

## 'No Other Car Can Match Stingray's Horsepower, MPG' – GM's Reuss

While the looks of the 2015 Corvette have been touted by car magazine writers, GM officials say what really makes the car work is what's on the inside.

The all-new, paddle-shift eight-speed automatic transmission makes the 2015 Corvette Stingray faster and more fuel-efficient, with 0-60 acceleration of only 3.7 seconds and an EPA-estimated 29 mpg on the highway, said Mark Reuss, GM executive vice president, Global Product Development, Purchasing & Supply Chain.

"The Corvette Stingray is a great example of how we are

leveraging engineering and technology to improve both efficiency and performance," he said. "No other car can match 460 horsepower, 0-60 mph in better than 3.7 seconds, and 29 mpg on the highway."

The Stingray's 0-60 performance is 0.1-second quicker than the previous six-speed automatic, contributing to a quicker quarter-mile elapsed time of 11.9 seconds, Reuss said.

Its 29 mpg highway rating represents a 3.5 percent increase over the six-speed.

New eight-speed models are EPA-rated at 16 mpg in the

city and 20 mpg combined.

In fact, Reuss said, the Stingray's stingy fuel consumption on the highway is not only better than sports car competitors such as Porsche 911 Carrera (28 mpg), Audi R8 V8 (20 mpg), Jaguar F-Type R (23 mpg) or Nissan GT-R (23 mpg), it tops conventional cars with smaller engines, like the Subaru Outback six-cylinder (27 mpg), Volkswagen Passat six-cylinder (28 mpg) and Mercedes-Benz C350 coupe (28 mpg).

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2015 Corvette Stingray

8L90 eight-speed automatic, said Reuss, is due primarily to its 7.0 overall gear ratio spread, which enhances off-the-line perform-

ance with a more aggressive first gear ratio – 4.56 vs. 4.03 on the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

## GM Tech Center Employees Return To Their Jobs

by Jim Stickford

While the rains that flooded many parts of Warren on Aug. 11 may have lasted only a few hours, cleaning up the GM Tech Center after the storm took considerably longer.

GM spokesperson Katie McBride said that while parts of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



2015 GMC Sierra 3500 HD

## GMC Sierra 3500 HD Called 'Best All-Around' by Williams

The 2015 GMC Sierra 3500 HD won the overall title in the 2014 Ultimate Heavy Duty Challenge 1-ton diesel category following testing by truck experts from Cars.com, PickupTrucks.com and Mrtruck.com.

Comprehensive testing pitted the Sierra HD against its two competitors, the Ford F350, equipped with its updated-for-2015-model-year Powerstroke

diesel engine, and the Ram 3500, equipped with its Cummins diesel powertrain, said GM spokesperson Brian Goebel.

PickupTrucks.com Editor Mark Williams said he enjoyed the comfort of the Sierra HD and its comprehensive strengths.

"Our judges hugely appreciated the all-new interior and info-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

## C-A-R-E Spells GM Student Corps Program

by Jim Stickford

Usually, success for GM is measured in the number of vehicles sold. But for the GM Student Corps program, success is measured by how GM has helped high school students change their lives.

The 2014 class celebrated its achievements at the University of Detroit-Mercy campus Aug. 19. Among the speakers were Mark Reuss, GM executive vice president, Global Product Development, Purchasing & Supply Chain, and current U-DM economics professor and former GM employee Michael DiGiovanni.

The program, which is in its second year, got its start when Reuss approached DiGiovanni about doing something different that could give high school students the skills they need to succeed in the workforce and in life.

"When Mark Reuss gives that kind of assignment," DiGiovanni said, "your only response is 'yes, sir.'"

So DiGiovanni, along with people at GM and U-DM got together and created the GM Student Corps.

This year, 106 students from high schools around metro Detroit and Flint worked with 13 U-DM mentors and 58 retired GM employees on civic improvement projects that benefited the neighborhoods in which the students lived and went to school.

The participating high schools included Central Collegiate Academy, Detroit Public Schools Cody Campus, East Detroit, Hamtramck, Harper Woods, Henry Ford, Madison, Melvindale, Detroit Public Schools Osborn Campus, River Rouge, Van Dyke Lincoln and Flint Southwestern Clas-

sical Academy High School.

Projects ranged from painting fire hydrants in Hamtramck – making it easier for firefighters to find them – to cleaning up parks.

All the students in the program, both high school and college, were paid interns of GM, which always looks good on the resume, DiGiovanni said.

In addition to completing their civic projects, the students met with retired GM employees who taught them life skills – things like how to shake hands when meeting a prospective employer and how to write a resume.

"I want to say thanks to the GM retirees," DiGiovanni said. "They don't get enough credit for all the mentoring they do. Also, United Way of Southeast Michigan, the principals and administrators of the high schools all deserve our thanks and credit for putting in time and effort into this project."

Reuss said that he couldn't be prouder of the students who participated in the GM Student Corps.

"Look at what they accomplished with the help of GM re-

tires," Reuss said. "They learned the value of teamwork and that discipline, hard work and commitment count. All the things that went into the project brought tears to my eyes."

Most importantly, Reuss said, the students learned that if you clean up a corner of the world, others will take notice and follow your example. That's what happened with many of the student projects. Residents saw their parks and schools being cleaned up and they started cleaning up their neighborhoods.

DiGiovanni agreed, saying that care and hope are contagious.

Deborah Wright worked for GM for more than 30 years, including six at the Warren Tech Center as an analyst in Fleet Operations. She retired from the company in 2009.

"This is my second year in the program," Wright said. "I was contacted last year by a friend of a friend and asked if I wanted to participate and I said yes. I had such a great time last year that

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Wright, center, with Hamtramck students Ilma Bilic, left, and Laki Ali



Dr. Tonya Matthews, Ford Vice President Raj Nair and new van

## New Ford MiSci Van to Travel On Fizz, Bang, Science Tour

The Michigan Science Center (MiSci) earlier this month unveiled its new Traveling MiSci Van, a 2014 Ford Transit Connect van, donated by Ford.

