



GM CEO Mary Barra

Barra Talks of Feds Questioning in Criminal Case, Chrysler ‘Merger’

by TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) – General Motors CEO Mary Barra confirmed June 9 that she has been interviewed by the Justice Department in its criminal probe of how the company handled a deadly ignition switch problem in older small cars.

Barra told reporters the interview happened last year but said she didn’t know when the U.S. at-

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GM Techs Called in to Repair Damaged Historic Corvette

Damaged, but not forgotten. That’s the word on the Corvettes that were damaged in the winter of 2014, when a sinkhole opened up and damaged eight historic Corvettes that were on display at the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Ky.

Among the vehicles taken to GM’s Design Center for repair, said GM spokesman Monte Doran is the historic 1 millionth Chevrolet Corvette. Craftspeople and technicians at the General Motors Design Center are painstakingly restoring the vehicle.

The restoration crew is part of GM’s Mechanical Assembly group at the Design Center, which typically spends its time building prototype and concept vehicles, Doran said. The white 1992 Corvette is a challenge because rather than build an all-new vehicle from the ground up, the workers are trying to preserve the original appearance of a production vehicle.

It is the second of three sinkhole-damaged Corvettes that Chevrolet has pledged to restore, Doran said. The first, a 2009 Corvette ZR1 prototype known as the Blue Devil, was only lightly damaged and was returned to its original condition last fall. The National Corvette Museum will oversee the restoration of the third car, a 1962 Corvette.

Five other Corvettes swallowed by the sinkhole will remain in their as-recovered state to preserve the historical significance of the cars. They will become

part of a future sinkhole-themed display at the museum.

Basically, Doran said, their damage is of historical interest, so there is no need to repair or

restore them.

On Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2014, at 5:44 a.m., National Corvette

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GM Design Center Technicians are repairing damaged, historic ‘Vette.

Enjoy Detroit’s Rich Auto History All Summer Long

The Detroit Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau (DMCVB) and the MotorCities National Heritage Area (MCNHA) announced the Autopalooza lineup today during a press conference at the Automotive Hall of Fame in Dearborn.

Autopalooza is a series of world-class automotive cruises, races and shows in metro Detroit that celebrate southeast Michigan’s automotive heritage all summer long, said event spokesman Austen Smith.

Autopalooza 2015 kicked off with the Chevrolet Detroit Belle

Isle Grand Prix at the 2.3-mile Raceway at the Belle Isle Park street circuit.

The NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Quicken Loans 400 returns Sunday, June 14, to Michigan International Speedway, NASCAR’s fastest track, where favorites like Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Jimmie Johnson race 200 laps and battle for a trip to victory lane.

Autopalooza promotes the region’s rich automotive heritage to auto enthusiasts and visitors alike and has a significant economic impact on metro Detroit. The DMCVB calculated that the



This 1959 Pontiac Bonneville helped kick off Autopalooza 2015.

annual revenue generated from the Grand Prix, Concours d’Elegance and the Woodward Dream Cruise alone may exceed \$110 million.

“The auto culture and history

in this region is known throughout the world and the Autopalooza events showcase the very rich heritage we have here

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Bosch Supports National Auto Education Contest

by Jim Stickford

The need for the next generation of people working in the automotive industry is greater than ever, which is why companies like Ford, Bosch Automotive Services Solutions and AAA sponsor the Ford/AAA Student Auto Skills competition.

Karen Folger, vice president, OES Sales Bosch Automotive Service Solutions out of Warren, said that the national contest is designed to encourage high school students to consider careers in the auto industry.

“Bosch is the largest automotive supplier in the world,” Folger said. “And for us, it all starts with high school students. We want to get in touch with them while they’re young.”

Competitions like the Ford/AAA event are important, Folger said, because all too often people look at high school students who get involved with their schools’ auto curriculums as somehow lesser.

“At Bosch, we think being interested in cars and having a career in the auto industry is something that should be encouraged,” Folger said. “We hire engineers, purchasing agents, designers. Students interested in these fields should be encouraged. Then there is the shortage of automotive technicians. That’s one of the reasons Ford is involved.”

Folger said that being an auto technician is a challenging job that requires skill and education. And it pays very well. Techni-

IAV Invests in Wayne States Hybrid EcoCAR 3 Team

IAV Automotive Engineering, Inc., an engineering services firm that has its North American headquarters in Northville, is once again partnering with Wayne State University (WSU) in support of its EcoCAR team, said IAV spokeswoman Brittney Popa.

IAV has committed to backing the WSU Hybrid Warriors EcoCAR 3 team, the only Michigan university participating in the current Department of Energy (DOE) advanced vehicle technology competition (AVTC) series, Popa said.

Through this investment, which includes monetary, technology and mentorship support over four years, IAV is providing hands-on, real world learning opportunities for students interested in future careers in the automotive industry, said Andy Ridg-

way, president of IAV Region Americas.

The EcoCAR series is North America’s premiere collegiate automotive engineering competition, and is an integral part of AVTC’s 26-year history, Popa said. During the current EcoCAR 3 competition, teams are challenged to redesign a 2016 Chevrolet Camaro in a way that will reduce its environmental impact while maintaining performance.

