# Tech Center News...

WARREN, MICHIGAN

VOL. 39 NO. 39 **Covers the Tech Center and the Immediate Area**  **JUNE 1, 2015** 



Christine Becher of the Michigan DNR grabs falcon chicks nesting near Tech Center so they can be banded.

# Warren Starts LED Light Conversion Project

A Warren LED streetlight pro- conversion in the state. Warren will be converted to LED bulbs. gram should brighten the city up.

Warren plans to swap out all of its streetlights to LED. According to the city's Web site, DTE Energy has stated that this will be the largest collaborative municipal

Mayor Jim Fouts said that in total, the city has about 11,000 streetlights.

Of those 11,000 6,329 are mercury vapor lights Within 15 years, those 6,329 streetlights

Fouts said that getting rid of mercury vapor lights will help fight against acid rain and global warming as well as save the city money because of how cost-effective LED bulbs are.

# **DNR Bands Falcon Chicks Nesting at Warren Building**

by Jim Stickford

The name and owners of the building might change, but that hasn't stopped a pair of peregrine falcons from making it their nesting home.

The building in question is the former Campbell Ewald building on Van Dyke in Warren, across the street from the Tech Center. The building was purchased by GM after the Campbell Ewald advertising agency moved to offices in downtown Detroit in the fall of 2014.

On May 26, representatives from GM, the state of Michigan and the Detroit Zoo, witnessed the banding or tagging of three chick peregrine falcons who recently hatched on the roof of the building.

This was possible because starting in 2013, a pair of peregrine falcons used the roof of the building to build a nest. Since then a pair of falcons have nested on top of the building and raised "fledgings," said Sue Kelsey, bio-diversity program manager for GM.

When it was discovered that falcons were using the top of the building as a nesting area, Kelsey said, officials from the Michigan Department of Natural Re-

sources (DNR) began placing bands on the young falcons' legs so that they could track them and see what progress these banded falcons were making in repopulating Michigan with peregrine falcons.

Holly Vaughn, a Wildlife Outreach technician for the DNR was on hand to band the 2015 crop of falcons that hatched on top of the building. She said that peregrine falcons disappeared from Michigan in the 1960s. In 1993 the DNR began a program to repopulate the state with peregrine falcons. It was first discovered that the Campbell Ewald building was home to a pair in 2007. Hatchlings were first discovered in 2014.

"In Southeast Michigan there are currently 14 active nest sites for peregrine falcons," Vaughn said. "In the state of Michigan there are 45 nesting pairs.'

The first pair of falcons, Kelsey said, were named Isabella and Magellan. Unfortunately, Magellan died and Isabella this year paired up with a falcon named General Brock.

"General Brock is from Windsor," Kelsey said. "Canadian officials tag their falcons just as we

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 3** 

# **BorgWarner Provides Winning Parts at Indy**

BorgWarner president and Chief Executive Officer James R. Verrier presented the Borg-Warner Trophy to 2015 Indianapolis 500 winner Juan Pablo Montoya in Victory Lane at the 99th running of the famous race on May 24. This is Montoya's second victory, earning him two images on the iconic trophy. His first win was 15 years ago, the longest time between victories for any Indianapolis 500 winner.

"At BorgWarner, we are all proud to be part of the long tradition of achievement, performance and technology leadership at the Indianapolis 500, symbolized by the Borg-Warner Trophy and exemplified by the EFR turbochargers that boost every competitor," said Verrier. "Our EFR turbochargers have earned a reputation for performance and dependability, the same attributes personified by the people of BorgWarner."

Verrier said the EFR offers "an unprecedented combination of advanced technologies" and the BorgWarner's turbochargers built for the Verizon IndyCar Series feature low-weight Gamma-Ti turbine wheels for quick boost

The cast stainless steel turbine housing increases efficiency, improves durability and resists corrosion, Verrier said. Patent-pending ceramic ball bearings increase thrust capacity and durability while improving transient response

This advanced racing technology is now available through BorgWarner distributors, Verrier said. The EFR-7163 turbocharger offers street and race enthusiasts the same powerful performance as professional teams from the Verizon IndyCar Series.

The EFR-7163 turbocharger, ing. And for an easier retrofit ex-Verrier said, also delivers compact packaging, quick response, greater flow capacity, lightweight Gamma-Ti turbine wheels, stainless steel turbine housings, ceramic ball bearing technology and an aluminum bearing hous-

perience, these turbochargers offer integrated features including compressor recirculation valve, electronic boost control solenoid and flexible compressor

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 7** 



BorgWarner's James Verrier with Indy 500 winner Juan Pablo Montoya.



Larry Conarton, right, and Ben Spedoske build new Camaros.

# **LGR Plant Receives \$175M Investment for 2016 Camaro**

To make the best car – in this case the sixth-generation Chevy Camaro – you have to have the best and most modern equipment.