The van will help support MiSci's Traveling Science program, including its Fizz, Bang, Traveling Science tour that was developed in conjunction with libraries across the state of Michigan to help fight off summer "brain drain" and engage children in exciting educational activities.

"In 2013, our Traveling Science Program served nearly 50,000 students and families, and Ford's generous gift of a new van will help us continue this momentum and become an even greater resource for communities across the state – especially those unable to visit the museum in person," said Dr. Tonya Matthews, president and CEO of the Michi-

gan Science Center. "We are thankful for Ford Motor Company's donation and look forward to driving even greater success with our Traveling Science initiatives."

MiSci will finish out the summer's Fizz, Bang, Traveling Science tour, which ended on Aug. 27, in the museum's new van.

Program attendees, along with help from the MiSci staff, will have the opportunity to create rockets, learn about chemical reactions and participate in explosive experiments.

In addition to Fizz, Bang, Science, MiSci offers a variety of interactive traveling workshops, ranging from earth/space science to live animal programs, designed to encourage children and their families to explore and appreciate science.

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## Tech Center News

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## GM, Ford Among Those Helping Pay Water Bills

DETROIT (AP) – Two auto companies and the United Way announced \$200,000 in donations last week to help Detroit residents pay overdue water bills after criticism about the city's aggressive shutoff policy.

Water shutoffs related to unpaid bills have been suspended since July 21 but are resuming after Aug. 25.

The new Detroit Water Fund will pay up to 25 percent of an overdue bill. To qualify, a customer must owe \$300 or more, pay at least 10 percent up front and meet other conditions, based on income.

United Way for Southeastern Michigan is contributing \$100,000 to the fund, while the Ford Motor Company Fund and the General Motors Foundation are giving \$50,000 each. More donors will be identified in the coming days.

"They have let Detroiters know they are not alone and their generous donations will be able to immediately begin assisting residents," Mayor Mike Duggan said in a written statement.

Duggan encouraged Detroit residents to contact the city about payment plans and avoid a shutoff.

The issue gained national attention in June when activists appealed to the United Nations for assistance. About 2,000 people protested in Detroit in July during a national convention of liberal Democrats.

The water department stopped service to about 7,200 homes and businesses in June, compared with 1,570 in the same month last year. Water was restored to 43 percent after customers paid or worked out payment plans, though thousands more have been affected since last fall.

## Symphony to Hold Roast of St. Pierre

The Motor City Symphony, formerly known as the Warren Symphony, is holding a roast of Warren City Council president Cecil St. Pierre on Monday, Sept. 22, at the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Warren.

The event also includes a silent auction, which will raise money for the orchestra.

Admission is \$100 per person. Tables of 10 are available. The price of a ticket includes dinner and an open bar.

To learn more about the event and to purchase tickets, call 586-754-2950.

## Menards Opening In Warren Slated For Early 2015

Construction of a Menards home improvement store on Van Dyke, south of 14 Mile Road, has begun.

Menards spokesperson Jeff Abbott said that the store is expected to be open for business sometime in the first quarter of next year.

"The construction phase for our new Menards store in Warren is on schedule and, if all goes as planned, we hope to open this store sometime in early 2015," Abbott said.

"The store is being built in our largest format and will have several great departments plus a covered warehouse in a full-service lumberyard, a garden center, appliances and even a line of convenience groceries for a one-stop shopping experience.

"We will begin accepting job applications once we have man-



Construction of Menards store is under way at the site of the former golf dome, Van Dyke Sports Center.

agement personnel on site later in 2014. Interested applicants can apply at [www.menards.com](http://www.menards.com)."

The company's website describes the home-improvement

chain as a "family-owned company started in 1960."

Menards is headquartered in Eau Claire, Wis., and has 280 home improvement stores locat-

ed in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

## Old Ford 'Woodie Wagon' Site Now an Educational Center

ALBERTA, Mich. (AP) – The site that sprang out of Henry Ford's desire to produce wood for his automobiles continues on as a Michigan Technological University site for forest research.

The 60th anniversary of the site's transfer to MTU was commemorated with a two-day celebration earlier this month at the Ford Center, according to *The Daily Mining Gazette* of Houghton.

Near the facility's entrance, there was a show of classic Fords dating back to the Model T. People could also tour some of the facilities such as the sawmill and the schoolhouse.

Field trips were also given of Tech's ongoing programs, such as its climate monitoring system

and jack pine regeneration site.

The group also heard a keynote speech from Bob Kreipke, historian for Ford.

Henry Ford created Alberta in 1935, building the mill for \$1 million. He spotted the site while driving in the Upper Peninsula with Thomas Edison and Harvey Firestone. Ford had several mills and 500,000 acres in the Upper Peninsula. The lumber was used for production of Ford's "Woodie Wagon."

The site was intended for workers to be self-sustaining, living and growing food on the land as well. Phase I of the site included a small settlement, including 12 homes and a school.

"It's all still here," said Kari Price, who is the current

manager of the Alberta site.

The never-built Phase II would have expanded the site to 60 houses, a grocery store, a church and a post office.

After Ford ended production of the Woodie Wagon in 1951, it shut down all of its Upper Peninsula properties. In 1954, it donated the village and 1,700 acres to Tech.

Andrew Burton, director of the Ford Center, said the school provides an ideal setting for education, research, ecology and management of forest resources.

Michigan Tech also is making improvements. A National Science Foundation grant allowed it to make a new wet lab, which Burton said will add to teaching and research capabilities. The

school also is applying for another grant to do wood energy for some of the site buildings.

Another plan is to build a communications tower that would provide wireless access to 90 percent of the property.

"We could even teach from campus, showing real-time data of what's going on in the forest," Burton said.

Tech primarily uses the center for its fall camp for 50 forestry students, who come out to the site for 14 weeks.

The school would also like to get back to using it year-round. Burton said one way will be an undergraduate degree in natural resources and environmental science, which the university will launch in a year.

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Recent flooding in Warren resulted in C.J.'s shutting down indefinitely.

## C.J.'s Flooded Basement Halts Daily Food Service

by Jim Stickford

The staff at C.J.'s restaurant, across Chicago Road from the GM Tech Center, like so many others, came to work on Aug. 12 to a basement full of water.

