

Sinkhole Eats Up 8 Corvettes At National 'Vette Museum

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Devil" - are concept vehicles that were on loan to the museum.

"With the 20th Anniversary celebration, Grand Opening of the NCM Motorsports Park, and the National Corvette Caravan coming Aug. 27-30, we've got a lot to be excited about in 2014. and look forward to getting the Skydome repaired and reopened very soon," Strode said.

Kim Lancaster, public information officer for the city of Bowling Green, said that sinkholes are not uncommon after heavy rains.

"We experienced heavy rain a week before the incident," Lancaster said. "We didn't expect this to happen, but we weren't surprised that it did. The size of the sinkhole was a bit surprising, but these things happen here."

According to a statement issued by the Bowling Green Public Works Department, "sinkholes in the Bowling Green area seem to be a topic of discussion on social media and with many news outlets. Bowling Green is located in a karst region that is characterized by caves, sinkholes, springs, underground streams and other karst features. Sinkhole collapses in this area are not new: they are a function of our local geologic conditions.

"The most common type of sinkhole is the result of a soil arch collapse. These form as soil is eroded below the surface of the earth by subsurface water. This results in an arch of empty space over the bedrock and under the surface which can collapse, creating what we call a sinkhole.

"Heavy rains may increase the occurrence of sinkhole collapses

in a specific area. While a collapse the size of the Corvette Museum is unusual, it is not surprising that we have had other smaller collapses this week with the heavy rains that Bowling Green experienced recently.

"Sinkhole collapses are unpredictable and no one can confirm when or where they will happen without geophysical investigations. These types of analyses are extremely localized, expensive, and time-consuming.

Lancaster said that as far as she knows, there was no knowledge of a cave under the museum. Determining the exact cause of the sinkhole will take time, and she was unprepared to speculate further on the exact cause of the collapse.

Toyota Joins GM, Ford in Plans to Leave Australia

SYDNEY (AP) - Toyota said last week it will stop making cars in Australia by the end of 2017, spelling a final blow to auto manufacturing in the country, where car companies say high production costs and tough competition have made the business financially unviable.

Toyota's announcement means the loss of about 2,500 jobs and comes just two months after GM announced it would be ending production in Australia by 2017. Ford announced in May that it is ending production in the country in 2016.

In a statement, Toyota said its decision was based on several factors, including the high Australian dollar, the high cost of manufacturing and competition.