Teams will apply the latest technologies and incorporate new ideas, including alternative fuels and advanced vehicle technologies, to lower the vehicle’s greenhouse gas and tailpipe emissions. Throughout the prestigious four-year competition

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Andy Ridgway, of IAV Region Americas, and Jerry Ku, of WSU.

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Barra Talks of
Feds Questioning
in Criminal Case,
Chrysler ‘Merger’

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torney’s office in Manhattan
would release the results of its
probe.

“We have cooperated fully. We
continue to do that,” she said. “It
is their timeline,” she said about
when charges could be filed.

Wire fraud likely is among the
statutes being considered by
federal investigators because
GM used electronic communica-
tions to interact with the govern-
ment’s National Highway Traffic
Safety Administration. Investiga-
tors are focused on whether GM
failed to notify the agency of the
switch problems and potentially
tried to hide them. Automakers
must notify NHTSA within five
days of finding out about a safety
defect.

The switches in cars such as
the Chevrolet Cobalt and Saturn
Ion can slip out of the run posi-
tion, shutting off the engine and
disabling power steering, power
brakes and air bags. The prob-
lem has caused at least 111
deaths and hundreds of injuries.
GM has acknowledged knowing
about the problem for more than
a decade, yet it didn’t recall the
2.6 million cars until last year.

Also June 9, Barra said GM
doesn’t need to merge with Fiat
Chrysler to take advantage of its
size to save money on building
cars and trucks.

She told reporters before the
company’s annual meeting that
Fiat Chrysler CEO Sergio Mar-
chionne emailed her about merg-
ing, but the proposal was dis-
missed by the GM senior man-
agement and board.

GM, she said, is working with
Ford on transmissions and Hon-
da on hydrogen fuel cells and
will look at opportunities with
other automakers. But she says
GM expects to sell 10 million ve-
hicles this year, and is big
enough to use its own size and
scale to save money.

Marchionne has been pushing
for consolidation of automakers,
saying the industry wastes capi-
tal developing engines, transmis-
sions and other parts that buy-
ers don’t care about. But he says
no companies have agreed to
merger talks. But Barra said GM
can save costs by working its
own plan.

“Over the past few years we
have been merging with our-
selves,” she told reporters. “We
already have scale.”

She disagreed with Mar-
chionne that customers don’t
care about engines, saying that
GM has received feedback from
many customers on engines in
the 2016 Camaro. GM plans to of-
fer a turbocharged four-cylinder
engine as the standard power-
plant in the new Camaro due out
later this year.

Citi Analyst Itay Michaeli, in a
recent note to investors, said
previous auto industry mergers
were “fraught with cultural and
product complexities that often
yielded mixed results at best.”

Fiat Chrysler Says it’s Doing Better in Recall Procedures

DETROIT (AP) – Fiat Chrysler
has admitted that it missed legal
deadlines to notify customers in
five safety recalls, a pattern that
could bring a fine from U.S. safety
regulators.

But the company, in docu-
ments posted June 4, said it’s tak-
ing steps to improve recall com-
pletion and notification rates and
shouldn’t be subjected to a July 2
public hearing on its safety per-
formance scheduled by the Na-
tional Highway Traffic Safety Ad-
ministration.

Last month, the agency, clearly
frustrated, scheduled the rare
hearing to air problems with 20
different Fiat Chrysler recalls
covering 11 million vehicles. The
agency said it has complaints
from customers that they weren’t
notified of recalls or that dealers
lacked parts to make the fixes.

The missed deadlines were re-
vealed in Fiat Chrysler’s re-
sponse to questions from the
agency as the company seeks to
avoid what could be an embar-
rassing public airing of its safety
problems.

Automakers must notify cus-
tomers within 60 days after
telling the government about a
recall. Four of the five Fiat
Chrysler misses were four days
or less, but one was 12 days late.
Company spokesman Eric Mayne
said owners in that case had al-
ready been notified, and the
missed deadline happened when
the company decided to change
the recall repair.

But Clarence Ditlow, head of
the nonprofit Center for Auto
Safety, said the agency should
slap the company with a big fine.
“It’s clearly a pattern, which why
NHTSA is holding a public hear-
ing,” he said. “NHTSA should fine
Chrysler five times for missing
deadlines in each of the five re-
calls because people can die
while Chrysler delays.”

The five recalls include four
from 2014 and one from this year.
Some involve vehicles that can
stall while being driven or igni-
tion switches that can slip out of
the run position, abruptly shut-
ting off the engine. The automak-
er can be fined up to \$35 million.

In its response, Fiat Chrysler
said changes it has made to in-
crease recall completion rates
and monitor progress make the
hearing unnecessary. The com-
pany says its overall recall com-
pletion rate of 77 percent of ve-
hicles 18 months after a recall
starts is better than the industry
average of 75 percent.