The restaurant entrance is above ground, but the dining area and kitchen are below ground, said manager Sandra Paquette.

"I was the last person to leave on Aug. 11," Paquette said. "That was around 6:30 p.m. There was no sign of flooding. I checked the drain in the parking lot and it was working. It actually looked like a vortex."

The flooded facility wasn't discovered until the early morning crew got there at about 4 a.m. on Aug. 12.

"Carl Moss discovered about a foot of water still standing on the floor when he got there," said general manager Mike Moss. "Our next-door neighbors, who also got flooded, but not as bad, said they saw what happened."

"One of our vans, which was parked in the parking lot started having lights go on and off. They said it looked like something out of a movie. We ultimately lost two vans to flooding."

Paquette got to C.J.'s at about 7 a.m. Normally, she arrives at about 11 a.m.

"My first reaction after seeing what happened was complete shock," Paquette said. "I've never seen anything so destructive in my life."

"We have a small drain in the office part of the basement and a couple others around," Moss said. "So I would say that all the water drained away by about 9 p.m. on Aug. 12."

"But we had about 10 people who are friends and family come down and help clean the place up."

Paquette said they were able to obtain professional cleaning equipment and wash everything

down at least once.

"I expect that before we open, we wash everything down again at least twice," Paquette said.

In addition to selling sandwiches, C.J.'s also does catering and prepares food for charter schools, Moss said. Right now, their efforts are being put into getting things running in time for school. He doesn't expect to be open for walk-in business for a least a month.

"In order to open up again, we'll need a game plan," Paquette said. "There are a lot of little things that have to be done before we can open our doors. Just figuring out what those things are and how to get them done will take time. It will be a matter of organization."

"It's difficult to say when we'll be open again," Moss said. "I don't want to mislead people, but we lost a lot of inventory. The food losses are at least \$30,000. There are tables and chairs and other physical items that have to be replaced."

But, Moss said, they can still cater events.

"If you give us 24 hours and need sandwiches for an office gathering, give us a call," Moss said. "We can deliver."

Paquette said many of their customers come from the Tech Center, which is across the street from them.

"People keep coming in and asking if we're open," Paquette said.

"Even the day after the big storm, people would come in, look around and comment that we were flooded and then ask if we were open and serving food."

Having that kind of loyal clientele is heart-warming, Paquette said.

"We really don't want to give people false hope," Moss said. "We really do have a lot of stuff that needs to be done. We want everything to be perfect for when we reopen our doors."

## Tech Center Employees Return after Flood

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the Tech Center were opened by Aug. 13, other areas were still closed as late as Aug. 21.

"We were able to get certain areas up and running only a couple of days after the storm," McBride said. "These were the buildings that deal with customers, such as the call center and the IT center."

But, McBride said, getting other buildings opened up proved to be more difficult.

"Like a lot of homes and buildings in Warren, we had Tech Center basements flooded," McBride said. "Getting the water out of these basements wasn't easy. We worked fervently to get the buildings cleaned up and ready for occupation again. The goal was for Friday, Aug. 22."

But as of presstime on Aug. 22 certain parts of the Tech Center were still closed. In order to make the buildings operational again, McBride said, GM sent in teams to remove the water, which was pumped into tankers and hauled away. But getting the water out was only the first stage of the process, McBride said. Teams consisting of people from GM's safety, environmental and air quality departments would then go in and clean up the mess.

"We are very strict about the environmental quality of the buildings," McBride said. "We have to make absolutely sure that the buildings are safe before we let people work in them."

The biggest challenge was getting the R&D and Design buildings cleaned up, McBride said.

"We didn't get power to those buildings restored until Wednesday, Aug. 20," McBride said. "Every day at about 4 or 5 p.m., there was a meeting to decide if a building can be opened up. If the answer was yes, a call went out to employees to inform them."

Part of the difficulty in getting the buildings ready was that GM never had to do anything like pump out flooded basements at the Tech Center before.

"I think I can safely say that nobody ever expected that volume of rain to fall in that short a period of time," McBride said. "We had to have people working night and day pumping water out and cleaning up the mess to get the

buildings ready. I have to say that the people involved really put forth an heroic effort to get everything done."

According to Warren city engineer James VanHavermaat, the Aug. 11 storm was a "300-year storm." In a memo to Warren Mayor Jim Fouts, VanHavermaat wrote, "this rain event was unprecedented. Storms are categorized by the likelihood of an event occurring in a given number of years." Storm events are based on statistical modeling of prior rainfall events in a geographic specific area, VanHavermaat wrote. A 100-year storm event in Southeast Michigan would not be the same as one in mid-Michigan.

"It should also be noted that this storm year representation does not mean that a storm event of a given magnitude will recur within a given time period.

Rather, a 100-year storm event has a 1 percent chance that a storm of this magnitude will occur in any given year. A 50-year storm event has a 2 percent of occurring . . . while a 25-year storm has a 4 percent chance."

So, VanHavermaat wrote, the odds of a storm of the severity of Aug. 11 happening in any given year is .32 percent, or about one-third of one percent.

"Based on initial information, it appears that the city of Warren received over five inches of rain within a six-hour period," VanHavermaat wrote. "Lastly, it is very apparent from the news coverage that the city of Warren was not unique in its flooding problems. I cannot ever recall a time when flooding such as was experienced on I-696 and I-75 (happened). Simply put, there was far too much rainfall in too short a period of time."

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# Chrysler’s Nigro Now Heads NAFTA Product Development

John Nigro has been appointed head of NAFTA Product Development, effective immediately.

In this role, Nigro has responsibility for all systems and component engineering, vehicle line programs, advance vehicle development, architecture, innovation and product technical planning.

He also oversees vehicle testing and validation. In addition, Nigro joins the NAFTA Leadership Team reporting to Chrysler Group Chairman and CEO Sergio Marchionne.

Previously, Nigro was vice president – Systems & Component Engineering, a position he held since April 2013.

In that role, Nigro oversaw systems and component engineering for the company’s entire vehicle lineup.

