

AS SEEN IN



NOV. 2011

# AWARDS

## CAR CARE COUNCIL Women's Board

### Female Service Shop Owner of the Year

Fordin is the fourth generation and the first female owner/operator of her family's automotive repair business, Great Bear Auto Shop, in Flushing, NY, which has been in the same location since 1933.

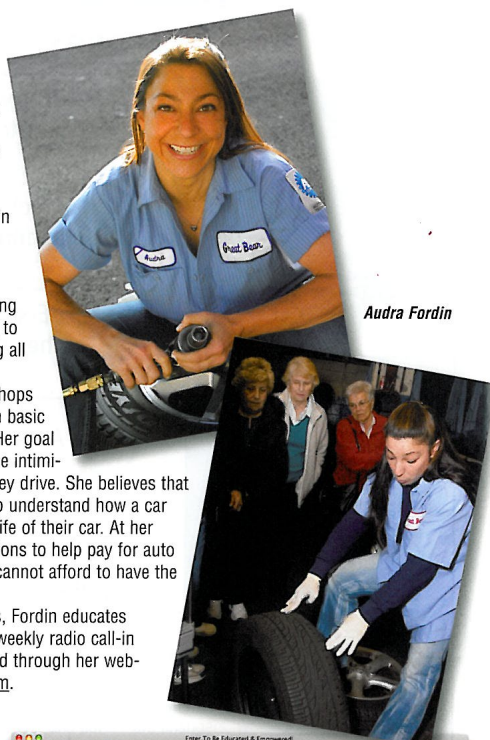
Fordin has been in the auto repair industry all of her life – close to 30 years. While growing up, she spent weekends going to the shop with her dad, learning all aspects of automotive repair.

Fordin holds monthly workshops to educate women and men on basic auto repair and maintenance. Her goal is to empower women to not be intimidated by the "machine" that they drive. She believes that every woman should be able to understand how a car runs and how to maintain the life of their car. At her workshops, she collects donations to help pay for auto repairs on women's cars who cannot afford to have the work done.

In addition to her workshops, Fordin educates women on car care through a weekly radio call-in show called "The Auto Lab" and through her website, [www.womenautoknow.com](http://www.womenautoknow.com).

Fordin was recognized as a "Rising Star in Queens" in 2011 for her workshops, as well as a "Distinguished Citizen of Queens" by the local council members. Her repair shop was recently honored by New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg as the 2011 New York City Small Business of the Year for all her efforts to educate and empower women.

Fordin attended Arizona State University and is ASE certified, Tech certified, NYS Inspection certified and ICAR trained.



Audra Fordin