The company also says it has
worked hard to reach owners of
recalled cars. In the case of 1.56
million older Jeep SUVs with vul-
nerable gas tanks mounted be-
hind the rear axle, the company
has tried 4.5 million times to

reach owners. But Fiat Chrysler
said that some of the recalled ve-
hicles are 22 years old, and it’s
difficult to find owners through
state registration databases be-
cause addresses may not exist.

Fiat Chrysler also said its rep-
resentatives have been attending
vehicle auctions, buying back
some of the 2002-2007 Jeep Liber-
tys and 1993-1998 Grand Chero-
kees in the fuel tank recall to get
the off the streets. The company
also is investigating the possibili-
ty of sending a recall message di-
rectly to the radio or infotain-
ment screens in newer vehicles.
This could begin as early as 2016.

The company resisted the Jeep
recall at first, but agreed to the
trailer hitches in a compromise

with top Transportation Depart-
ment officials. The tanks have lit-
tle protection in a rear-end colli-
sion and are responsible for at
least 75 deaths nationwide, ac-
cording to agency documents.

In paperwork filed in April, Fiat
Chrysler said only 4 percent of
the recalled Grand Cherokees
and 27 percent of the Libertys
had been repaired – nearly two
years after the recall was an-
nounced. The company says the
Jeeps are as safe as comparable
vehicles made at the time.
But Deputy NHTSA Administra-
tor David Friedman, in an inter-
view on June 9, said Fiat
Chrysler’s answers, however ex-
tensive, aren’t enough to cancel
the hearing.

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Warren Business Turns 100 Years and Donates \$100,000

by Jim Stickford

One hundred years equals \$100,000. At least that was the goal of the Madison Electric Company on Van Dyke in Warren.

The company gave out four checks – \$25,750 each – to four local charities on June 9 as part of its centennial celebration.

Company president Brett Schneider, a fourth-generation executive with Madison said the company got its start in Detroit in 1914 when Morris Blumberg started the business.

“Back then we were an electrical parts distributor that sold things like light bulbs, electric fans and, of course, wiring,” Schneider said. “Now we distribute things like electrical and electronic components, automation equipment and wiring. We’ve always sold wiring.”

The company was originally named after its founder, Schneider said, but in the 1920s it was decided to change its name to reflect the company’s growth in the marketplace. They picked the name Madison not because of the street in Detroit or the president, but because the business at the time had a Madison telephone exchange number.

The company moved to Warren in 1992 and currently employs 155 people, Schneider said. Sales are about \$90 million annually, and the company’s customers include the Big Three automakers as well as various auto suppliers, machine tool builders and contractors throughout metro Detroit.

“We’re still family-owned,” Schneider said. “Right now we’re a ‘fourth-generation’ run business. Right now there are five cousins in the fourth generation who work here. We still have three family members from the third generation who work here, and there’s even one member of the fifth generation here.”

Schneider said that as the company’s centennial approached, the family decided they wanted to do something special to commemorate the event. After all, Schneider said, only about 1 percent of companies stay around long enough to celebrate a century in business.

“We really wanted to give back to the community,” Schneider said. “So the family set the parameters of what we wanted to do and picked four categories of charities that we wanted to help.”

Schneider said they knew they wanted to help children, a medical research facility, help feed the poor and help veterans. They picked a fundraising goal of \$100,000 for 100 years of business and then let the company’s Associates Committee pick the



Gleaner's Food Bank gets \$25,750 check from Madison Electric as part of company's centennial celebration.

actual charities using the parameters set up by the family.

“One qualifier we had,” Schneider said, “was that the charities have to be based in southeast Michigan. We started fundraising in January of 2014 and now here we are in June of 2015 giving out four checks. We raised a little more than \$100,000, so each charity is receiving \$25,750.”

The charities picked were the Detroit Institute for Children, which serves 4,500 special needs children in metro Detroit, with a focus on each child, chairwoman of the board of trustees Laura Huebner.

“We try to help children find their abilities in their disabilities,” Huebner said.

They also donated money to the Karmanos Cancer where it will be used to help expand the site’s intensive care center.

“I just want to thank everyone here for their contributions,” said Nick Karmanos. “I think you better get use to hearing that, because what you’ve done is great and a lot of people have a lot of thanks to give you.”

Gerald Brisson of the Gleaner’s Community Food Bank to accept the group’s check. He said that the money the people at Madison Electric donated will create 78,000 meals.

Charlotte Tripp, director of the Freedom Center, an organization that provides services to servicemen and women said that Michigan doesn’t have a USO organization. It’s up to groups like the Freedom Center to step in and fill the gap. The donations from Madison will go a long way in helping the

group fulfill its mandate.

“I hope this spirit of giving back to the community continues into the future,” Schneider said. “This September will be getting involved in a Habitat for Humanity build. I look forward to helping with that and helping give back to our community in the future. It’s been a long time since that first bake sale in 2014. I

want to thank everyone who donated, from our employees to our customers and even our vendors. It’s been a good 100 years for us. We’ve weathered all the depressions and recessions of the 20th and 21st centuries and we’re still here doing business. I want the company to be around in the year 2114 so that we can give out checks for \$200,000.”