Before that, he held a series of positions in engineering with increasing responsibility. He joined the company in 1984.

Nigro replaces Mark Chernoby, who was appointed chief operating officer of Global Product Development.

Chernoby will oversee the activities of the Engineering and Development organization for Fiat and Chrysler across the four operating regions.

Chrysler also has created a new organization to focus on safety, establishing the Office of Vehicle Safety and Regulatory Compliance.

The new office will be led by Senior Vice President Scott Kunselman.

Previously, the company’s Global Engineering Group was responsible for vehicle safety and regulatory compliance.

Effective immediately, this func-



John Nigro

tion will be served by a stand-alone organization, with Kunselman reporting directly to CEO Sergio Marchionne.

This action will help intensify the company’s continuing commitment to vehicle safety and regulatory compliance, said Chrysler spokesperson Eric Mayne.

Kunselman remains part of the company’s NAFTA leadership team, focusing solely on vehicle safety and regulatory compliance.

He had been in charge of NAFTA Purchasing and Supplier Quality.

Prior to that, he was senior vice president of Engineering at Chrysler, a position that included oversight of regulatory compliance.

Tom Finelli, Chrysler’s director of Global Standardization, will replace Kunselman and assume responsibility for NAFTA Purchasing and Supplier Quality. He also will join the company’s NAFTA leadership team, effective immediately.

# Cool Jazz Sessions Highlight Festival

The 2014 Detroit Jazz Festival will be held in downtown Detroit starting on Friday, Aug. 29, and ending on Monday, Sept. 1.

The Detroit Jazz Festival is a major cultural institution, providing year-round concerts and educational programming that culminates in one of the world’s premier jazz festivals on Labor Day Weekend, said festival artistic director Christoper B. Collins

Now in its 34th year, the festival takes place over several city blocks in downtown Detroit – from Hart Plaza to Campus Martius – with five stages and 100 acts over four days, Collins said. It also offers educational activities for adults and children, fireworks, late-night jam sessions, rare opportunities to meet the artists and much more.

“And it’s all free,” Collins said. “Our mission is to foster the history and nurture the development of jazz, perpetuate Detroit’s significant jazz legacy through educational and collaborative opportunities accessible to all and present a world-class signature event that makes Detroit a tourist destination.”

Events include:  
**JP Morgan Chase Main Stage Friday, Aug. 29**

- 7-8:15 p.m.: 2014 DJF Artist in Residence: Joshua Redman.
- 8:45-10 p.m.: A Night at the Apollo - Ted Louis Levy, Kevin Mahogany, Margot B, the Wonder Twins and David Berger's NYC Big Band.

**Saturday, Aug. 30**

- 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m: MSBOA High School Jazz Band Showcase featuring Northview, Fraser and Northville High Schools.
- 1:30-2:45 p.m.: Central Michigan University Big Band.
- 3:15-4:30 p.m.: Phil Woods

- Quintet.
- 5-6:15 p.m.: Cyrus Chestnut Plays Dave Brubeck.
- 6:45-8 p.m.: Mike Stern Band featuring Bob Franeschini, Tom Kennedy and Richie Morates.
- 8:30-9:45 p.m.: Randy Weston’s African Rythms.

**Sunday, Aug. 31**

- 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.: MSBOA High School Jazz Band Showcase featuring Mason County Central High School, Detroit School of Arts and Meridian High School.
- 1:30-2:45 p.m.: USAF Airmen of Note Big Band.
- 3:15-4:30 p.m.: 2014 DJF Artist in Residence: Joshua Redman Quartet with Reuben Rogers, Aaron Goldberg and Gregory Hutchinson.
- 5-6:15 p.m.: The Dirty Dozen Brass Band.
- 6:45-8 p.m.: Regina Carter’s Southern Comfort.
- 8:30-9:45 p.m.: Straighten Up and Fly Right - The Nat King Cole Tribute featuring Ramsey Lewis and John Pizzarelly.

**Monday, Sept. 1**

- 12:15-1:15 p.m.: *Downbeat Magazine* Blindfold Test with Ron Carter.
- 1:45-3 p.m.: Homecoming Big Band: Jimmy Wilkins conducts the music of Earnie Wilkins featuring the DJFO and Detroit Homecoming.
- 3:30-4:45 p.m.: Diane Schuur with string orchestra. Conducted by Alan Broadbent.
- 5:15-6:30 p.m.: Stanley Clarke.

**Carhart Amphitheater Stage Saturday, Aug. 30**

- 1:15-2:15 p.m.: Michigan State University Big Band.
  - 2:45-3:45 p.m.: Detroit 2014 Jazz Festival National Piano Winner Tal Cohen with DJG All-Stars Robert Hurst and Nate Winn.
  - 4:15-5:30 p.m.: Mack Avenue Super Band.
  - 6-7:15 p.m.: Pharoah Sanders Quartet.
  - 7:45-9 p.m.: Freda Payne with the USAF Airmen of Note Big Band.
  - 9:30-10:45 p.m.: Sketch of Miles& Gil.
- Sunday, Aug. 31**
- 12:15-1:30 p.m.: U-M Jazz Ensembles.
  - 2:15-5:15 p.m.: Elio Villafranca Quartet.
  - 4-5:15 p.m.: Tom Harrell
  - 5:45-7 p.m.: Tim Ries and The East Gipsy Band.
  - 7:30-8:45 p.m: Dave Holland, Keith Eubanks, Craig Taborn and Eric Harland.
  - 9:30-10:45 p.m.: To Miles From Wayne – Wallace Roney with Orchestra featuring Wayne Shorter’s music.

**Monday, Sept. 1**

- 1:15-2:15 p.m.: Detroit Festival All Star Youth Ensemble with guests.
- 2:45-3:45 p.m.: Ron Carter and Peter Bernstein perform Jim Hall tribute.
- 4:15-5:30 p.m.: Joshua Red-

man performs music inspired by the Civil Rights movement.

- 6:15-7:30 p.m.: Lonnie Smith’s Octet.

