

# Insurance Institute: Verano Top Safety Pick

The Buick Verano compact luxury sedan has received a 5-star Overall Vehicle Score for safety from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Earlier this year, Verano was named a 2012 Top Safety Pick by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS).

Since the beginning of the 2012 model year, every Buick passenger car tested has received these highest possible ratings from both NHTSA and IIHS.

"New car customers leaving a Buick dealership can drive away knowing they are in a vehicle with superior crash protection," said Gay Kent, GM general director of Vehicle Safety.

"The brand's long-running record of five-star overall vehicle scores and Top Safety Picks is a testament to our commitment to exceptional vehicle crash performance."

In achieving the 5-Star Overall Vehicle Score, the Verano was tested under NHTSA's revised New Car Assessment Program. The overall score is based on frontal and side crash tests in addition to evaluation for rollover resistance.

Under the rating system, performances in three test segments are combined mathematically into an "Overall Vehicle Score."

U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood said that safety is a major factor for consumers shopping for a new or used vehicle.

"For American car buyers," he said, "our five-star safety ratings serve as one of the most trusted and reliable resources to help them select the safest vehicles in the marketplace."

Every year, the NHTSA tests vehicles with the highest sales

volumes and compares them, using star ratings to highlight which vehicles go above and beyond what is federally required, LaHood said.

Under the department's updated ratings program - More Stars, Safer Cars - one star represents the lowest score and five the highest. Starting with model year 2011, NHTSA updated its program, adding an overall rating, a new pole test for side crashes and improved crash test dummies, including small-statured female versions.

The program encourages automakers to improve crash protection and develop even safer vehicles in order to achieve a coveted government five-star rating, LaHood said.

"For more than 30 years, the NHTSA's five-star safety ratings program has not only served as a

guide for safety-conscious consumers, it has encouraged automakers to strive for ever-greater improvements with each succeeding model years," said NHTSA administrator David Strickland.

"The selection of model year 2013 vehicles represents a major milestone for the revamped program, ensuring that our test again covers approximately 85 percent of the new model year vehicles available for sale in the U.S."

The Verano has 10 standard air bags and the security of OnStar. In the event of a rollover crash, sensors in the vehicle deploy standard head curtain air bags prior to impact and leave them inflated for a longer period to provide additional protection.

Verano's advanced body structure comprises more than 60 per-



The 2013 Buick Verano is shown in a NHTSA frontal collision test, one of three tests required to gain a 5-star Overall Vehicle Score rating.

cent high-strength steel that provides a protective safety cage.

Other safety measures include standard four-wheel disc brakes with ABS, panic brake override, StabiliTrak electronic stability control, and a collapsible pedal

system that reduces the risk of leg injury.

Every 2013 Verano comes with a standard Rear Vision Camera that displays a view from the car's rear bumper whenever the transmission is in reverse.

## Donate at Club GM In Pontiac, Warren

by Jennifer Knightstep

As the holiday season kicks off, Club GM (formerly the GM Men's Club) is asking for help with two of their favorite causes, and has some help to offer in return.

From now until Dec. 10, Club GM is collecting new hats, mittens, gloves, boots, socks, and scarves in adult and children's sizes. The warm clothing will be donated to local area shelters.

Donations can be made at any of Club GM's three stores, at the Vehicle Engineering Center and the GM Design Center in Warren, and the GM Powertrain Global Headquarters in Pontiac.

In addition, Club GM is selling holiday cards to support Meals on Wheels. The cards cost only \$5, and all of the proceeds go toward feeding homebound seniors. Cards can be purchased at the GM Stores, or by contacting Club GM Chairperson Ardin Hammel, at 586-754-6547.

In return, Club GM is offering clever, unique suggestions for holiday gift-giving.

For the Corvette lover on your list, there's a limited-edition Corvette Sixty Years book, a complete history of the iconic sports car. The book includes rare and never-before-seen photos from the GM Media Archive, covering all things Corvette, from Harley Earl's concept Corvette, which debuted at the 1952 Motorama, to the next-generation Corvette, to be unveiled in January.

Club GM has another gift-giving suggestion, one that's sure to delight fans of any of GM's divisions - two wall clocks, one neon, the other non-neon, featuring one of 15 different GM designs in six colors.

For more information on the Corvette book or the clocks, or to purchase either one at a discounted price, call Katie Murphy at 586-441-8670.

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