Learn About State’s Water Ecosystem

Michigan State University Extension and Michigan Sea Grant, in partnership with the Huron-Clinton Metroparks, has started the 14th season of the Summer Discovery Cruises.

The 2015 season at Lake St. Clair Metropark offers cruises around themes such as fisheries, wildlife, wetlands, shipwrecks, lighthouses, weather, shipping and more. Attendees will learn about one of the world’s largest freshwater deltas as well as the ecosystem of the Great Lakes as the Schoolship Clinton explores Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair Flats from Lake St. Clair Metropark, near Mount Clemens.

Summer Discovery Cruises are on June 27 – July 19, with a Journey Through the Straits cruise held July 21 and Sept. 19. Tickets for most cruises are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children. Call 586-463-4581 for information.

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IAV Invests in Wayne States Hybrid EcoCAR 3 Team

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

(running through 2018), the 16 teams will learn – with the help of sponsors like IAV – how to apply their own unique ideas to meet the safety and high consumer standards of the iconic Camaro.

“We are proud to continue our partnership with the EcoCAR competition, building up young professionals that will soon join the workforce and enhancing the state’s automotive industry,” said Ridgway. “Our company is committed to revitalizing the industry through strategic partnerships that positively impact both current and future engineers.”

In addition to financial support, IAV has extended its resources, including the donation of a \$7,500 electronics control unit (ECU), to provide the training and technologies the Hybrid

Warriors need to excel with their competition vehicle, Ridgway said. Additionally, IAV has invited the team to use its testing facilities and provides access to equipment in addition to IAV experts that are available for ideas and guidance.

IAV also has helped coordinate events such as facility visits, where students can engage in discussions with business and engineering professionals from the company, Popa said. Through these hands-on opportunities, students have a tremendous opportunity to learn from the experiences and perspectives of the diverse IAV group.

“Our team is very grateful for IAV’s continued support of, and interest in, our EcoCAR 3 team. With their support, we look forward to growing our skills and expertise through this challenging event,” said Jerry Ku, faculty

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

in Michigan,” says Shawn Pomaville, executive director for the MotorCities National Heritage Area, a non-profit dedicated to preserving and promoting the auto heritage of the region. “We have events suited for all manner of auto enthusiast and the general public. Check out the beauty of auto design at a local car show, or take a look at the power and ingenuity of the region’s classic cars cruising Woodward, Gratiot, Hines, Fort and Saginaw Street. We are proud to offer the very best in auto heritage tourism all summer long.”

Other Autopalooza events include the following:

- Eastpointe Gratiot Cruise, June 20 in Macomb County. In its 18th year, the Eastpointe Gratiot Cruise embodies the community spirit of celebration of our love affair with the car, said Pomaville. The event engulfs the entire week, featuring cruise nights leading up to the big event as well as the Idol contest on cruise Saturday! All efforts go to benefit local charities.

- Motor Muster, June 20-21 in Dearborn. This car show celebrates one of the innovative eras of American automotive history – 1933-1976, said . The streets of Greenfield Village will be filled with hundreds of classic cars, vintage trucks, motorcycles – even a fire engine or two, said Pomaville. This year Motor Muster features the American compact car. Stay late for the Saturday evening cruise.

- EyesOn Design, June 21 in Grosse Pointe Shores. Eyes On Design is one of America’s premier automotive events, said Pomaville. Each year, the event attracts members of the trans-

portation design community, collectors, and the general public to celebrate and reflect on design. Vehicles are chosen based on the year’s theme by invitation only, and between 200 and 300 vehicles are at the show on Father’s Day.

- Sloan Museum Auto Fair, June 27-28 in Flint. This event is a two-day show with plenty of music, entertainment, vendors and of course, automobiles, said Pomaville. The Flint Cultural Center campus becomes home to more than 600 of the best looking cars, trucks and motorcycles around. Enjoy lectures, feature cars, exhibits, planetarium shows, kids activities and music.

- Cruisin’ Downriver, June 27 in southern Wayne County. Downriver has a love affair with cars, Pomaville said. This cruise celebrates Detroit’s muscle car history.

- RM Auction Vintage Motor Cars, July 25 in Plymouth. One of the nation’s most prestigious auction events held in conjunction with the world famous Concours d’Elegance show, Pomaville said. One hundred historically significant automobiles will be offered at this important sale held on the grounds of The Inn at St. John’s in Plymouth, Michigan.

- Concours d’Elegance of America, July 27 in Plymouth. The 2015 Concours d’Elegance of America will be held at The Inn at St. John’s on Sunday, July 26th. The site offers its grounds for showcasing the invited world-class vehicles as well as a luxury hotel on the premises, Pomaville said. It incorporates charming meeting rooms and fine dining facilities.

- Clinton Township Gratiot Cruise, Aug. 2 in Macomb County. This event allows cruiser to

go back in time with vehicles from all eras cruising Gratiot, Pomaville said. Gratiot is one of those Michigan roads where everyone has a memory. Now the communities along M-3 join in remembering and reliving days gone by while have a lot of fun

- Back to the Bricks Weekend, Aug. 11-15 in Flint. Back to the Bricks Cruise Weekend is celebrating its 11th year in 2015, Pomaville said. Last year, Back to the Bricks attracted a record-breaking number of vehicles. The weekend gets started early with rolling cruises and tune-up events in the area.