**Mack Ave. Waterfront Stage Saturday, Aug. 30**

- 1-2 p.m.: Bowling Green State University Vocal Ensemble.
- 2:30-3:30 p.m.: Ellen Rowe Quartet.
- 4-5:15 p.m.: Aruan Ortiz & Orbiting Quartet.
- 6-7:15 p.m.: Mack Avenue Super Band.

- 7:45-9 p.m.: Freda Payne with USAF Airmen of Note Big Band.

- 9:30-10:45 p.m.: Sketches of Miles & Gil conducted by Norah Duncan IV.

**Sunday, Aug. 31**

- 2-3:15 p.m.: Walter White Quartet.
- 3:45-5 p.m.: Louis Armstrong’s Musical Legacy.
- 5:45-7 p.m.: Cyrille Aimee.
- 7:30-8:45 p.m.: Joey DeFrancesco Quartet.

**Monday, Sept. 1**

- 12:15-1:15 p.m.: Detroit Public Schools Showcase.
- 2:30-3:35 p.m.: Dean Jones Quartet.
- 4-5:30: Bill Evans Soulgrass.
- 6-7:15 p.m.: The Pedrito Martinez Group.

**Absopure Pyramid Stage Saturday, Aug. 30**

- 1:45-2:45p.m.: Halladay-/Schunk Latin Experience.
- 3:15-4:30 p.m.: James Dapogny’s Jazz Band.
- 5-6:15 p.m.: Barry Harris Trio.
- 7-8:15 p.m.:The Detroit Jazz Festival All Stars celebrate Detroit jazz legends.
- 8:45-10 p.m.: Christian McBride Trio.

**Sunday, Aug. 31**

- 1:45-3 p.m.: Orrin Evans Quintet.
- 3:30-4:45 p.m.: Rodney Whitaker & Soul-R Energy.
- 5:15-6:15 p.m.: Randy Weston & Billy Harper Duo.
- 6:45-8 p.m.: Gary Burton Quintet.
- 8:30-9:45 p.m.: Al Foster Quartet.

**Monday, Sept. 1**

- 2:45-4 p.m.: Tad Weed Trio.
- 4:30-5:45 p.m.: Torme Sings Torme featuring Steve March-Torme and the Dektette.
- 6:15-7:30 p.m.: John Pizzarelli Quartet with Bucky Pizzarelli.

**The Volt Lounge Friday, Aug. 29**

- 10:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.: RAPA House Revisited

**Saturday, Aug. 30**

- 11 p.m.-12:15 a.m.: Aruan Ortiz and the Orbiting Quartet.
- 12:15-1:30 a.m.: Tim Ries Quartet.

**Sunday, Aug. 31**

- 10:45-11:45 p.m.: Joey DeFrancesco Quartet.
- 11:45 p.m.-12:45 a.m.: Sean Jones Quartet.
- 12:45-1:45 p.m.: Bryn Lynch/Randy Johnson Quartet.

# – ‘Butterflies’ Fly Away After 100-mph Race

HOWELL, Mich. (AP) – Rose Wehr feels the need for speed.

Thanks to the nonprofit program, Ford and Mustang Racing for Kids, she’s living her dream of racing down a dragway and reaching speeds of 100 mph in her Mustang.

“I’ve just always loved them,” Wehr said about drag racing cars. “The way they look, the way they sound, how fast they go.”

Wehr, a 2006 Pinckney Community High School graduate, grew up listening to her father telling stories about his drag racing days. Since she was 13, she constantly peppered him with questions about “how it felt, what it was like, how fun it was.”

Although she’s thrilled to be racing her Mustang, the 26-year-old Wehr said she enjoyed the time she spent with her family putting together the car.

Starting off with a salvaged rusty frame, Wehr, her father, Dan Glover, and her brother, Robert Glover, turned the car into a sleek, green-and-white race car. Her sister, Peyton Burkhart, also helped.

On July 9, Wehr test drove her 1979 Mustang at Milan Dragway.

“It was a lot of fun,” Wehr said. “It gave me a chance to really work with my dad and brother to put it all together.”

She said it was a long process, “frustrating but fun.” They assembled the car in six months, completing it in May.

“I’m excited for her,” Putnam Township resident Dan Glover said after watching her test drive the car at Milan. “And absolutely proud.”

“I get an adrenaline rush each time I see her out there,” he said.

Ford and Mustang Racing for Kids provides participants with all the parts to assemble a racing car. The group is dedicated to helping kids race in a safe, legal way and providing them a

chance to have fun.

Steve Hoffman said he started the program to share his passion for drag racing. The Livonia man raced nitro funny cars for 30 years.

He launched the program in 2006 in Livonia and recently expanded the program to Livingston County.

He said he often helps teenagers who are faced with personal struggles; sometimes, the teenagers have dropped out of school.

“You go back to school, I’ll help you,” he said.

He said he also wants to teach a new generation of young people how to work on cars. He said many teenagers prefer video games over race cars.

“It’s dying,” he said about interest in cars and drag racing. The only way it’s going to come back, he said, is for somebody to “start showing these people how to do this, and that’s why I did it.”

He said the program’s participants have ranged in age from 16 to 30. He said all the parts for the cars are donated.

His two brothers also help with the program.

Brother Don Hoffman, a Brighton resident, said he enjoys giving advice to teenagers and spending time with his family as part of the effort.

“To a young girl, the most important thing they’ve got going is their education,” Don Hoffman said. “That’s their power in life.”

He’s also “thrilled to death” to see the new members are mostly young women.

“It’s funny that they actually kick the boys’ butts” when it comes to racing, he said.

Steve Hoffman said the newest crop of participants in the racing program is young women, and that’s fine with him. He said the girls are picking up the interest in the sport and doing fine.

“This one here is amazing,” he said about Wehr. “She can carry all the parts, knows what she’s got to do on the car, how it’s got to be done, and has only been doing it for six months.”

Wehr, who works in accessory sales at Wilson Marine, said she feels comfortable racing cars even though the sport has been dominated by men.

“I never thought too much about it because when you’re out there, it’s just you and your car,” she said.

When she races against a guy and beats him, she said, “That’s even better.”

