

Oakland Tech News

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Balance Training For a Better You

The Auburn Hills Parks & Recreation Department is offering balance training sessions as one of its adult fitness programs.

Instructor Jo Schirtzinger leads a 30-minute workout designed to build bone, and strengthen core, pelvic and leg muscles while improving posture and balance.

Participants rotate every 30 to 45 seconds, using equipment such as stability balls, balance boards and stretch bands. Participants wear tennis shoes and loose, comfortable clothing.

Session I is running Mondays to May 6. Session II will be May 13 to June 17.



Jeff Jocsak showed off the new Stingray at the recent SAE Congress.

GM's New Gen-5 Engine Perks Up Stingray, Silverado and Sierra

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tem where fuel is directly injected into the cylinder, "you get charge-cooling benefits," Jocsak said.

The fuel evaporates, producing lower engine temperatures, which then allows engineers to use higher compression ratios, Jocsak said. The end result is that it increases horsepower. In this case, the gen-5 engine produces 450 hp versus the 430 hp produced by the gen-4 engine.

"We've also been able to pick up low-end torque. This is good because that's what helps 'launch' the vehicle when starting it up. And this technology has helped us with fuel economy as well."

Jocsak said what was nice about developing the gen-5 engine for the new Corvette Stingray is that now GM was able to use the technology in its high-volume sales vehicles such as the Silverado and the Sierra.

"This gen-5 engine is an improvement all around in terms of efficiency," Jocsak said. "And it's been able to maintain its relatively small size and that's what sets it apart from other engines in other pickup trucks of similar size. It's certainly smaller than the engine

used in Toyota's truck in the same category."

When asked where GM goes next, in terms of engine technology, Jocsak said, "We will continue to look for more efficiencies."

He added that improvements to the Corvette went beyond a new and better engine.

"We, of course, improved the engine for the 2014 Corvette Stingray," Jocsak said. "But we also improved things like the interior of the vehicle."

So the new Corvette has a new and better-designed steering wheel as well as new and improved seats.

"By improving these details, we make the Corvette a better car," Jocsak said. "But when you think about it, it makes sense. These are the parts of the car that people actually touch and interact with. By making them better, it makes the driving experience better."

Jocsak said while people have shown some interest in the new gen-5 engine GM has on display at the SAE Congress, their real interest seems to be in the actual Corvette they are showing.

"This booth gives people a chance to get close to the new Stingray," Jocsak said.

Dodge Teams with Syfy for TV Show

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In mid-May, coinciding with the first appearance of the Dodge Chargers in the TV program, Dodge will debut a new co-branded television spot and a social gaming experience and contest.

Set in the near future, "Defiance" introduces an exotically transformed planet Earth, its landscapes permanently altered following the sudden - and tumultuous - arrival of seven unique alien races.

In this somewhat unknown and unpredictable landscape, the richly diverse, newly-formed civilization of humans and aliens must learn to coexist peacefully. Each week, viewers will follow an immersive character drama set in the boomtown of Defiance, which sits atop the ruins of St. Louis, while in the game, players will adventure in the new frontier

of the San Francisco Bay area. The dramatic tapestry of the series and the intense action of the game will exist in a single universe where their respective narratives will inform one another and evolve together into one overall story.

The series stars Grant Bowler, Julie Benz, Stephanie Leonidas, Tony Curran, Jaime Murray, Graham Greene and Mia Kirshner. It is executive produced by Kevin Murphy (Desperate Housewives, Caprica, Hellcats) and Michael Taylor (Battestar Galactica). Kevin Murphy serves as showrunner. Scott Stewart (Legion, Priest) directed the pilot; Michael Nankin will serve as director/producer on the series. Defiance is produced by Universal Cable Productions. The game was named "Best MMORPG" from GameSpy at the June 2012 E3 conference.

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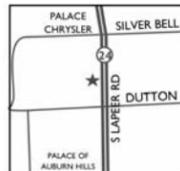
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