- Pure Michigan 400 NASCAR Weekend, Aug. 14-16 in Brooklyn.

- Woodward Dream Cruise, Aug. 15 in Oakland County. The Woodward Dream Cruise is the world’s largest one-day celebration of classic car culture, attracting more than 1 million visitors and over 40,000 muscle cars, street rods, custom, collector and special interest vehicles, Pomaville said. This world-famous event gets underway with the Official Woodward Dream Cruise Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in Ferndale.

- Cruisin’ Hines, Aug. 23 in Westland. This is a true celebration of classic car culture, congregating in 7.5 miles of beautiful park setting, Pomaville said. Cruisin’ Hines has grown in only two years to 40,000 classic cars and hot rods. Participants get to cruise the 7.5 miles of Hines Drive enjoying beautiful scenery and the historic Nankin Mills, one of Henry Ford’s Village Industry buildings. This is also the only Cruise in Southeast Michigan that closes the road to only Classics and Hot Rods.

- Old Car Festival, Sept. 12-13 in Dearborn. Participants can take in the spectacle as the streets and grounds of Greenfield Village, Pomaville said. It will be filled with the sights, sounds, and smells of hundreds of authentic vehicles from the 1890s through 1932. Drivers can enjoy a self-guided tour through this fabulous expositions and talk to proud owners about their treasured vehicles.

- Orphan Car Show, Sept. 20 in Ypsilanti. Orphan brands do not die! They live on with this annual reunion of vehicles from DeSoto to Packard to Franklin and Plymouth, Pomaville said.

For information on all of the 2015 Autopalooza events, visit www.autopalooza.org.



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SAE, Eaton Host Supermileage Event in Marshall

Power management company Eaton, in conjunction with the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE), announced the results of the annual SAE Supermileage competition held at Eaton’s Proving Grounds in Marshall.

Université Laval from Quebec, Canada, achieved 2,098 mpg with its student-designed and built vehicle that met the strict competition criteria of a single occupant, and a one-cylinder, four-cycle engine. Two other college teams achieved more than 1,000 mpg. The competition, held June 4 – 5, is in its 36th year, and is part of SAE’s effort to promote STEM studies.

“The students are so impressive with their ingenuity and creativity. What they accomplish year after year with this competition is truly amazing,” said Staci Kroon, president, Eaton Vehicle Group. “The Supermileage competition helps these students develop practical engineering, team building and leadership skills they can use to succeed in their careers, including making tomorrow’s cars and trucks more fuel efficient.”

‘Truck Customers Demand Top Quality’ – GM’s Clegg

by Jim Stickford

GM is putting its money where its mouth is when it comes to full-sized pickup trucks.

General Motors is investing \$1.2 billion in its full-size pickup truck plant for upgrades and technology that will improve the plant’s competitiveness in assembling high-quality light- and heavy-duty models. The announcement was made on May 26.

“This is among GM’s largest investments in a facility and certainly the largest investment at Fort Wayne,” said GM spokesman Bill Grotz. “This is all about providing the facilities to make the best trucks for our customers.”

Construction of the new pre-treat, electro-coat paint operation and sealing facility, expanded body shop, expanded and new material sequencing centers, and upgraded general assembly area is expected to begin in June and take several years to complete. Full-size truck production schedules will be unaffected by the construction.

“This is important because paint quality and paint selection is a great consumer satisfier,” Grotz said. “So it’s natural that we would want a state-of-the-art paint facility at Fort Wayne.”

“This investment is more evidence that the customer is at the center of every decision we make,” said Cathy Clegg, GM North America Manufacturing vice president. “Truck customers demand top quality. The upgrades at Fort Wayne Assembly will enable our team to continue delivering for them for years to come.”

The investment includes many technological and environmental upgrades:

- New pre-treatment facility featuring thin-film paint pretreatment.
- E-coat paint customized to each vehicle style, resulting in superior coverage and curability.
- GM-patented radiant tube ovens for exceptional paint finish and lower energy use.

- New equipment that accommodates the many variations of the truck cab and box being placed on the chassis.
- New skillett conveyance systems for instrument panel assembly intended to improve worker ergonomics, leading to better product quality.

“These new technologies and equipment will help fulfill the mission of the men and women of Fort Wayne Assembly and UAW Local 2209 to build the best full-size trucks available,” said UAW Vice President Cindy Estrada. “The investment improves the plant’s competitiveness so we can continue contributing to the community as well.”

Grotz said that this investment is an indicator of GM’s confidence in the large pickup market.

“It’s a constant effort to keep our facilities in top form,” Grotz said. “And our actions are aligned with market demands. We need to have the top people and the top facilities in order to make the best vehicles for our customers.”

“Around the world, Indiana is known as a proven leader in advanced manufacturing,” said Indiana Gov. Mike Pence. “Powered by a pro-growth business environment and a highly-skilled workforce, GM is leveraging Indiana’s strengths to help it remain competitive across the globe. Today’s announcement marks a significant promise to the Hoosier State and ensures GM’s presence in Indiana and its support of Hoosier jobs long into the future, reaffirming that Indiana is a state that works for business.”