Wehr said she was a little nervous after her first race, but the “butterflies” soon left.

“I’m doing 100 mph in the quarter-mile,” she said.

She also said she’s far from taking her foot off the pedal.

“I’m just getting started,” she said.

# Feds Report Lending for Auto Loans Up

WASHINGTON (AP) – U.S. auto loans jumped to the highest level in eight years this spring, fueled by a big increase in lending to risky borrowers, according to a new report by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Yet, the New York Fed also said that loans to borrowers with shoddy credit, also known as subprime lending, still make up a smaller proportion of total auto loans than before the Recession.

Federal banking regulators have raised concerns in recent months over the rapid increase in subprime auto loans. Such loans could lead to more defaults, harming banks and consumers.

Auto loans are also packaged into securities and sold to investors, like mortgage loans. That could amplify the impact of any rise in auto loan defaults.

This spring, banking regulators at the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency said that “signs of increasing risk are evident” in auto lending. They found that lenders are making larger car loans.

As a result, the size of car loans in default has increased in the past two years.

The Justice Department said last week that it is investigating GM’s financing arm over its subprime lending practices.

Still, the New York Fed report stops short of recommending specific steps.

In a separate post on its website, New York Fed economists said they would “continue to monitor” the issue.

Banks and other lenders issued \$101 billion in new auto loans in the second quarter (April-June), according to the

quarterly report on household debt.

Total outstanding auto loans rose to \$905 billion in the second quarter.

Auto loans are the third-largest source of Americans’ debt, after mortgages and student loans. Mortgage debt actually declined in the second quarter to \$8.1 trillion while student debt rose to \$1.12 trillion.

Americans have \$669 million on credit cards.

The Fed’s data shows that the dollar amount of subprime auto loans – defined as loans to borrowers with credit scores below 620 – has nearly doubled since 2010.

For borrowers in the two most credit-worthy categories – defined as those with scores above 720 – auto lending has risen by only about one-third.



# 2015 SRT Hellcat Charger ‘Most Powerful Sedan Ever,’ Says Chrysler’s Mark Trostle

by Jim Stickford

For Mark Trostle, the newly-introduced 2015 SRT Hellcat Charger is a true celebration of Detroit’s car culture and heritage.

“There’s a reason the SRT Hellcat Charger made its debut in Vinsetta’s Garage on Woodward in Berkley during the Woodward Dream Cruise,” said Trostle, head of Design for Chrysler’s SRT, Mopar and Motorsports.

“To me, that’s such a fitting place for the Hellcat Charger to be seen.

“It’s so fitting for Detroit’s car culture.”

With 707 horsepower, an NHRA-certified quarter-mile elapsed time of 11.0 seconds on street tires and a top speed of 204 miles per hour, it is also the world’s only four-door muscle car.

It’s the quickest, fastest and most powerful sedan ever, Trostle said. Those four doors also differentiate it from the SRT Hellcat Challenger, which made its debut two weeks prior.

“I’ve driven the Hellcat Charger,” Trostle said. “You can drive it as a race car if you can find the appropriate venue, and our customers need to do that, but it’s civilized enough to be your everyday car as well.”

This Charger has a super-charged 6.2-liter Hemi Hellcat engine that produces 707 horsepower and 650 lb.-ft. of torque, Trostle said, making it the most powerful V8 Chrysler has ever produced.

Its four-door performance includes quarter-mile elapsed time in 11.0 seconds on street tires, 0-100-0 mph in under 13 seconds and a top speed of 204 miles per hour (mph).

Dodge and SRT designers resculpted and refined nearly every body panel with functional performance cues, including heat

extractors in the hood, unique front and rear fascias and dramatic LED lighting in both front and rear, Trostle said.

Also, he said, it has a segment-first TorqueFlite heavy-duty eight-speed automatic transmission capable of delivering fuel-efficient street driving and maximum performance track driving with 160 millisecond shifts with rev-matching.

New performance attributes include the largest brakes ever offered in a Chrysler Group vehicle – 15.4-inch Brembo two-piece rotors with six-piston calipers, 20 x 9.5-inch wide forged aluminum wheels with Pirelli P Zero performance tires, adaptive damping three-mode suspension and three-mode, heavy-duty eight-speed automatic transmission.

The new SRT Performance Pages – a graphic in the instrument panel – allows drivers to tailor the driving experience by controlling horsepower, transmission shift speeds, paddle shifters, traction and suspension.

It also comes with two key fobs – one black and one red.

The red fob unlocks all 707 horsepower, Trostle said, while the black one might be the one parents give the teenage drivers in their families. That fob “keeps the horses at bay,” Trostle said.

New interior design elements, including SRT three-spoke, flat-bottom steering wheel; 7-inch reconfigurable digital gauge cluster; 8.4-inch touchscreen; Nappa leather and Alcantara suede seating; premium materials, and a choice of four new trim and color combinations.

Dodge Charger SRT Hellcat features a slew of the latest high-tech features, including the new award-winning available Uconnect Access system, Uconnect Access Services with roadside assistance, theft-alarm notification, voice texting, new 3-D navigation and the ability to turn the

Charger into a Wi-Fi hotspot.

“For the last eight years, a large part of the Dodge Charger’s successful formula has been its many personalities,” said Tim Kuniskis, president and CEO – Dodge and SRT Brands.

“It’s a muscle car, a performance sedan, a family-capable sedan; its success is that it can be any or all of those things, depending on how the customer chooses to equip their car.

“And now, with an NHRA-certified quarter-mile time of 11.0 seconds and a 204 mph top speed, the new 2015 Dodge Charger Hellcat redefines itself again – as the quickest, fastest, most powerful sedan in the world.”

This new Hellcat engine is Dodge and SRT’s first application of V8 supercharger technology, featuring a forged-steel crankshaft with induction-hardened bearing surfaces, Kuniskis said.

“The result,” he said, “is a crank so well-engineered it can



Trostle with 2015 SRT Hellcat Charger

withstand firing pressures of 110 bar (1,595 psi) – the equivalent of five family sedans standing on each piston, every two revolutions. And its unique, specially tuned crank damper has been tested to 13,000 rpm.”