To that end, GM is spending \$175 million in investment for new tooling and equipment at the General Motors Lansing Grand River Assembly Plant in Lansing, which is where the Camaro will be built.

This investment will also make possible the return of hundreds of workers "to build America's best-selling performance car" for the last five years, said GM spokesman Monte Doran. The fifth-generation Camaro is built at GM's Oshawa, Ontario, facility. Doran said that production is being moved to Lansing so that GM can consolidate production of all its rear-wheel drive vehicles in one location. GM builds several Cadillac rear-wheel models at the site currently.

The facility improvements include three new paint systems for Camaro-specific colors: Summit White, Bright Yellow, and Red Hot, Doran said. The investment also includes installation of two robotic framers, which allow better dimensional control to provide a more precise drive experience.

The Lansing Grand River Assembly Plant will resume a second shift of 500 jobs in late summer, said facility spokeswoman Erin Davis.

The 2016 Chevrolet Camaro was introduced on Detroit's Belle Isle on May 16. The current generation Camaro has been America's favorite performance car for five consecutive years, Doran said, attracting both long-term Camaro fans and new buyers to Chevrolet.

To improve on that success,

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2** 

JUNE 1, 2015

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### **LGR Plant Gets** \$175 Million for **New Camaros**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1** 

the sixth-generation Camaro elevates every aspect of Camaro with a suite of new technologies, even higher levels of performance and fuel economy, and a leaner, more athletic design, Davis said.

"I may be the luckiest mayor in America today," said Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero. "Gearing up for full-scale production of the legendary Chevy Camaro is a new high point in the more than two decades of extraordinary partnership between the City of Lansing, General Motors and the UAW. We build the best cars in the world right here in Lansing, and we're delighted to welcome the 2016 Chevy Camaro to the Lansing-made family of great automobiles.'

The May 28 announcement along with others in the last four weeks accounts for nearly \$2.8 billion of the \$5.4 billion that GM said April 30 it would invest in U.S. sites in the next three years.

"With this investment in tooling and equipment, we will continue to do our part to build on the high-quality reputation of this iconic car," said GM North American Manufacturing manager Scott Whybrew. "These investments in the Lansing plants are proof of the teams' quality commitment, to put the customer at the center of everything we do!"

"UAW members have proudly built vehicles in Lansing for more than 100 years," said UAW v.p. Cindy Estrada. "As we help prepare for the launch of the allnew Camaro, we are pleased to continue our tradition of producing quality cars that we love to craft and build and our customers love to drive.'



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# GM, Habitat for Humanity Join Forces to Help Veterans

In recognition of Military Appreciation Month, the General Motors Foundation in late May gave a \$1 million grant to Habitat for Humanity to fund projects, including 11 new home builds in partnership with Habitat families, with the goal of assisting current and former military service members.

The grant will also support two international revitalization projects in Brazil and the Jimmy & Rosalynn Carter Work Project in Nepal, said GM spokeswoman Genna Young.

"A permanent home not only provides stability for families but gives them a sense of belonging in a greater community," said GM Foundation president Vivian Pickard. "These things are particularly important for our veterans and military service members, and we are committed to helping them - and all of our Habitat partner families - realize home ownership and take advantage of programs designed to move their lives forward in positive ways."

This partnership will help give U.S. military service members and veterans access to job training programs and fund the development of training programs to help Habitat affiliates better engage with their local veteran communities.

The announcement was made in Austin, Texas, home of the GM Austin IT Innovation Center. Austin is also home to a significant number of current and former members of the military who work for GM, Young said. Many of those employees joined the GM Foundation for the announcement, along with Austin City Council Member Sabino "Pio" Renteria, and representatives



GM employees volunteer help to build home for Habitat for Humanity in Lansing.

from Habitat for Humanity International and Austin Habitat for Humanity.

'Habitat is grateful for the continued support of the General Motors Foundation," Jonathan Reckford, CEO, Habitat for Humanity International. "This new funding will provide opportunities for many families - and veterans in particular - to partner with Habitat affiliates across the U.S. to build or repair their homes.

'The donation demonstrates a deep commitment from the General Motors Foundation to help Habitat change lives and trans-

form communities. Construction and revitalization projects will take place in these cities:

- Tonawanda, N.Y.;
- Atlanta;
- Austin, Texas; • Flint;
- Wentzville, Mo.:
- Detroit: • Columbia, S.C.;
- · Charlotte, N.C.:
- Los Angeles;
- Sao Paulo;

Pokhara, Nepal.

General Motors' teamGM Cares volunteers from the company's operations across the country commit to volunteer for each project, including many GM employees who are veterans, Young said. This summer, local GM employees will lead volunteer efforts on the Austin Habitat home build, dedicated to a veteran.