Fort Wayne Assembly began building light-duty trucks in 1986. Today, it is a three-shift operation with approximately 3,800 employees who build light- and heavy-duty regular and double cab full-size trucks.

“The beauty of all of this is that we will be able to maintain production of trucks while the upgrades to the site take place,” Grotz said. “The current facility is three million square feet. We will be adding an additional 1.5



Fort Wayne Assembly will undergo \$1.2 billion in upgrades.

million square feet. Now once the new footprint comes online, some of that original three million square feet will no longer be in use.”

Upcoming Library Events

Have you ever asked yourself, why you pay so much for salves and balms and isn’t there something that you can do about it?

If you have, then Warren Public Library has the right program for you.

“Heather Wysor, owner of Magic Wysor Remedies, has been creating salves and balms for health and beauty for several years,” said Warren librarian Kathleen Faba. “At a ‘make and take’ session on Thursday, June 25th at 6 p.m., she will teach us how to make a magic elixir or two of our own. Seating is limited so it is a good idea to register early. Participants will be asked to pay \$5 for supplies at the time of registration.”

Faba said that the session will be held at the Warren Civic Center conference room located right next to the Civic Center branch of the Warren library.

Faba said the library also has a special program aimed at lovers of homecooking.

“Kathleen Flinn is a cook, blogger, teacher and the author of

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

three books,” Faba said. “Her website is called ‘Cook Fearless’ and teaches all kinds of things about food, cooking and kitchens. Her latest book is a memoir with recipes called ‘Burnt Toast Makes You Sing Good: A Memoir of Food & Love from an American Midwest Family.’”

Flinn will be at the Warren Civic Center on Wednesday, June 17, at 6 p.m. for a presentation and book signing. These two events will be just two of several that Warren librarians have planned for the summer, Faba said.

Faba said, space for both of the events is limited, so the best way to make sure of having a seat at either event is to call ahead to the library at 586-754-4564.

Macomb County Seeking Meals Delivery Helpers

Macomb County Community Services Agency’s Office of Senior Services is seeking volunteer drivers to deliver meals to homebound senior citizens through the Meals on Wheels program. There is a critical need for volunteer drivers in Clinton Township, Harrison Township, Richmond, Roseville, Sterling Heights and Warren.

Volunteers are asked to drive a midday route at least twice each month. An average route takes about 90 minutes to complete. Meals are delivered Monday through Friday. Meal pickup locations are located near the delivery routes, said Macomb County spokeswoman Julie Kavanagh.

Volunteers must be at least 18 years old, or accompanied by a parent or authorized adult, pass a background check and have a valid driver’s license and insurance. Volunteers must use their personal vehicles for delivery and are offered mileage reimbursement.

Meals on Wheels allows seniors to remain in their homes and live with dignity while receiving warm, nutritious meals. In Macomb County, nearly 1,700 seniors receive daily meals through the program.

Volunteer by calling (586) 469-5228 or signing up online at mccsa.macombgov.org.

Macomb County Community Services Agency is a Community Action Agency dedicated to helping people and changing lives. MCCSA offers many programs to Macomb County residents, including emergency assistance, Head Start, senior services and weatherization. For more information, visit mccsa.macombgov.org.



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Visteon Names New CEO

Visteon Corporation ha appointed Sachin Lawande president and chief executive officer of Visteon, effective June 29, succeeding Timothy D. Leuliette. Lawande will also join Visteon’s Board of Directors.

Lawande is an accomplished automotive OEM electronics veteran with over a decade of global leadership experience in the industry, said Visteon spokesman Jim Fisher. From 2005, Lawande held several leadership roles at Harman International Industries, most recently serving as president of the Infotainment Division, the company’s largest division with nearly \$3 billion in annual sales. Prior to joining Harman, Lawande held senior roles at QNX Software Systems and 3Com Corporation.

“After a thorough evaluation of potential candidates, we are confident that we have found in Sachin the perfect individual to lead and transform our company to achieve further success in the rapidly evolving automotive electronics market,” said Francis M. Scricco, Visteon chairman of the Board. “Sachin’s significant operational expertise and unique combination of experience in the automotive, technology and software industries will be critical as we seek to capitalize on the dynamic growth of the connected vehicle ecosystem and provide our OEM partners with innovative and cost-effective technology solutions.”

“It is an honor to be named Visteon’s next CEO,” said Lawande. “Electronics and software are more important to the automotive industry than ever before, and the newly transformed Visteon is in an ideal position to emerge as the innovation and technology leader in this space to continue to deliver value for customers and share-

holders. “I am excited about the opportunity to build on the company’s momentum and lead Visteon into the next phase of its growth as the premier provider of Driver Information Systems and Infotainment that form the backbone of the connected car. I look forward to working closely with the board, management, and the talented Visteon team to advance innovation in the connected car and further capitalize on the growing importance of electronics to the automotive industry.”

