THAT DIDN'T EXIST WHEN YOUR GRANDPARENTS WERE KIDS

BABY CARROTS - Today, baby carrots consistently outsell regular carrots in stores!

RANCH DRESSING - It's hard to imagine a time before it existed, but this creamy, tangy dressing didn't really take off until the 1980s.

CUP O' NOODLES - First sold as Cup O' Noodles they arrived in America in 1973. The packaging — pulling double duty as both container and serving bowl — has been found in pantries ever since.

CHICKEN NUGGETS - Now a fast-food and home-freezer staple, chicken nuggets were developed in the early 1960s by Cornell University food scientist Robert C. Baker.

COOL WHIP - While the sweet retro snack may seem timeless, the fluffy topping didn't appear until 1966.

CALIFORNIA ROLLS - Sushi has been a staple of Japanese cuisine for centuries, but the California roll — the avocado, crab, and cucumber roll turned inside out — is a 1970s invention that helped make sushi mainstream in North America.



Hail to the Sale

Bring this ad in during the month of February & Save!

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FEBRUARY 2026

Client Newsletter



BRAKES FOR KIDS

St. Jude patient
Josie, solid tumor.



*Together We Can
Make a Difference...
for the Rest of a Child's Life!*





BRAKES FOR KIDS

Dear Neighbor,
From February 1, 2026, through March 31, 2026, get FREE brake pads or shoes with any brake repair. Even better, 10% of the brake repair costs are donated to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital®.

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is leading the way the world understands, treats and defeats childhood cancer and other life-threatening diseases. And families never receive a bill from St. Jude for treatment, travel, housing or food – so they can focus on helping their child live. Their mission is clear: Finding cures. Saving children.® St. Jude cares for some of the world's sickest children regardless of their race, ethnicity, beliefs or ability to pay.

So, call or stop in today to schedule a FREE brake inspection. If you should need brakes, not only will you save a lot of money, you'll be helping children and families in need.

I look forward to seeing you soon,

Ted Heitbrink
Ted Heitbrink,
Owner, Chickasaw Garage

**BRAKES
FOR
KIDS**

*Together We Can
Make a Difference...
for the Rest of a
Child's Life!*

St. Jude patient Maizy blood cancer pictured with her family.



CLAM CHOWDER

This classic clam chowder is cream-based and calls for the traditional chowder ingredients: onion, celery, potatoes, diced carrots, cream, and clams. A little red wine vinegar is added before serving for extra flavor. Now's the time to make a big batch to celebrate Homemade Soup Day (2/4) and Clam Chowder Day (2/25)!

Prep Time: 20 mins * Cook Time: 25 mins * Total Time: 45 mins * Servings: 8

INGREDIENTS	
• 2 cups cubed potatoes	• 3/4 cup butter
• 1 cup diced carrots	• 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
• 1 cup diced celery	• 1 quart half-and-half cream
• 1 cup minced onion	• 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
• 3 (6.5 ounce) cans minced clams, drained with juice	• 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
reserved	• ground black pepper to taste
• water to cover	

DIRECTIONS

1. Place potatoes, carrots, celery, and onion into a large skillet; pour in clam juice and add enough water to cover. Cook and stir over medium-low heat until vegetables are tender.
2. Meanwhile, melt butter in a large, heavy saucepan over medium heat. Whisk in flour until smooth. Whisk in cream and stir constantly until thick and smooth. Stir in vegetable mixture with any juices until just heated through.
3. Stir in clams just before serving to prevent them from overcooking. When clams are heated through, stir in vinegar and season to taste with salt and pepper.

Nutrition Facts (per serving)- 501 Calories * 33g Fat * 28g Carbs * 24g Protein

<https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/13041/my-best-clam-chowder/>

HAPPY GROUNDHOG DAY!



- Q: What's the furriest side of a groundhog?
A: The outside.
- Q: Why is Punxsutawney Phil always cold?
A: Because he has many fans.
- Q: What do French groundhogs see on Feb. 2?
A: Their chateau.
- Q: Where does Punxsutawney Phil see his doctor?
A: The hog-spital.
- Q: How does the groundhog know when to look for his shadow?
A: They tell him to gopher it.

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Brake Basics

Brakes are the most important safety feature on your car. Here's some info to help make sure your brakes stay ready to keep you safe on the road. Car care brake basics involve regular inspections, maintaining brake fluid (checking level/color, flushing as needed), listening for noises (squealing, grinding), watching for warning lights, and adopting smooth driving habits to reduce wear on pads and rotors. Key components are pads, rotors, calipers, and fluid; replacing pads before they wear too thin prevents costlier rotor damage.

Key Components:

Brake Pads: Friction material that wears down and needs replacing.

Rotors: Metal discs the pads clamp onto; can warp or thin over time.

Brake Fluid: Hydraulic fluid that transfers force; absorbs moisture, needs flushing.

Calipers: Hold the pads and press them against the rotor.

Maintenance & Care Tips

Regular Inspections: Get brakes checked at least yearly, focusing on pad thickness and rotor condition.

Brake Fluid: Check fluid level (between MIN/MAX) and color (should be clear/gold, not dark); flush every 2-3 years.

Driving Habits: Avoid hard braking; ease off gas early, brake gently, and don't ride the pedal.

Listen & Feel: Address squealing (pads), grinding (metal-on-metal, pads gone), or pedal vibrations immediately.

Watch for Lights: A brake warning light (or ABS light) means immediate professional attention is needed.

Still have questions or concerns about your brakes? Give your local, trusted auto repair shop a call. They're ready, willing and able to help!

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