GM's commitment to U.S. servicemen and women is extended by Chevrolet, Buick and GMC through the GM Military Discount Program offered to all active, reserve, retired and veteran military - regardless of separation date - now through June 30, 2015. For more information, visit www.GMMilitaryDiscount.com.

Since 2013, the GM Foundation has donated more than \$3 million to Habitat, which has touched the lives of 166 Habitat partner families and helped revitalize 30 neighborhoods across the coun-

# Stock Market Analyst See Changes in GM's Future

NEW YORK (AP) - General Motors may need to consider big strategic changes like a merger or partnership with a competitor, a Morgan Stanley analyst said

Analyst Adam Jonas noted that GM is returning lot of cash to shareholders, but its stock has made only small gains this year and it's little changed since the company's 2010 IPO. Jonas said GM is aware that it's facing challenges and might need to make a correspondingly major shift. In his view the company has too many brands, platforms, dealers, and overlapping businesses.

"Investors remain unsatisfied by the pace and scope of change at the company, contributing to nearly 80 percent underperformance vs. the S&P 500 since the IPO," Jonas wrote. "We see an alignment of forces that may lead GM to consider more radical strategic changes.'

Jonas said he's not able to assess how the likelihood of any of those moves. He upgraded the shares to "Equal-weight" from "Underweight" and maintained a price target of \$28 per share.

GM did not immediately respond to a request for comment. In April CEO Mary Barra dismissed talk of merging with Fiat Chrysler, an idea that had been floated by Sergio Marchionne, the CEO of Fiat Chrysler.

General Motors Co. recalled 2.6 million of cars in 2014 because of a problem with ignition

switches in its small cars. More than 100 people were killed in crashes linked to the faulty switches, and GM says it may have to pay as much as \$600 million in lawsuits.

The company has acknowl-

edged it knew about problems with the switches for more than a decade, and the Justice Department is investigating GM for failing to disclose those problems, which could lead to even larger penalties.



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# **DNR Bands Falcon Chicks Nesting at Warren Building**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

do. When Magellan died, there was a fear that Isabella wouldn't find a mate, but that wasn't the case. We thought it was appropriate that General Brock came to General Motors.'

The chicks from the 2013 hatching didn't survive to adulthood, Vaughn said. But in 2014, three chicks hatched and they all lived long enough to go off on their own. Isabella and General Brock produced three chicks in 2015. The eggs were laid in April, with the three chicks hatching in early May. The official banding ceremony was on May 26.

Kelsey said that in addition to bands being placed on the legs, the birds are weighed, measured and blood samples are taken.

The work was done by people from the DNR as well as the De-

"One thing I noticed when putting the bands on was that the birds' crops were full of food," said Tom Schneider, curator of birds at the Detroit Zoo. "That means that their parents were doing their jobs and feeding the

When asked what falcons eat and feed their young, Terry Mc-Fadden, wildlife biologist for the DNR said birds.

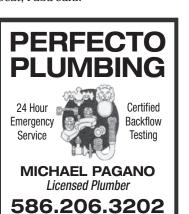
"These chicks are still young," McFadden said. "Their parents are still feeding them. They will become what is known as fledg-

### **Warren Library Hosts Author of WW2 History**

Barbara Rylko-Bauer, author of "A Polish Doctor in the Nazi Camps: My Mother's Memories of Imprisonment, Immigration and a Life Remade" is speaking at the Civic Center branch of the Warren public library on Monday, June 15, at 6 p.m. said Warren librarian Kathleen Faba.

"Rylko-Bauer's mother dured three Nazi concentration camps as a prisoner-doctor during World War II," Faba said. "She then struggled to rebuild her life, first as a refugee doctor in Germany and later as an immigrant to the U.S. Rylko-Bauer has produced a fascinating narrative that, not only tells her mother's story, but also demonstrates how powerful historical forces impact individual lives. Her writing is enriched with personal photographs, letters, archival documents and maps that combine to help us better understand World War II, the Holocaust and the struggle of immigrants in the aftermath of these tragic events."

Call 586-574-4534 to reserve a seat. Faba said.





General Brock at attention.

lings this fall."

Fledglings, McFadden said, are old enough to fly off on their own and hunt on their own. It is during this period of their lives when the young falcons learn how to take down prey and just what birds make the best prey for

As fledglings, these falcons still live at home, as it were, McFadden said. They hunt during the day and go back to the nest at night. If they are unsuccessful in their hunt, the parents will still feed them. But at a certain point, the parents will kick the younger falcons out of the nest and they will have to establish their own territories for hunting and breed-

McFadden said it usually takes about three years before a falcon begins breeding.

