

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### Death Tax Repeal Comes up Short *But Senate Republicans Vow to Try Again*

Whether horseracing or legislation, it's tough to lose by a nose, which was the case last week for permanent repeal of the federal Estate Tax (a.k.a. "the death tax"). The US Senate voted 57-41 (three shy of the 60 needed) to reject a procedural move to limit debate and move ahead on a bill that easily passed the House by a 272 to 162 vote last April.

Supporters were buoyed by picking up four Democrats in favor of the measure – Sens. Baucus (MT), Lincoln (AR), Nelson (NE), and Nelson (FL). However, two Republicans,

Voinovich (OH) and Chafee (RI), joined Democrats in voting down the motion, which doomed the bill for the time being.

Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-TN) immediately said he would try again this year to get a vote on Estate Tax repeal. "This won't be the last time this year the Senate votes on this important issue," Frist promised, "Getting rid of the death tax is just too important an issue to give up so easily."

The odds of passing Estate Tax relief are better with a

compromise such as that offered by Sen. Jon Kyl (R-AZ) a leading advocate for repeal, which would exempt the first \$5 million (\$10 million per couple) from taxation. Estates over that amount would be taxed at the same rate as capital gains, currently at 15 percent. The wealthiest estates over \$30 million would be taxed at 30 percent.

"We're going to get it done," said Kyl, even though no action is likely in the near term.

NADA and AIADA have not given up the fight. "Hopefully, this will clear the air so we can intensify the effort to reach a compromise," said David Regan, NADA's vice president of legislative affairs. "We're going to keep the heat dialed up for a permanent fix," he added.

"AIADA will be in close contact with both Senate leadership and key offices during the discussions," said a spokesman

### BOBBY MITCHELL HALL OF FAME CLASSIC

#### Support the Hall of Fame Classic, July 8 & 9

*Sponsorships Still Available, Auction Items Needed*



Bobby Mitchell wants dealers to join him for this year's Classic.

Bobby Mitchell joined dealers at the recent WANADA Open. Now he wants dealers to join him at the *Bobby Mitchell/Toyota Hall of Fame Classic* sponsored by Washington Area Auto Dealers, at Lansdowne Resort on July 8 & 9.

Where else can you golf, dine and visit with over 40 Hall of Fame sports legends and feel even better about contributing to a great cause.

With WANADA as its primary spon-

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## ROTARY UPDATE

## More Rotary Clubs Donate to WANADA Tech Training Program: Archie Avedisian, WANADA Honored



**From left: Friendship Heights Rotary Club President Allan Roberts presents check to WANADA's Bill Belew; Washington Rotary Club President Andy Cook, Washington Rotary Club Foundation President Tim Hansen and Belew; and Rotary District Governor for 2007-2008, Rich Carson, presents an award plaque to Archie Avedisian at the Friendship Heights Rotary meeting, for "Service Above Self."**

The Washington Rotary Club and the Friendship Heights Rotary Club became the latest in a growing list of Rotary Clubs in the region to donate funds to WANADA's Apprentice Training Program. Donations of \$2,000 each from the Washington and Friendship Heights Clubs to help buy tools for trainees brings the number of District 7620 Rotary clubs supporting the WANADA program to 14, with more expected to add their support this summer.

In recognition of the success of the WANADA Automobile Dealer Education Institute's highly successful training program, Rotary District Governor Raymond Raedy recently presented an award plaque to WANADA's Archie Avedisian, for his extraordinary efforts on behalf of Rotary and the apprentice technicians. A longtime Rotarian, Avedisian serves as the Rotary District Vocational Chairman.

### NEWS NOTES

#### John Kuo Appointed MD MVA Administrator

Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. appointed John T. Kuo Administrator of the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) on May 16, 2006. Mr. Kuo previously served as a senior manager with the MVA for 11 years. In October 2003, he was promoted to the role of Chief Operating Officer, overseeing the daily operations of the agency's 1,700 employees and its 45 branch and testing facilities located throughout the state. Kuo served as MVA's Associate Administrator for Operations as well as Associate Administrator for Administrative Services before he was appointed

Chief Operating Officer.

Kuo replaces David H. Hugel, who was recently appointed by US Secretary of Transportation Norman Y. Mineta to be Deputy Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, an agency responsible for regulating the safety of trucks and buses on the nation's highways.

#### BBB Reports Auto Warranty Complaints Down Over 25 Years

The Better Business Bureau recently reported that it handled 37,862 auto warranty complaints

against manufacturers last year, with 80 percent reaching a settlement or arbitration relief. This is down from 244,300 reported in 1984, according to the BBB. Reviewing the past 25 years, BBB AUTO LINE said it has assisted 1.8 million vehicle owners in resolving warranty claims.

The BBB credited the sharp decline in annual caseload over the past 25 years to the efforts of the participating auto companies to better customer satisfaction, as well as vastly improved quality of automobiles on the market today.

## REGULATORY UPDATE

## OSHA Issues New Workplace Guides on First-Aid That Impact Dealers

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued a new publication, *Best Practices Guide: Fundamentals of a Workplace First-Aid Program*. The free guide identifies key elements of successful first-aid programs, including how to plan and conduct safe and effective first-aid training. OSHA's medical service and first-aid rule requires that *dealerships* ensure the availability of medical personnel for consultation on matters of workplace health, physician-approved first-aid kits and eyewash facilities in areas where corrosive materials, such as battery acid, are used.

The medical service and first-aid standard also requires dealerships not located within four minutes of a medical facility to designate employees as responders to workplace emergency situations. These responders must be trained in basic first aid. Additionally, OSHA's blood-borne pathogens rule expands the responsibilities of dealerships and their designated responders.

