

# Is your care safe to drive?

It's a Saturday afternoon, and you need to go to the store, but your husband is washing your car, so you ask your son to drive you to the store.

When you get home it feels as if you've been on a boat and you are seasick. You inform your husband that, "he needs to take 'Juniors' car to the garage, because it sways, leans going around turns, bounces up and down and just feels awful. It just isn't safe to drive. Your son's comment is "it feels fine to me."

Over the years I've had customers who don't understand how important shock absorbers are on their vehicle. Most people think shocks hold the vehicle up. The job of holding the vehicle up is the coil springs, or leaf springs. Without shocks, when you go over bumps or dips in the road, the vehicle will start to bounce up and down and will keep on doing it until you stop the vehicle.

That's where the shocks come into play. They control the bouncing of the springs. I have seen handling problems and tire wear, yes even tire wear, due to back shock absorbers.

So how does it cause tire wear you ask? If the tires can't keep a good grip on the road surface due to the bouncing, they will start to feather or get worn spots on the tread. Most cars today have what is called a strut suspension. They perform the same function as shocks, but the vehicles springs are mounted on the strut itself.

So what are signs of worn shocks? A bouncing ride, leaning when going through a curve,

oil leaking from the shock or a banging noise due to worn shock mounting bushings.

Remember, a smooth ride is a safe ride.

Call Dave's Auto Service, Inc. at 610-367-1844, located at 925 W. Phila. Avenue, Boyertown for fast and reliable service.