'The first year of a peregrine falcon's life is tough," McFadden "Falcons nest in high places, so it's not unusual for a chick to fall out of the nest and



Local peregrine falcon Sonic gets banded by the Michigan DNR.



Falcon chicks Sonic, Dino and Chevy in their nest atop Warren building.

die. But if a bird makes it past that first year, there is a good chance that it will survive.

Schneider said peregrines can live between 10 and 20 years, depending on circumstances, such as living in the wild versus being domesticated.

Kelsey said that GM was proud to help the DNR out with banding the falcons on the former Campbell Ewald building, which is cur-

rently being refitted from the inside out.

Kelsey said that GM is a strong supporter of green manufacturing.

"It's our goal to have all our manufacturing sites certified by the Wildlife Habitat Council by the year 2020," Kelsey said. "This building isn't a manufacturing site, but we'd still like it to be certified.

### TACOM Civilian Retires after 34 Years of Service

The U.S. Army TACOM Life Cy-Management Command (LCMC) bid farewell to its deputy to the commander, Michael Viggato, honoring him for 34 years of service to the U.S. Army during a retirement ceremony held in his honor at the Detroit Arsenal on April 30, 2015.

A number of distinguished guests were on hand, including members of the TACOM LCMC leadership team and members of Viggato's family, said TACOM spokesman Don Jarosz. Viggato expressed his appreciation to those who had helped in planning the ceremony, his family and friends who were in attendance, and the nation as a whole for allowing him to serve.

"It has almost been six years since I stood before you to say how truly honored I was to be selected as the deputy to the commander at TACOM LCMC,' said Viggato.

"I feel the same today as I did back then to serve the greatest Army the world has ever seen, serving for the greatest country in the world."

TACOM LCMC Commander Maj. Gen. Gwen Bingham congratulated Viggato on his retirement and was praised for his dedication during his years of

"Today is a bittersweet occasion as Mike Viggato celebrates nearly 35 years of service to the executive service. He has been a stalwart leader in this community," she said. "Most enduring of his service are the folks he has coached and mentored."

Viggato spent 34 years with the Army, retiring from the civilian rank of Senior Executive Service. He began his Army career in 1980 with the U.S. Army Audit Agency.



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ANY CAKE

# **Chrysler Employees Give to Community**

On May 23 400 elementary, middle and high school students on the eastside of Detroit became the proud recipients of new bikes, helmets, locks and new books during the Big Bike and Book Giveaway Day, at the Detroit Redeem Center, located on the city's eastside.

"This is a real volunteer effort," said Fiat Chrysler spokesman Kevin Frazier. "We worked with Communities In Schools of Metropolitan Detroit (CIS) on this program, which is designed to provide student with the resources they need to stay in school. The students who received a bike were chosen by the Detroit Eastside Community Collaborative (DECC), which is a neighborhood organization that does work in the Eastside area."

The Big Bike and Book Giveaway Day, created by Fiat Chrysler and the DECC), Frazier said, recognizes Detroit students who have demonstrated improved academic performance, attendance and good citizenship. The program also promotes fun, healthy lifestyles that include exercise such as biking.

"The progress that these students have made in the classroom and as good citizens is another reason to be hopeful about Detroit's future," said Jody Trapasso, senior vice president – External Affairs, FCA North America and President of the FCA Foundation. "We hope these students continue on the path to success, and also take some time out to enjoy their new bikes and books."

Students selected to receive the bikes and books at the Big

Bike and Book Giveaway Day attend schools where Communities In Schools of Metropolitan Detroit (CIS) provides education and community resources to help students successfully learn, stay in school and continue on the path to graduation. "We appreciate this opportunity to recognize our students for their hard work," said Sonja Allen CEO of CIS.

"We hope these students continue on the path to success..."

> - Jody Trapasso FCA

In preparation for the Big Bike and Book Giveaway Day, more than 100 Fiat Chrysler Motor Citizens employee volunteers shifted into high gear earlier this week, assembling the 400 new bicycles in a 7-hour, one-day build on May 20, Frazier said. Employees were also on hand during the giveaway to assist students with picking up their new bikes, locks, helmet fitting and bike safety instruction.

"We also provided bike safety classes for each recipient with a focus on riding safely, wearing a helmet and inspecting their bike before hitting the road," said Alex Allen, Detroit Eastside Community Collaborative Executive Director. "With the growing cycle infrastructure in Detroit, this is something that all students need to know."

"I really want to say that it was great that all the work building the bicycles was done by volunteers," Frazier said. "Altogether about 400 bikes were built for students ranging from grade school to high school. The bikes were all Huffys. Some were pretty simple, while others had up to 15 gears."

Frazier said that this bike build is similar to one done by Chrysler employees in conjunction with a program by Orchard Children's Services.

"We hope to make this a yearly thing," Frazier said. "But that is not a given. We are always looking for programs like that allow us to give back to the community. So we're always evaluating programs like this to make sure that they fulfill our goals."

