

Pep Boys Opens First Speed Shop in L.A.

The Pep Boys - Manny, Moe & Jack recently opened its first dedicated Speed Shop in downtown Los Angeles. Combining the old-time feel of traditional speed shops with the latest in performance products and accessories, the location is designed to serve southern California auto enthusiasts with all they need in performance for their rides, from muscle cars and hot rods to sport compacts and imports to trucks and off roaders.

To create this new Speed Shop, Pep Boys enhanced its larger-than-average store on Washington Boulevard in Los Angeles with performance-related products that can usually only be found online or in independent specialty shops.

Run by Speed Shop professionals who know their performance products, the location has top-notch items by expert brands like Edelbrock, K&N and Brembo, as well as, chrome and fashion accessories and lighting;

The Speed Shop has its own real estate within the Washington Boulevard store, complete with a lounge area designed as a place for auto enthusiasts to meet, network and swap stories. It also features easy-to-navigate displays of hundreds of top-name performance products, a station for Internet access and classic speed shop neon and metal signs that advertise some of the best featured brands.

As part of the Washington Boulevard Pep Boys, the Speed Shop also gives customers the ability to have nearly all of their high-performance parts installed professionally on site in one of the location's 22 service bays. The Pep Boys Speed Shop is located at 1200 West Washington Boulevard in Los Angeles.

Source: *Styling & Performance*

SBA Launches Program to Get Interest Free Hardship Loans!

Beginning on June 15, the U.S. Small Business Administration will provide a 100% guarantee on "America's Recovery Capital" (ARC) loans, a \$255 million program established under the Recovery Act of 2009. The program will provide interest-free, deferred-payment loans of up to \$35,000 to established for-profit small businesses that need short-term help to make their principal and interest payments on existing qualifying debt. Repayment of the loan principal begins 12 months after the final disbursement and extends over a 5-year period.

Examples of qualifying loans may include credit card obligations, capital leases and notes payable to vendors/suppliers. Types of financial hardship include:

- Loss/reduction of customer base
- Increase in cost of doing business
- Loss/reduction of working capital and/or loss/reduction of short-term credit facilities
- Inability to restructure existing debts due to credit restrictions
- Loss/reduction of employees (intellectual capital)
- Loss/reduction of major suppliers (major suppliers out of business)

The program will last until September 2010 or until the \$255 million has been spent, whichever comes first. Borrowers whose loans are already

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We Salute Our Troops!

Camp Patriot Fishing with Hereos

Written by Will Jordan

"Everybody needs... places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul." - John Muir

One of the beautiful aspects of fly fishing lies in its ability to immerse a person in the present. An incredible transcendence occurs when the stresses of the day fade into nothing and the beauty of the moment fills all consciousness. Standing knee deep in a mountain stream with a fly rod in hand tends to foster such an experience.

A few years ago, while fly fishing on a river in Northwest Montana, a young man experienced a moment that has changed his life and those of many others. That man was Micah Clark and that moment was the spark which fueled Camp Patriot. The realization that many of his fellow servicemen and women could benefit from exposure to the great outdoors was Micah's driving force. Since 2006 Micah has been facilitating outdoor trips for disabled veterans through Camp Patriot, a nonprofit organization based in Libby, MT seeking to, "Give back to those who have given."

And given they have. In the best of situations the servicemen and women of the United States return from the rigors of war with a new outlook of and appreciation for life and liberty; those are the fortunate

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