Publication of OSHA's guide coincides with greater concern about cases of septic shock being reported in association with contaminated "flood cars" from last year's hurricane zones, which may have been infested with septic toxins. These toxins could remain in the vehicle for some time, posing a health risk to technicians.

To download a copy of the guide, go to [www.osha.gov/SLTC/medicalfirstaid/](http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/medicalfirstaid/). Questions? Contact NADA Regulatory Affairs at [regulatoryaffairs@nada.org](mailto:regulatoryaffairs@nada.org) or (703) 821-7040.

### School's Out:

## Know Your Teen Driving Rules

Dealerships that hire teens for the summer (or anytime) are reminded of the 1998 "Drive for Teen Employment Act," which sets a minimum age of 17 for any on-the-job driving on public roadways. On-the-job driving by employees 18 and older is not regulated. And 16-year-olds may not drive on public roads, but may drive on dealership property.

According to the Department of Labor, 17-year-olds may drive on public roadways as part of their employment **only if all of the following requirements are met:**

- The driving is limited to daylight hours;
- They hold a driver's license valid for the type of driving involved in the job performed;
- They have successfully completed a state approved driver education course and have no record of *any* moving violation at the time of hire;
- The automobile or truck is equipped with a seat belt for the driver and any passengers and the employer has instructed the youth that the seat belts must be used when driving the vehicle;
- The automobile or truck does not exceed 6,000 pounds gross vehicle weight (GVW).

### **The driving may not involve:**

- Towing;
- Route deliveries or sales;
- Transportation for hire of property, goods, or passengers;
- Urgent, time-sensitive deliveries;
- Transporting more than three passengers, including employees of the employer;
- Driving beyond a 30-mile radius from the youth's place of employment;
- More than two trips away from the primary place of employment in any single day to deliver the employer's goods to a customer;
- More than two trips away from the primary place of employment in any single day to transport passengers;
- Such driving is only occasional and incidental to the 17-year-old's employment. This means that the youth may spend no more than one-third of the work time in any workday and no more than 20 percent of use work time in any work week driving.

The above requirements apply whether the youngster is driving a personal or employer-owned vehicle. Employers can guard against unwitting violations of the new requirements by securing documentation from 17-year-old employees who drive as part of their job. Such documentation would include evidence of the employee's age, completion of a driver education course, clean driving record and appropriate state driver's license.

**Penalties are significant!** A violation of these requirements can result in a fine of up to \$10,000. For more information go to the DOL website, <http://www.dot.gov/esa/regs/compliance/whd/wlidfs34.htm>.

## REMINDERS



### Soap Box Derby Racers Head for the Hill This Saturday, June 17

In an election year, Capitol Hill is the scene of many a hotly contested race. But none is more fiercely competitive than the one that takes center stage this Saturday, June 17: the 65th running of the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby. Come and pick your favorite from among 50 or more kids, 8 to 17 years old, as they silently race down a quarter mile course on Constitution Avenue in their motorless, hand-built, wildly decorated racers. As the proud *lead* sponsor of this all-American event for the past 25 years, WANADA encourages its members and friends to join the patrons and participants in cheering on these enterprising young roadsters. It's family fun and a great spectator sport on a summer day in the shadow of the US Capitol. Don't miss it!

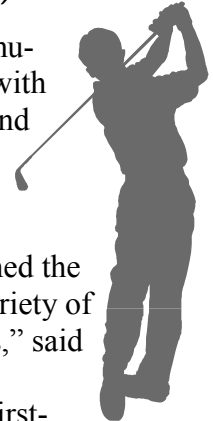
For more information about the race or sponsorships, visit the website, [www.dcssoapboxderby.org](http://www.dcssoapboxderby.org) or contact Tom Mann at WANADA, (202) 237-7200.

### Bobby Mitchell Hall of Fame Classic *(Continued from page 1)*

sor for the past five years, and strong support from Washington's franchised dealer community, the Classic has raised nearly \$2.5 million for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society with a record breaking \$680,000 raised last year. For 2006, former Redskin Bobby Mitchell and Co-Chairs Tamara Darvish of DARCARS and Todd Heavner of Enterprise Rent-A-Car are aiming to break the \$1 million mark to fight these dreaded blood diseases. But they need your help!

The Classic has become a signature event for Washington Area dealers, and has "opened the door for participants to be involved in the tournament weekend in a big way through a variety of special opportunities, to include personally interfacing with the NFL/NBA sports legends," said Darvish.

A range of sponsorships at various levels are still available and will be awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis. Also requested are auction items, ranging from gift certificates and tickets to sports events/concerts to electronic and computer equipment. For more information on participation and sponsorship opportunities for this year's Hall of Fame Classic, contact Tamara Darvish at (301) 622-0300. Please make your commitment today!



### **Final Reminder! F&I Professional Certification Program June 22, 2006**

Based on the interest and success of our first F&I Professional Certification programs held in March, MADA and WANADA are again teaming up for another program on June 22, 2006 at the BWI Airport Marriott in Baltimore, Maryland. For more information, see the registration form enclosed with this WANADA Bulletin, or call Ruby Gerald at WANADA, (202) 237-7200.

### Flag Day Trivia for Today, June 14th...

*How many British bullets tore through the flag flying over Fort McHenry during the War of 1812 bombardment that inspired Francis Scott Key to write the Star-Spangled Banner?*

—Answer...11 (there were 13 stars in the blue field)

### Enclosure

WANADA F&I Professional Certification Program letter & registration form