Detroit ranks 4th among the top 50 large cities where bike commuting is growing the fastest, according to the American League of American Bicyclists Where We Ride report.



Clarence Batemen watches daughter Essence on her new bicycle.

# Ford Shares Green 'Tech' to Speed Innovation

Ford has a better idea – sharing its best ideas.

Ford Motor Company is offering competitors access to its electrified vehicle technology patents – a move to help accelerate industry-wide research and development of electrified vehicles

In 2014, Ford filed more than 400 patents dedicated to electrified vehicle technologies. This is more than 20 percent of the patents the company filed – totaling more than 2,000 applications.

"Innovation is our goal," said Kevin Layden, director, Ford Electrification Programs. "The way to provide the best technology is through constant development and progress. By sharing our research with other companies, we will accelerate the growth of electrified vehicle technology and deliver even better products to customers."

Ford Motor Company is a leader in this area – offering six hybrid or fully electrified vehicles including Ford Focus Electric, Ford Fusion Hybrid, Ford Fusion Energi plug-in hybrid, Ford C-MAX Hybrid, Ford C-MAX Energi plug-in hybrid and Lincoln MKZ Hybrid, Layden said. In total, Ford has more than 650 electrified vehicle patents and approximately 1,000 pending patent applications on electrified

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vehicle technologies.

Ford's innovations have resulted in electrified vehicles on the road today, but the company believes sharing its patented technologies will promote faster development of future inventions as all automakers look toward greater opportunities.

"As an industry, we need to collaborate while we continue to challenge each other," said Layden. "By sharing ideas, companies can solve bigger challenges and help improve the industry."

To access Ford's patents and published patent applications, interested parties can contact the company's technology commercialization and licensing office, or work through AutoHarvest – an automaker collaborative innovation and licensing marketplace, said Ford spokesman Aaron Miller.

AutoHarvest is comprised of many different businesses and universities, Miller said.

"Other members include such entities as General Motors, United Technologies, 3M, Johnson Controls and the University of Michigan, just to name a few," Miller said.

AutoHarvest allows members to showcase capabilities and technologies, then privately connect with fellow inventors to explore technology and business development opportunities of mutual interest. The patents would be available for a fee, Miller said.

"Ford helped launch AutoHarvest as a founding member to enable efficient and transparent technology licensing across the automotive industry and beyond," said Bill Coughlin, president and CEO, Ford Global Technologies, which manages intellectual property for Ford.

"The whole idea behind Auto-Harvest is to enhance the pace of innovation," Miller said. "Developing this technology is an expensive proposition and Ford has continually seen what avenues of research are out there and how the company can speed up the development of technology. We think this is a really good method."

As part of Ford's increased focus on new and innovative technologies, the automaker is set to hire an additional 200 electrified vehicle engineers this year as the team moves into a newly dedicated facility – Ford Engineering Laboratories – home to Henry Ford's first labs in Dearborn.

Here are some of Ford's electrified vehicle patents available for competitors to purchase:

- Method and Apparatus for Battery Charge Balancing, patent No. US5764027: The patent covers passive cell balancing: Discharging a cell through a resistor to lower the state of charge to match other cells. This innovation extends battery run time and overall life. It's the first invention to enable battery balancing at any time, instead of only while charging. It enables the use of lithium-ion batteries in electrified vehicles. It was invented long before lithium-ion batterypowered vehicles were common.
- Temperature Dependent Regenerative Brake System for Elec-Vehicle, patent No. 5763: The technology tric US6275763: works to maximize the amount of energy recaptured in a hybrid vehicle through regenerative braking. By improving the interplay between normal friction brakes and regenerative braking during stopping at certain air temperatures, a driver is able to recapture more energy than previously possible, helping the motorist drive farther on a charge.

Driving Behavior Feedback Interface, patent No. US8880290: The patent provides a system and method for monitoring driver inputs such as braking and accelerating, and vehicle parameters including energy consumption to assess driving behavior.



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# **Cy-Laser Now in Macomb**

Cy-Laser America, a subsidiary of Cy-Laser S.r.L., Schio, Italy, has launched a new Technology Center in Sterling Heights, Michigan.

A Grand Opening hosted dealers, customers and local dignitaries, and included demonstrations of a new line of end-load fiber lasers to North America.

Frank Vanin, area manager for Cy-Laser America, LLC, and Massimo Denipoti, president of Cy-Laser, LLC, welcomed guests and shared the company vision for serving and supporting users throughout North America from this new location.

