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Women vroom-vroom to automotive class

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March 10, 2011

By **LEE A. LITAS** Trend Columnist

Women and girls from Lake County and the North Shore jump-started their car-care knowledge at Lori Johnson's "Ladies, Start Your Engines" automotive class at Waukegan Tire on March 6. Covering fundamental topics from changing a tire to checking fluids to a basic understanding of how an engine works, Johnson, a 20-year automotive veteran, methodically walked participants through an easy-to-understand, two-hour hands-on class. It was one of two she taught that day to women ranging in age from 16 to 50.

"Women are taught that you need to be careful and you don't want to break things, but that's not how it is with a car. You can really play and get dirty, and that is what they really enjoy in the end," Johnson said.

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Automotive class for women: Maryann Scroggins from Beach Park, Lori Nerheim from Deerfield and Jill Nerheim from Wadsworth | Photo by Lee Litas ~ For Sun-Times Media

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Automotive class for women: Phyllis Seday Jurgens and her daughter Sophia Jurgens of Gurnee | Photo by Lee Litas ~ For Sun-Times Media

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Phyllis Seday Jurgens of Gurnee saw the fliers about the class and came out with her 23-year-old daughter, Sophia.

"This is an excellent program for all the girls coming out of high school. Empower them with knowledge," Jurgens said.

Lindsey Austin from Gurnee practiced changing a tire under Johnson's watchful eye.

"Everybody drives a car or rides in a car at some point in their life and if it breaks down, it's good to know at least something about it," Johnson said.

Upon completion of the class, participants received gift bags that included the Complete Car Care Guide, thread depth and tire pressure gauges, and coupons valued at more than \$30.

Waukegan Tire is an Askpatty.com-certified "female friendly business" with locations in Waukegan, Park City and Grayslake.

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Automotive class for women: Lindsey Austin from Gurnee practices changing a tire in Lori Johnson's Ladies, Start Your Engines automotive class at Waukegan Tire. | Photo by Lee Litas ~ For Sun-Times Media

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Automotive class for women: Tori and Lisa McBride from Beach Park | Photo by Lee Litas ~ For Sun-Times Media

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Automotive class for women: Andrea Nerheim of Gurnee checks the oil under instructor Lori Johnson's tutelage. | Photo by Lee Litas ~ For Sun-Times Media

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Automotive class for women: Instructor Lori Johnson explains how to change a flat tire to participants of various ages in her car care clinic held at Waukegan Tire. | Photos by Lee Litas~for Sun-Times Media

PHOTO GALLERY



• Trend Setting (3/10)

photos.

Waukegan Tire & Supply Co. Inc., 3444 W. Washington St., Park City; (847) 336-5305 or visit waukegantire.net, askpatty.com and ladiesstartyourengines.com

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