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L to R: Don Sharp, Mike Dulaney, Lance Cpl. Kathryn Bynum, Santa (Jack Saylor), and UAW's Butch Barber, John Giannetti and Raquel Erenfecht.

Tots Get Toys, Thanks to GM's Warren Transmission Plant

Throughout 2013, the men and women of UAW Local 909 and GM's Warren Transmission plant have supported local charitable organizations through numerous fundraising events, said GM spokesman Kevin Nadrowski.

This year, plant employees donated a cargo-sized truckload of toys and cash contributions toward their annual Toys for Tots campaign.

In addition to donated toys, financial contributions by employees were used to purchase a vari-

ety of bicycles, toys, and books for deserving children in the Warren area.

UAW-GM employees stress the importance of working together and achieving goals through teamwork, Nadrowski said. This objective carries over outside the workplace and into activities that provide support for organizations in need.

"The generosity of our workforce has continued to exceed everyone's expectations," said Don Sharp, chairman – UAW Lo-

cal 909. "Employee donations and support of our local charitable programs have distinguished UAW Local 909 and Warren Transmission as key members of the community.

Various plant fundraising activities throughout the year contributed to the Toys for Tots campaign.

"We feel there is a social responsibility to give back to the community we live and work in," said Plant Manager Mike Dulaney.

"We are proud to know that many children will have a bright holiday season because of the generosity and sense of sharing demonstrated by the men and women of Warren Transmission Operations."

GM, TARDEC Partner to Develop Fuel Cells 'For the Troops and the Economy' – Levin

by Jim Stickford

To loosely quote an old Humphrey Bogart line, "This could be the beginning of a beautiful relationship."

A ribbon-cutting ceremony Dec. 16 at the Army's TARDEC facility in Warren celebrated the beginning of a partnership between the U.S. military and GM to develop hydrogen fuel cells for motor vehicles.

The partnership, said TARDEC spokesman Derhun Sanders, is called a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA). It is an agreement between federal and non-federal agencies to work together on research and development projects of mutual interest.

The CRADA program, Sanders said, makes it easier for federal laboratories to transfer technology to non-federal entities as well as to provide outside organizations with a means of accessing federal laboratory technologies.

Dr. Paul Rogers, director of TARDEC, said at the ribbon-cutting ceremony that TARDEC's relationship with the auto industry goes back decades to the 1940s, when TARDEC was formed at the recommendation of a committee led by Chrysler Corporation's President K.T. Keller.

The committee – comprising leading engineers from Chrysler,

Continental Aviation & Engineering, Ethyl, Ford, General Motors, Hudson Motor Car, International Harvester, Packard, Studebaker and Timken Detroit Axle – determined that Detroit would be an ideal location for a military automotive laboratory.

"This is where we can solve

the toughest problems the military has," Rogers said. "We have 64 active research agreements with businesses and academia. The GM agreement is very important because the Army can now collaborate with a unique part-

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Charles Freese



From left, Continental COO Steve Rooney, Macher, Mayor Kevin McDaniel

Plastics Supplier Combines Operations Under One Roof

by Jim Stickford

To borrow a line from the classic film, "The Graduate," the future is in plastics.

That's why Continental Structural Plastics has built a new headquarters in Auburn Hills that combines all of its operations in one building, said company CEO Frank Macher.

"We have just moved into our new building," Macher said. "This is important because the key to success is integration of

GM Drivers Can Track Santa Through OnStar

Starting on Christmas Eve, families traveling in General Motors' vehicles with OnStar services will be able to learn Santa's whereabouts by simply pressing the blue OnStar button in the U.S., Canada and now in Mexico.

For the fifth consecutive year, OnStar is providing the service through collaboration with the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) "Track Santa" program, said GM spokesman Stuart Fowle.

From 7 a.m. on Dec. 24 until 5 a.m. on Christmas Day, anyone with an active OnStar subscription can request a "Santa Update," which an OnStar advisor will provide based on NORAD information.

"Our advisors really get into the holiday spirit when responding to these calls," said Terry Inch, OnStar chief operating officer. "They put on their Santa hats and elf ears and wholeheartedly take advantage of the opportunity to spread such joy to the children."

"The Santa Seeker service added special magical feeling to our day," said OnStar subscriber Jocelyn Farkas. "I am not sure who was more excited to go out on errands in the car – my kids or my husband."

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