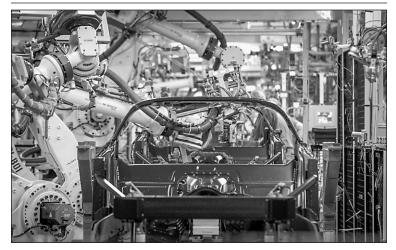
'Our near-term goal is to offer additional technical support for our fiber lasers already in the field, and to facilitate dealer demonstrations for prospective buvers. stated Massimo

Denipoti. "Shortly, this Center will house a supply of parts and accessories, in addition to those already available in Geneva IL, for the convenience of our customers.'

Prior to the Grand Opening, dealers from across the country met to meet Cy-Laser top management and learn about the product lines, and hear about future development plans.

Consensus among dealers present was that the products are on-target, and fulfilling North America's need for fiber lasers will be greatly improved with this new Technology Center and Showroom, said Cy-Laser spokesman Jim Meloche.

"Our company mission is Collaborative Customer Service," said Vanin.



GM's Corvette plant in Kentucky will get \$439 million in upgrades.

# **Bowling Green Getting New Paint Facility for Corvettes**

Thanks to upcoming investments in the Chevrolet Corvette plant in Kentucky, it should be easier than ever for GM's premier sports car to be in the pink thanks to a new paint shop that is among \$439 million being invested in the plant that builds Vettes.

General Motors announced the moves in late May, and they include retaining 150 jobs and building a 450,000 square-foot paint shop that is almost half the size of the entire current production facility, said GM spokesman Monte Doran.

The investment builds on approximately \$135 million GM has invested in the plant over the last four years for the new Corvette Stingray and Performance Build Center. The announcement was followed by a groundbreaking event for the new paint shop.

"The Corvette is one of Kentucky's most-cherished icons," said. Lt. Gov. Crit Luallen. "Such a significant expansion of the Bowling Green Assembly Plant will help the company remain competitive in the region and around the world.

Construction of the new paint shop, which includes substantial technology upgrades, is planned to begin this summer and take approximately two years to com-Corvette production schedules will be unaffected by the construction.

Along with new tooling and robots, the paint shop's state-ofthe-art environmental and efficiency enhancements include:

- Dry Scrubber Booth Technology with Limestone Handling System designed to eliminate sludge water and waste.
- Light-emitting diode, or LED, lighting for process decks for improved visual inspection as well as energy savings.
- State-of-the-art FANUC robots with Versa-bell 3 electrostatic applicators for an extremely smooth finish and maximum transfer efficiency, saving 25 percent of the paint material used, which also benefits the environ-

• Longer, high-efficiency baking ovens for exceptional paint finish and lower energy use.

"With this major technology investment, we can continue to exceed the expectations of sports car buyers for years to come," said North American Manufacturing Manager Arvin Jones. "These types of investments are evidence that the customer is at the center of every decision we

Said UAW Vice President Cindy Estrada: "This new paint shop will mirror the efficiencies and technologies of the new body shop, installed with the launch of the Stingray. Hardworking UAW members have proudly built vehicles in Bowling Green for more  $\,$ than 30 years, and we are pleased to be a part of such a significant facility upgrade."

Corvette production began in 1981 in Bowling Green following assembly in Flint, and St. Louis, Doran said.

Each has been an exclusive home of the Corvette, contributing to its distinction as the world's longest-running, continuously produced passenger car. More than 1.6 million have been produced in 62 years.

Since the launch of the all-new 2014 Stingray, the Corvette has won more awards than any other car in the industry, including the 2014 American Car of the Year, Car & Driver's 10 Best and Automobile Magazine's Automobile of

Building on that recognition, Corvette sales reached an eightyear high, Doran said, in 2014 with almost 38,000 cars sold globally. The plant welcomed a record 56,000 tourists last year.

The new Performance Build Center opened last year and in March began hosting customers in the Build Your Own Engine program. More information about Bowling Green Assembly is available at corvetteassem-

The investments in Bowling Green are part of the \$5.4 billion that GM said April 30 it would invest in U.S. facilities over the next three years.



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### Buick Scholarship Program Gets Honored

Scholarship America honored the General Motors Foundation with its Social Responsibility award for making a college education more accessible and affordable through the Buick Achievers Scholarship Program.

The organization's inaugural From Dreams to Degrees event was held May 20 evening at the National Press Club, said GM spokeswoman Genna Young.

"Through programs like the Buick Achievers Scholarship, we've made a lasting difference in the lives of thousands of students through more than \$27 million in scholarships," said Greg Martin, executive director of GM Global Public Policy and a GM Foundation board member.

The Buick Achievers Scholarship Program launched in 2011, and in partnership with Scholarship America, Young said it has become known as one of the largest and most impactful such programs in the country. Developed to strengthen the country's workforce pipeline with the next generation of leaders and innovators, it awards scholarships of up to \$25,000 per year, renewable for up to four years or five years, or qualified science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and automotive-related programs.