High-strength, forged-alloy pistons, developed using advanced telemetry measurement, are cou-

pled to powder-forged connecting rods with high-load-capacity bushings and diamond-like-carbon-coated piston pins, Kuniskis said.

The 2015 Dodge Charger SRT Hellcat will be built at the Brampton (Ont.) Assembly plant. Production is slated to begin in the first quarter of 2015.

## ‘No Other Car Can Match Stingray’s Horsepower, MPG’ – GM’s Reuss

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

six-speed – helping achieve the quicker 0-60 time.

It also delivers world-class shift times that rival the best dual-clutch design, said GM spokesperson Monte Doran.

Combined with a new, numerically lower 2.41 rear axle ratio vs. the 2.56 gear used with previous six-speed automatic models, engine rpm is reduced by 8 percent (123 rpm) on the highway at 70 mph. The lower engine speed reduces fuel consumption, said Doran. Z51-equipped models retain a 2.73 rear axle ratio.

The new paddle-shift eight-speed automatic, said Doran, complements the performance generated by the Corvette Stingray’s LT1 engine – rated at

455 horsepower or 460 horses with the available performance exhaust system. That system uses advanced technologies, including direct injection, variable valve timing and Active Fuel Management (cylinder deactivation) to make more power with less fuel.

Advanced composite materials in the body structure and a lightweight aluminum frame, as well as aluminum and magnesium suspension components, support the Corvette’s efficiency with a low curb weight of only 3,298 pounds /1,499 kg (Stingray coupe), said Doran.

They also enhance performance, he said, by giving the Stingray a power-to-weight ratio of 7.25 – or one horsepower for every 7.25 pounds of mass.



Hydra-Matic 8L90

That’s better than Porsche 911 Carrera’s 8.7 ratio and Audi R8 V-8’s 8.3 ratio, Doran said.

For those who prefer a traditional manual-shifting driving experience, Doran said, the 2015 Corvette Stingray is available with a seven-speed manual that delivers 0-60 times of 3.8 seconds and EPA-estimated 29 mpg on the highway.

## GMC Sierra 3500 HD Called ‘Best All-Around’ by Williams

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tainment interface and 8-inch navigation screen,” Williams said. “In the end, the GMC was the best all-around player of our competitors.”

Goebel said the evaluators noted that the Sierra HD excelled in vehicle control while towing. The integration of the diesel exhaust brake, standard with every Sierra HD equipped with the 6.6L Duramax Diesel engine, with the truck’s grade braking and cruise control, was engineered to provide a stress-free experience for drivers hauling heavy loads over long distances.

In testing for the Ultimate Heavy Duty Challenge, the Sierra HD required zero brake pedal de-

pressions during a 7.2-mile descent from the Eisenhower Pass in Colorado, which included up to 7 percent grades. Neither competitor matched that performance, Goebel said.

Additionally, the Sierra HD won several other measured tests, including 0-60 mph time on the Milan drag strip, 60-0 braking distance at Milford Proving Ground, and fuel economy while trailering in Michigan.

The entire set of results and methodology can be found at the PickupTrucks.com website.

“We’ve always believed we’ve had the best heavy-duty truck on the market,” said Sierra marketing manager Stuart Pierce. “This validation comes from PickupTrucks.com.”

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# GM Corps is Caring Program

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

when I was asked to participate again as a mentor, I didn't hesitate to say yes."

This year, Wright said, she was the GM mentor at Hamtramck High School, where she worked with 10 students, seven female and three male. "This is a very competitive program to get into," Wright said. "Our project was to help the city of Hamtramck, specifically the fire department, by painting fire hydrants. We also did community service work on projects like Forgotten Harvest. I got the satisfaction of helping young people learn leadership skills and how they can also help their community. I am going to miss these kids."

Wright said that one of the things she most enjoyed during her tenure as mentor was seeing

the students come together and become friends.

"Hamtramck High School has an ethnically diverse student body," Wright said. "Students don't always mix together, but seeing them come together and develop friendships that will last a lifetime was satisfying. This program taught them to work with each other."

Reuss said that he's spoken with several of the GM retirees and they said that their mentoring relationships didn't end with the program. They kept in touch with their students and have helped them do things like fill out college applications.

"That's what this program is all about," Reuss said. "Making personal connections. The mentors care about the students and they don't stop caring once the program is over."

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# New Ford MiSci Van to Travel On Fizz, Bang, Science Tour

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Matthews said the vehicle is known for its fuel efficiency and versatility, and will help the museum travel to schools, community centers and libraries to conduct hands-on outreach.

“At Ford, we don’t just build great vehicles like the Transit Connect. We have long supported education as a way for our communities to strive for a brighter future,” said Jim Vella, president of the Ford Fund and Community Services.

“Initiatives like the Traveling Science Program will help our next generation of engineers and scientists open their eyes to new

opportunities and experiences.”

Ford supported the initial opening of MiSci in 2012, with a \$400,000 commitment over three years.

The company has been a committed supporter of the museum in its mission to provide engaging, interactive exhibits that ignite a passion for science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) in Michigan’s children.

MiSci’s Traveling Science program is offered year-round and includes a variety of exciting hands-on STEM workshops and presentations for children of all ages. For more information, visit [www.mi-sci.org](http://www.mi-sci.org).

# Car Buyers Use Smart Tech

The 2014 Automotive Buyer Influence Study indicates that Millennials are blazing the way for near ubiquitous use of the Internet in car shopping and are showing significant increases in their use of mobile devices.

Now in its third year, the study is intended to demonstrate how the consumer shopping process is rapidly evolving as the next generation of car buyers – Millennials – age into the largest car-buying cohort, said AutoTrader.com spokesperson Julie Zorn Shipp.

The recently released findings of the 2014 Automotive Buyer Influence Study are offered to provide insight into how consumers shop for vehicles online, offline and across multiple devices.

Contrary to popular belief, Millennials are just as undecided as other generations when they begin the car shopping process, with 70 percent undecided on

which make/model they are interested in purchasing.