Lawande, 48, is one of the foremost technology and business thought leaders in the automotive OEM electronics supplier industry, Fisher said. Throughout his career, Lawande has championed the need for automotive suppliers of cockpit electronics to evolve to meet the demands of the connected car era. Most recently, he served as president of the Infotainment Division of Harman International Industries since 2013 and as executive vice president since 2009.

In his role as president of the Infotainment Division – the largest division of Harman with nearly \$3 billion in annual sales, Fisher said – Lawande achieved double-digit sales and income growth while serving 11 of the top 15 OEMs and leading over 7,500 employees worldwide.

Prior to that, Lawande served in various leadership roles at Harman including EVP and president of the Lifestyle Division, EVP and co-president of the Automotive Division, EVP and chief technology officer and chief software architect. In these roles, Lawande was responsible for guiding software strategy, development partnerships, and key customer relationships.

Before joining Harman, Lawande held senior roles at



Sachin Lawande

QNX Software Systems and 3Com Corporation. Before joining QNX, he was responsible for the development of networking and consumer electronics systems at corporate giants such as AT&T Bell Labs, U.S. Robotics, and 3Com. Lawande has a wealth of experience in developing embedded systems and software and holds four patents in Communications Software.

He holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Electronics and Telecommunications from Bombay University in India and a Master’s Degree in Electrical Engineering from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville.

Gm Death Toll Rises to 111

DETROIT (AP) – The death toll from faulty ignition switches in small cars made by General Motors has risen by two to 111.

Victims’ families are being offered compensation of at least \$1 million each by attorney Kenneth Feinberg, who was hired by GM last year. In addition, GM has agreed to make offers to 220 people who were injured in crashes caused by the switches in the Chevrolet Cobalt and other older-model cars.

Good News – Vehicle Fuel Efficiency Still Improving

According to a new Consumer Federation of America (CFA) analysis of 1,163 of this year’s new vehicles, fuel efficiency continues to increase for 2015 on a model by model basis.

However, individual car company fleets, are backsliding on their overall fuel economy performance, said Jack Gillis, author of The Car Book and automotive expert for CFA.

According to the CFA’s most recent analysis, from 2014 to 2015, the percent of vehicles with an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) fuel economy rating of at least 23 miles per gallon (mpg) ticked up from 50.5 percent to 52 percent, and the percent of vehicles with fuel economy at or below 16 mpg, the so-called gas-guzzlers, declined from 8.5 percent to 6.1 percent.

On the other hand, the analysis showed, the 2015 improvement disguises significant variation in the fuel economy progress made by individual car companies. While some automakers have made important progress in increasing the number of models that comply with the year’s Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standard, for example, Volvo (29 percent vs. 0 percent in 2014), Honda (57 percent vs. 51 percent in 2014) and Mercedes (18 percent vs. 12 percent in 2014), a number of companies slid backwards.

Gillis said those registering the biggest declines in fuel efficiency were Kia (40 percent compliance in 2014 vs. 18 percent in 2015), Subaru (48 percent vs. 75 percent in 2014) and GM (19 percent vs. 27 percent in 2014).

“In 2015, seven auto companies met or exceeded their 2014 performance,” said Gillis. “There is no doubt that since the announcement of higher CAFE standards, many car companies have improved their selection of vehicles with greater fuel efficiency, proving that 54.5 mpg by 2025 is achievable. The fact that the number of cars getting over 23 mpg has risen by almost 40 percent in the last ten years is strong evidence that reaching the goal of 54.5 mpg by 2025 is indeed attainable,” added Gillis.

In looking at the 2015 models, the biggest jump was in the 27-30 mpg category, which improved from 14.8 percent to 16.5 percent in 2015, Gillis said. While traditionally, the most significant efficiency gains are found in smaller vehicles, this year the Ford F-150, which had a 2014 fuel economy range of 13-19 mpg, jumped to a range of 17-22 mpg in 2015. By switching to a lighter aluminum body, the majority of the newly designed F-150 trims are CAFE compliant for 2015. And, one F-150 trim line, in particular, is compliant until 2021.

Seven companies matched or improved the percentage of models complying with CAFE over 2014; eleven companies backslid, Gillis said.

One of the reasons that 2015 saw a slowdown in CAFE compliance for many car companies is that while the CAFE standards increase each year, manufacturers can only significantly improve the fuel economy of their “all-new” models.

In comparing the CAFE compliance of “all-new” models in 2014 with 2015, there were fewer CAFE compliant vehicles in the “all-new” 2015 models. Another reason for fewer compliant vehicles was an increase in the number of newly introduced SUVs and light trucks, which were not designed to meet the standard.

Individual vehicles failing to meet the standard can occur because CAFE is a corporate average, Gillis said. It’s the manufacturer’s overall fleet that has to

meet the goal. Therefore, non-compliant SUVs and light trucks can be balanced out by other vehicles that exceed their CAFE requirement.

About 50 percent of the all-new 2015 vehicles were light trucks and SUVs, compared to 34 percent in 2014.