"The Buick Achievers Scholarship Program has made a powerful statement about the importance of ensuring access and affordability for all in obtaining a college degree, and ensuring a strong, qualified and representative future workforce for our country," said Lauren Segal, Scholarship America's president and CEO.

Two Buick Achievers Scholars, Morgan Grayned and Zineb Bouzouba, presented Martin with the Social Responsibility award. The students recently graduated from Hampton Univer-



From left Morgan Grayned, Greg Martin and Zineb Bouzoubaa.

sity and University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, respectively, Young said. Both received up to \$25,000 per year for their four-year undergraduate programs.

"This scholarship completely transformed my life," said Grayned. "Growing up I had no idea if I was ever going to be able to afford college. But thanks to the Buick Achievers Scholarship, my dreams, and my family's

dreams, became reality."

Other honorees included Katie Couric for Philanthropic Innovation and Donald Graham for Impact and Advocacy.

All proceeds from the event will fund the Scholarship America Dream Award, a completion-based scholarship program for students who are entering their second year or higher of education beyond high school.

# **GM Will Be Offering Tech Compatible with Android**

by Tom Krisher AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) – By the end of the year, nearly every major automaker will begin offering Apple's CarPlay or Google's Android Auto, two systems that effectively turn a car's dashboard screen into a smartphone.

General Motors made the biggest move so far May 27, announcing that both systems will be available in seven 2016 Chevrolet models starting in the summer.

The Apple system will appear in seven additional Chevy models. Earlier in the week, Hyundai announced the Android system in the Sonata midsize car.

Experts say the move to systems devised in Silicon Valley is an admission by the automakers that people favor the way their smartphones work over the automakers' own touch screens and voice commands, which have been prone to glitches. The in-house systems have cost the car companies millions and dinged their quality ratings.

People are familiar with smartphones and have music libraries, podcasts, social media contacts and other personal items on them, said Tim Bajarin, president of Creative Strategies, a technology research firm in San Jose, California.

Automakers, he said, have realized that most drivers can't be bothered learning a whole new car-based system.

"We just want familiar. We want our content, our services that we already own on our phone. We just want the car to have the representation of that on demand," Bajarin said.

To get the systems, General Motors customers will have to purchase a new Chevrolet equipped with the brand's "MyLink" touch screens, which are available on many entry-level models.

Once people plug into the car's USB port, the system will convert the screen to resemble the phone. The system will then be able to play a person's music library, log on to music apps with a touch, send and receive text messages by voice, and even call up Apple or Google Maps for navigation.

The number of available apps will be limited to avoid driver

distraction, General Motors officials said. Many can be controlled by voice commands, and video won't be supported by the car system.

To work with MyLink, Android phones must have at least the Lollipop 5.0 operating system, while Apple CarPlay requires an iPhone 5 or newer model.

GM will provide CarPlay or Android Car for no additional cost. Although this might cause some drivers to shun MyLink, General Motors believes that ultimately giving consumers the choice will help it sell more cars, said Saejin Park, the company's director of innovation and portfolio planning.

Mark Boyadjis, senior analyst for infotainment at IHS Automotive, said the decision doesn't necessarily mean the death of MyLink, Ford's Sync and other systems.

The automakers' systems have specific information about the car that Apple or Google can't duplicate – engine diagnostics, heating and air conditioning controls or even the ability to set up service appointments with dealerships, Boyadjis said.

General Motors officials also noted that some car owners might drive in areas without the cellular telephone coverage needed to run the Apple or Google systems. And others prefer not to plug anything in to their cars.

Initially both systems will be offered in the 2016 Spark mini car, Cruze compact, Malibu midisze car, Camaro and Camaro convertible and the Silverado pickup, both regular and heavyduty models.

If something goes wrong with the system under warranty, Apple and Google would be responsible if the problem originates with their software. General Motors would handle any problems on its end such as the MyLink hardware, company officials said.

Apple and Android combined control about 95 percent of the world's smartphone market, so having both systems is necessary.

International Data Corp. is forecasting Android will have a 79 percent share of the smartphone market this year with Apple (iOS) a distant second at 16 percent.



### Lingenfelter Says Come for Coffee, Stay for the Cars

For the second year, Lingenfelter Performance Engineering will host a Saturday morning "Lingenfelter Cars & Coffee" series.

Each Saturday morning, starting on May 30 and ending on Aug. 22, Lingenfelter's North Engine Build Facility in Wixom will open its doors and parking to the public and their cars, said Lingenfelter spokesman Chris Morrisroe.

Car lovers from near and far are welcome to stop by and enjoy the company of others and to see the latest and greatest in performance cars from Lingenfelter Performance Engineering," Morrisroe said.