By the time Millennials reach the dealership, they are significantly less likely to switch the make/model they have decided on: 70 percent end up purchasing the same make/model they had in mind when they first visited the dealership, compared with 66 percent of all car buyers.

“Since the majority of Millennials are decided on which vehicle they want to purchase by the time they get to the dealership, the opportunity for dealers and OEMs to influence their purchase decisions is online – where they spend the majority of their shopping time,” said Isabelle Helms, vice president of Research at AutoTrader.com.

“With that, it’s incredibly important for automotive advertisers to understand how Millennials are shopping online and across mobile devices.”

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36 MO. LEASE	MSRP \$36,870
EVERYONE	\$354
FRIENDS & FAMILY	\$344
EMPLOYEE	\$304

## 2014 SRX FWD

CROSSOVER STANDARD



Employee-\$2,039 and all others-\$2,373 due at signing plus tax, title, plate & doc. No sec. deposit required. Cadillac Luxury Lease Conquest: Customers must have a current lease of 2004 or newer Acura, Audi, BMW, Infiniti, Jaguar, Land Rover, Lexus, Lincoln, Mercedes, Mini, Volvo, Bentley, Ferrari, Porsche, Rolls Royce or Maserati.

36 MO. LEASE	MSRP \$38,530
EVERYONE	\$346
FRIENDS & FAMILY	\$337
EMPLOYEE	\$299

## 2014 XTS FWD

SEDAN STANDARD COLLECTION



Employee-\$1,349 and all others-\$1,645 due at signing plus tax, title, plate & doc. No sec. deposit. Must document current lease of 2004 or newer GM vehicle.

36 MO. LEASE	MSRP \$45,525
EVERYONE	\$457
FRIENDS & FAMILY	\$449
EMPLOYEE	\$399

## 2014 ELR COUPE

STANDARD



\$1,059 due at signing with Lease Loyalty, plus 1st payment, tax, title, plates & doc. No sec. deposit required. Must document current lease of 2004 or newer GM vehicle.

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# 'Vette Owners Can Rest More Easily When They Use Valet Mode – or, 'Baby Monitor'

Owners of 2015 Chevrolet Corvettes will feel better about handing over the keys to their car, thanks to the new Valet Mode with Performance Data Recorder.

The industry-exclusive system allows drivers to lock the interior storage, disable the infotainment system and record video, audio and vehicle data when the Valet Mode is active.

"Think of it as a baby monitor for your car," said Harlan Charles, Corvette product manager. "Anyone who has felt apprehension about handing over their keys will appreciate the peace of mind of knowing exactly what happened while their baby was out of sight."

Introduced in 2014, the Corvette Valet Mode is turned on through the settings menu and activated by entering a unique four-digit code. A confirmation entry of the code simultaneously locks the storage bin behind the center stack display, the glove box and disables the radio and infotainment system.

With the introduction of the industry-first Performance Data Recorder for 2015, Corvette drivers can also record HD video, in-car audio, and vehicle data – including speed, engine RPM, gear position and g-force – when Valet Mode is active.

## Corvette Museum To Celebrate 20th Anniversary

National Corvette Caravans from around the globe will participate in the National Corvette Museum's 20th-year celebration.

The museum in Bowling Green, Ky., will hold the event the weekend of Aug. 27-30.

As with past Labor Days, said National Corvette Museum spokeswoman Katie Frassinelli, this celebration is a member-driven event, which unites friends, family and enthusiasts for a look back on the museum's history and future.

"Visitors can see our many displays, and can join us for our Grand Opening of the new NCM Motorsports Park with scheduled parade laps around the road course, Frassinelli said.

"We'll have many scenic self-guided road tours to choose from, special video presentations and seminars, raffles, the annual open membership meeting and more."

The event will also include the Lifetime/VIP dinner, 10-year/15-year/20-year member recognition, Ambassador luncheon, and the "Corvette Hall of Fame" induction ceremony and banquet.

"We will induct John Heinricy, Jerry Burton, and Dave MacDonald into the prestigious and elite group of recipients who have made a significant contribution to Corvette history," Frassinelli said.

In other museum news, the Associated Press reported that the sinkhole that swallowed up eight cars at the National Corvette Museum will be partially filled in with plans for a bridge built over the top of the section left open.

Frassinelli said the facility will keep a 25-by-45-foot section, about 30 feet deep, with a bridge over it as a tourist attraction.

Frassinelli told WDRB-TV in Louisville that officials wanted to leave the Skydome room as is, for people attending the 20th anniversary celebration.

The sinkhole in February did more than \$1 million in damage to cars that fell on rocks. The cars were eventually pulled out of the hole. The Skydome area will close in September, so repairs can begin.

The video can be viewed instantly on the Corvette's eight-inch color touchscreen when the car is parked, or downloaded to a computer.

"Performance Data Recorder was initially designed as a tool for track days, allowing drivers to record their laps and improve their driving skills," said Charles.

"We soon realized the system could have many more applications, such as recording a scenic drive up Highway 101, or recording when the Valet Mode is activated."

The Performance Data Recorder – or PDR – system was developed with Cosworth, the British motorsports-engineering company that supplies the Corvette Racing team's data ac-

quisition and telemetry electronics systems.

The system includes three major components. First is a 720p, high-definition camera mounted within the windshield header trim, which records the driver's point-of-view through the window. Audio is recorded via a dedicated microphone in the cabin.

Second is a self-contained telemetry recorder. The system utilizes a dedicated GPS receiver and is hardwired into the Stingray's Controller Area Network to access vehicle information.

Finally, the system features a dedicated SD-card slot in the glove box for recording and transferring video and vehicle data. An 8-gigabyte card can



Valet Mode in action

record approximately 200 minutes of driving time.

The PDR system can record video with three data overlay options, including Track Mode, Sport Mode, Touring Mode and Performance Mode.

Also included with the system is the "Cosworth Toolbox" software, which combines Cos-

worth's professional-level motorsport data analysis with an easy-to-use graphic interface for users who want a more in-depth understanding of their performance.

Valet Mode with the Performance Data Recorder will be available on all 2015 Corvette models.

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