

## E85 fuel station opens in Waxhaw

By Marty Minchin

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A Waxhaw gas station is one of the first in the area to offer BP's new E85 fuel, which is touted as a possible large-scale replacement for gasoline.

If you're looking for E85 in Charlotte, its also sold at R&K Express-BP on Pence Road. Several stations in Rock Hill and Fort Mill also sell the alternative fuel.

E85 is made of 85 percent ethanol, an alcohol fuel made by fermenting plant-based sugars, and 15 percent gasoline. It runs about 20 cents cheaper than gasoline, which offsets the up to 25 percent decrease in fuel economy you get with flexible-vehicles' that run on E85.

Ethanol often is made from corn, but it also can be made from cellulosic materials such as grass, wood, crop residue and old newspapers.

Olin "Bo" Furr, owner of Monroe Oil, said they decided to offer E85 at the new Fill Good BP on Cuthbertson Road in Waxhaw because the company believes it will be successful in this part of Union County, which has a higher concentration of flexible-fuel vehicles.

The E85 pump is part of Centralina Clean Fuels Coalition's Carolina Blue Skies Project, which is administering \$2 million from the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to expand the use of alternative fuel vehicles and refueling infrastructures across the Carolinas.

The Blue Skies Project is partnering with five groups, including Duke Energy and Time Warner Cable, but Monroe Oil is the only partner using the money to install an E85 pump.

You may have seen flexible-fuel vehicles on the road - they often are distinguishable by yellow gas caps and a logo on the back.

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American automakers now produce about 40 styles of flexible-fuel vehicles, including the Chevrolet Impala LSCh, the Chevrolet Suburban 1500 4WD and the Dodge Ram 1500 4WD.

For more information, visit [www.cleanfuels.com](http://www.cleanfuels.com).

## **New location**

Music Matters, one of the area's largest music schools, is moving to Matthews at the end of October.

The five-year-old school has been in a business park in Stallings.

Owner Curtis Wingfield said he's moving because of plans for the Monroe Bypass to come through Stallings and to be near Guitar Center, a large music retailer that doesn't offer lessons.

The new location will be The Crossing at Matthews shopping center at 10046 E. Independence Blvd.

The Matthews location will be closer to Music Matters' client base as well.

"It's a place we can grow a lot easier," Wingfield said.

Music Matters has 14 teachers and 150-200 students.

Lessons are offered in half-hour increments in most instruments, although Wingfield said "rock band" instruments like bass guitar, guitar, keyboard and vocals are especially popular.

Students can take lessons on a regular schedule or at different times if that's more convenient, Wingfield said. Students also can show off what they've learned in voluntary concerts throughout the year.

For more information, call (704) 708-8961 or visit [www.musicmatterscharlotte.com](http://www.musicmatterscharlotte.com).

## **Satellite location**

Renew Natural Weight Loss has opened a satellite location in South Park.

The firm helps clients develop a healthy and sustainable weight loss plan that focuses on burning fat in a natural way.

Clients are encouraged to eat foods that maintain a healthy metabolism so they won't get hungry.

Want to learn more? Drop by an open house, 5 p.m.-7 p.m. on Oct. 26 at the South Park, 6000 Fairview Road, Suite 1200.

Renew Natural Weight Loss also has an office on Sam Newell Road. Contact them at (704) 708-4437 or visit [renewweightloss.com](http://renewweightloss.com).

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