We are looking forward to this year's Cars & Coffee mornings," said Ken Lingenfelter, owner Lingenfelter Performance Engineering. "Last year's series was attended by hundreds of car lovers each week. It was a pleasure to meet so many enthusiasts and discuss ideas and innovations in design and performance. Beginning each Saturday with this group of passionate individuals is a great way to start the weekend.

Lingenfelter Cars & Coffee will be held rain or shine, Lingenfelter said. Guests who attended the kick-off event on May 30 were asked to bring a nonperishable food item that will be donated to Gleaners Food Bank

There is no fee to participate in the weekly events and refreshments will be available, Lingenfelter said.

Attendees will have the opportunity to show off their personalized cars and meet other car buffs from the community and neighboring states, Morrisroe

Updates on weekend special activities and featured cars from the Lingenfelter Collection will be posted on their Facebook page as well as the company's website: www.lingenfelter.com.

The Lingenfelter Performance Engineering - North Engine Building Facility site is located at 47451 Avante Drive in Wixom, Morrisroe said. That is at the corner of I-96 and Beck Road.

On June 20, the Brighton Harley-Davidson and Motor City Harley-Davidson clubs will be special guests, Morrisroe said. On Aug. 1, the Motor City Heat Car Show sponsored by the Detroit 5th Gen Camaro Club will take place.

The summer's festivities will conclude with a special "Battle of the Bands" performance on Aug. 22, Morrisroe said.

### **Borg-Warner Awards Trophy at Indianapolis** 500

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1** 

cover outlet connections.

The Borg-Warner Trophy has a long history, said BorgWarner spokeswoman Katya Pruett, and features the sterling silver image of every Indianapolis 500 winner dating back to Ray Harroun in 1911. Made of 110 pounds of sterling silver and standing 5 feet, 4-3/4 inches tall, the trophy originally cost \$10,000 and is currently valued at \$3.5 million.

The Borg-Warner Trophy stays on permanent display at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Hall of Fame Museum. To give the winner and team owners a personal keepsake of their victory, Borg-Warner established the Borg-Warner Championship Driver's Trophy (also known as the "Baby Borg") in 1988 and the Borg-Warner Team Owner's Trophy in 1998, Pruett said. Both are sterling silver replicas of the Borg-Warner Trophy.

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### **May Auto Sales Steady** With SUVs Out in Front

New-vehicle sales are expected to decline 1 percent yearover-year to a total of 1.59 million units in May 2015, resulting in an estimated 17.3 million seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR), according to Kelley Blue Book's www.kbb.com.

"May sales will reach the highest total year-to-date, and could remain the highest until December of this year," said Alec Gutierrez, senior analyst for Kelley Blue Book. "While we expect an overall decline in volume versus last year, the difference is the result of one fewer sales day from May 2014, and total SAAR will reflect year-over-year improvement.

"May typically is a strong sales month, as consumers take advantage of warmer weather and advertised deals for the extended Memorial Day sales week-

Total sales are projected to hit 16.9 million units in 2015, a 2.5 percent year-over-year increase and the highest overall total since 2005, when sales fell just shy of 17 million units overall, Gutierrez said.

Key Highlights for Estimated May 2015 Sales Forecast:

- In May 2015, new light-vehicle sales, including fleet, are expected to reach 1,590,000 units, down 1 percent from May 2014 and up 9.5 percent from April 2015.
- · The seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR) for May 2015 is estimated to be 17.3 million, up from 16.7 million in May 2014 and up from 16.5 million in April 2015.
- Retail sales are expected to account for 82.2 percent of volume in May 2015, up from 81.7 percent in May 2014.

And, Gutierrez said, Jeep continues to push growth in Fiat Chrysler Automobiles market share

"Fiat Chrysler Automobiles is expected to narrowly continue its sales gain streak to 62 straight months of growth, largely due to the surging Jeep brand, which is poised to set another record in monthly sales," said Gutierrez.
"The all-new Renegade would have helped push Fiat Chrysler's total even higher, if not for the halt on its deliveries due to a software issue. Nonetheless, the Cherokee experienced similar troubles at its launch in late 2013 and is now Jeep's top seller."

Most major manufacturers are anticipated to post slight declines in volume or perhaps break even.

However, American Honda could report a slightly larger drop in volume, as two of their best-selling models, the Accord and Civic, are in segments that are losing popularity among consumers.

Even as gas prices have been on the rise since January, small and mid-size utility vehicles continue to lead the industry, Gutierrez said

The two segments have grown to comprise nearly 25 percent of new-car sales and are expected to climb once again in May, roughly 6 percent. Conversely, small and mid-size car sales are flat and combined share is down 1.5 percent.

Declines in these segments will range between 4 and 5 percent this month.

There are 26 sales days in May 2015, compared to 27 sales days in May 2014. All percentages are based on raw volume, not daily selling rate.



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