

GM Design Staff Kicks Off 2013 Dream Cruise

The 2013 Woodward Dream Cruise got an early start with GM's "Design on Woodward" car show at the corner of 13 Mile and Woodward in Royal Oak last Wednesday.

GM assistant manager of Design Communications Andrea Lucido said that "Design on Woodward" is an employee event and that more than 120 vehicles were on display there.

"This is the fourth year the event has been held in conjunction with the Dream Cruise," Lucido said. "GM employees are very proud of their cars and like to show them off to the world."

In addition to employee classic cars, GM also had on display some of their latest rides, including the 2014 Hot Wheels Camaro and some 2014 Corvette Stingrays.

The event attracted people from all over, one of whom was Elsie Griffioen who came all the way from Niagara Falls, Ontario. She said she liked the looks of the cars at "Design on Woodward." She was particularly impressed with a 1969 RSZ28 Camaro owned by Bruce Kimmer of Mount Clemens.

Lucido said "Design on Woodward" was a good way to start the Dream Cruise and that GM is proud to have examples of its classic cars on display.



GM employees gathered at a pre-Dream Cruise car show last Wednesday.



Elsie Griffioen of Niagara Falls studies a 1969 RSZ28 Camaro engine.

Cadillac Designers Select Wood Types That Best Appeal to Luxury Customers

Sapele, a sustainable, fast-growing wood known for giving acoustic guitars a little extra zing, is one of several veneers "making beautiful music with leather and other surface materials in the current lineup of Cadillac cars," said Erin Crossley, a Cadillac Design manager.

Sapele in tones of "nutella" brown and "raven" black, Crossley said, add a dash of elegance to the 2014 Cadillac XTS's award-winning interior design.

Other high-gloss and open-pore wood trims – black marble burl, black olive ash, okapi contra, smoked laurel burl and real "piano black" raven wood – accent other Cadillac interiors.

When considering wood trims, Cadillac interior designers research furnishing trends, paying close attention to color, tone and grain movement when combining wood with materials such as brushed aluminum and carbon fiber.

Ultimately, the designers se-

lect woods that embody Cadillac's luxury appeal.

"By using multiple woods, we were able to come up with a rich mix of materials that will appeal to different customers," said Crossley. "Sapele, for instance, has a rich grain structure with a lot of movement. Just by looking at it, you know that it is genuine."

XTS's interior design is one of the more modern and sophisticated interpretations of the brand's Art and Science design philosophy that incorporates sharp, sheer forms and crisp edges – a form vocabulary that invokes the high technology used to create it. In April, editors at Ward'sAuto named the XTS among its 10 Best Interiors of 2013.

The XTS Platinum model, in particular, offers the highest levels of refinement with full Opus leather seat treatments and genuine Sapele wood details that Crossley said create a luxurious interior environment.



Cadillac's XTS interior

"The woods featured in the XTS are purposefully placed to make the width and space of the interior feel as roomy as possible," said Eric Clough, Cadillac director of Design. "It is this kind of attention to detail that luxury car customers have come to expect from Cadillac."

Warren's 56th Birthday Bash to Feature Country Music, Laser Light Show, Fireworks, Historical Military Vehicles

The city of Warren is going to celebrate its 56th birthday in style with a four-day party, beginning on Thursday, Aug. 22.

Warren Parks and Recreation Director Henry Bowman said the festivities open up with the "Candy Band."

"They are a group of moms who get together and play children's songs in the style of rock-and-roll bands," Bowman said. "They start performing at 7 p.m. at the city square off of Van Dyke. After that, we'll have our 'under the stars' movie, 'Oz, the Great and Powerful.' That's the film that was made in Pontiac by Sam Raimi."

Fireworks are scheduled for Friday, Aug. 23, Bowman said. The show should start sometime after 9 p.m. when it's dark. But music will be played before the fireworks. Starting at 5:30 p.m., the band, "Geezer," will perform.

"They're a band that plays the oldies," Bowman said. "They'll be followed by Jack Scott, a local favorite who plays rock-a-billy music."

"Now, what's going to go on Saturday is really cool. The National Defense Industrial Association is providing all the music. The main player on Saturday will be Justine Blazer, who is a country music singer. A laser light show will follow her performance, then the band, 'Cosmic Groove,' will also play."

And, Bowman said, all day long

they'll present activities for families.

The Warren Kiwanis Kids Circus will be at the city square as well as a competition in which dog owners throw discs to their pets.

"We'll also have a petting zoo and 'touch a truck,'" Bowman said.

"That's where we find as many large trucks – fire trucks, construction vehicles and garbage trucks – for kids to be able to get in and climb on. That's really very popular with little boys. They love the big trucks."

The local group, The Arsenal of Democracy, will also have historical military vehicles on display, Bowman said. Sunday features the Farmer's Market Battle of the Bands.

"Each Sunday during the summer, we've had a farmer's market at the city square," Bowman said. "And we also had bands play. It's these bands that will participate in the Battle of the Bands."

Bowman said that each day will have its own specialized events, but a carnival will be going on all four days of the city's birthday celebration.

"This event is a highlight of the summer," Bowman said.

"We want to celebrate the city's birthday with all the residents of Warren and if they come out, I think they'll have a good time."

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