

# Portland Observer Auto Review

News and reviews on new motor vehicles



Tested Vehicle information: 2.5L Horizontally-Opposed 4-Cyl Engine; Lineartronic Continuously Variable transmission with 6-speed manual mode; 22 city mpg, 29 highway mpg, MSRP \$24,595, Tested MSRP \$28,298.

## 2010 Subaru Outback 2.5i Premium / ADD

BY KATHLEEN CARR

The Subaru Premium-trimmed 2.5i adds a 10-way power adjustable driver's seat, 17-inch alloy wheels, a leather steering wheel, auto up/down driver's window and fog lights, and raises the sticker price to \$24,595. Optional fare includes the Lineartronic CVT, all-weather package, a 440-watt Harman Kardon stereo and a sunroof. The Outback's standard all-wheel drive, rugged nature and general outdoorsy vibe

fit right in with typical active lifestyles and everyday commuting.

The 2.5i trims are powered by a 2.5-liter boxer four rated at 170 horsepower at 5600 rpm and 170 lb-ft of torque at 4000 rpm. The 2.5i is outfitted with an all-new 6-speed manual transmission from the factory. The tested vehicle came equipped with the Subaru's Lineartronic CVT, which selects any ratio between its highest and lowest available ratios at any time and adds \$1000. This means a more efficient use of power and better fuel economy. In the past, manual gearboxes got better mileage than their automatic counterparts, but in the Outback the 6-speed delivers 19 mpg city/27 mpg

highway, while the CVT posts 22 mpg/29 mpg

The design of the unibody shell and the low, horizontally-opposed engine keep the center of gravity low, minimizing side-to-side weight transfer when cornering. Springs and shocks are matched and tuned moderately firmly for good control with minimal body roll when cornering, despite the considerable 8.7 inches of ground clearance, which allows easy and safe dirt-road driving and protection from road debris that might surprisingly appear.

The base 2.5i comes standard with 16-inch steel wheels, automatic headlights, adjustable roof rails and

cross bars, full power accessories, cruise control, a tilt-and-telescoping steering column, height-adjustable driver seat and a four-speaker stereo with CD player and an auxiliary audio jack. The 2.5i Premium adds 17-inch alloy wheels, fog lights, rear privacy glass, eight-way power driver seat (with power lumbar) and a leather-wrapped steering wheel. Optional on the Premium is an All-Weather package that adds heated side mirrors, a windshield wiper de-icer and heated front seats. The optional Harman Kardon stereo includes nine speakers, a six-CD changer and Bluetooth phone and audio connectivity

The Outback will catch you off guard every time you step out of the driver seat, because of its high ground clearance, while driving it, you feel a relatively low center of gravity which adds to the feeling of a low ground vehicle. The Outback's improved interior space and comfort, also help to improve both ride and handling qualities. It may have a station wagon look however the smooth, comfortable and great handling describes the Outback's on-road behavior. The outback is truly a versatile performer while in town and off road while providing spacious cargo room. I feel like I was driving a SUV.

## In Loving Memory Denell Ann Tanner Mullen

This is the third year since Denell has left us to go home to our Lord. She passed away on June 28, 2007 at home with her girls and husband after a 6 year battle with Hodgkin's lymphoma cancer.

She was a fighter and went through three different kemos for almost four years. She never complained one time because she never wanted her family to worry. As I said, she was always thinking of others before herself.

She is terribly missed by all of her children; her husband Doug; her mom Sally Tanner; her sisters, Shella, Debra Lee, Cedra; her brothers, Darreal and Ceodus; all her aunts; and many other family members and many friends.

All who knew Denell knew she was a great woman and the great mother, sister and wife any and every man wishes for. She would be 50 years old this year.

We are thankful for the lord blessing us with her for a very short time of 48 years when she passed. We all know the Lord takes the good young and we all are sure he had a bigger plan for Denell.

Let us never forget how great a woman she was. We love you Denell and miss you so much baby doll.



## Fireworks at Fort Vancouver

continued ▲ from page

In order to make the new event economically sustainable, the Fort Vancouver National Trust is charg-

ing a nominal admission fee to those ages 13 and older. Children ages 12 and under are free. Save \$2 per ticket by purchasing tickets online through midnight on July 3—and

pay only \$5.

Tickets are available to purchase online at FortVan.org. Tickets purchased at the gate on July 4 will be \$7 for ages 13 and above.



### Do I need a counselor?

*We all have life stressors, especially in today's complex world. Balancing your home, work, and spiritual life can be overwhelming.*

*Internal coping skills can get us through a crisis or change; however, we may not have the resources to overcome in the most effective way.*

*Deciding if counseling is right for you can be a tough decision. It may initially feel like admitting failure.*

*Actually choosing counseling can be the key to making you and your family's dreams a reality. Counseling is like adding tools to your toolbox. We can help you find better ways to overcome life's problems.*

#### Services include:

- Counseling Center Design and Development
- Finding Solutions to Life's Problems
- Substance Abuse Education
- Stress Management
- Grief Counseling
- Phobias
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Healing from Past Hurts

### Hodge Comprehensive Counseling Service

Providing cognitive behavioral services from a Biblical perspective with sound psychological principles.

- Life Change Specialist
- Licensed Pastoral Counselor
- Professional Trainer
- Over 20 years of addressing Life Stressors



Dr. H. L. Hodge, Ph. D.  
Portland Congress Center  
1001 SW Fifth Ave. Ste 1100  
Portland, OR 97204

(503) 220-1790

hodgehpsks@msn.com  
www.hodgecounseling.com

~by Appointment Only~