The percentage of cars that were CAFE compliant in 2015 was roughly similar to 2014 (58 percent to 53 percent), but the percentage of CAFE compliant light trucks and SUVs declined significantly (from 80 percent to 35 percent). With the exception of the Ford F-150, most of the SUVs and pickups were not CAFE compliant, dropping the percentage of “all-new” vehicles that were CAFE compliant from 66 percent to 44 percent.

Finally, in reviewing the “all-new” models, “we determined how many years into the future each model would continue to comply with their CAFE requirement, which increases every year,” Gillis said.

Vehicles that meet the requirement for a number of years help the manufacturer continue to comply with the standards, which is good news for drivers.

“Consumers realize immediate savings at the pump with a CAFE compliant vehicle,” said Mark Cooper, director of Research, CFA.

“Those purchasing these efficient models can rest assured they will receive a return on their investment for years to come.”

The following charts show the CAFE compliance of the 2015 vehicles (first chart) and 2014 vehicles. Examining the “all-new” vehicles that each manufacturer puts out provides some context for why they have dropped in CAFE compliance.

For example, Kia’s “all-new” vehicles consisted of a luxury car – the K900 – and SUV – Sedona – neither of which is CAFE compliant.

“While there was backsliding by some of the manufacturers, a number of others are demonstrating that 54.5 mpg by 2025 is, indeed, achievable,” said Gillis.

GM Techs Get Call to Repair Damaged 'Vette

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Museum personnel were notified by their security company about the burglar alarm going off in the Skydome area of the museum. Upon arrival at the museum, a sinkhole measuring about 45-by-60 feet wide and 30-foot deep was discovered.

Security camera footage showing the Skydome floor’s collapse has been viewed more than 8.5 million times on YouTube.

Eight historic Corvettes – two on loan from GM and six owned by the museum – were swallowed that day:

- 1993 ZR-1 Spyder (on loan);
- 2009 ZR1 “Blue Devil” prototype (on loan);
- 1962 Corvette;
- 1984 PPG Pace Car;
- 1992 1 millionth Corvette;
- 1993 40th Anniversary Corvette;
- 2001 “Mallett Hammer” Z06;
- 2009 1.5 millionth Corvette.

On March 3, 2014, the 2009 Blue Devil was the first car recovered and despite significant damage was started and driven out of the Skydome, Doran said. The 1.5 millionth Corvette and Mallett Corvette were the last cars pulled from the sinkhole, on April 3 and April 9, respectively – after workers were initially unable to find them amid the collapsed earth.

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*Lease payment examples for Cruze, Equinox and Malibu at GM Employee Discount Price plus tax, title, plate, zero security deposit, first month payment (first payment waived for Cruze and Malibu only) and doc. fees due at signing with all rebates including GM Competitive Lease Conquest Private Offer assigned to dealer. Lessee responsible for excess wear and tear as well as exceeded contracted mileage. Due to advertising deadlines, prices subject to change. See dealer for details.

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Panoramic image on Instagram (PanoGram) highlighting the precision of the 2015 GMC Sierra Denali's interior. This app shows just what creative users of Instagram and do with their smart phones to show off their GMC Sierra Denali's.

GMC Goes Picture Perfect with Instagram

Say "cheese." If a picture is worth a thousand words, GMC hopes consumers will have a lot to say about #GMCprecision, a new Instagram campaign that uses dramatic panoramic photography to illustrate the attention to detail in its vehicles, said GM spokesman Brian Goebel.

The month-long campaign was launched May 22, with GMC among the first automotive brands to create "PanoGrams" via the Instagram Carousel format that debuted earlier this year, Goebel said. It allows consumers to swipe through a series of photos in a single ad, similar to the way a traditional magazine publishes a multi-page spread of a single image. GMC created "PanoGrams" which showcase a series of photos within the carousel that stitch into one panoramic image. These PanoGrams will then link consumers to GMC.com for additional information.

"If you look at the Instagram site, you'll see that the photos there are very good," Goebel said. "The site is used by people who use a higher level of photography. And that's what the GMC brand is all about - being a cut above the rest."

Instagram/Facebook's Creative Shop team worked closely with GMC to identify, select and photograph the #GMCprecision venues. They include a wind farm - viewed from a GMC Sierra Denali pickup and made to look infinite because of how the photographer captured the towering turbines against clouds and filtered sunlight - and a meticulously designed private residence in southern California. The GMC Yukon Denali and Terrain Denali are featured in the architecture treatment.

"We chose Instagram because of its successful track record of creating communities of discerning photography enthusiasts who can rally around a brand,"

said Duncan Aldred, U.S. vice president, GMC. "Highlighting the precision of our vehicles within the context of beautiful photography helps us connect with consumers who embrace precision in all aspects of their lives."

GMC will integrate its PanoGrams and companion content into the brand's other digital media channels, such as Facebook.

GMC's PanoGrams are an incredibly creative and beautiful use of Instagram's Carousel format," said Michelle Morris, group director, Auto, Facebook & Instagram. "Instagram is all about capturing striking moments, and combining the interiors of their new Sierra with breathtaking exteriors is an excellent way to call attention to GMC's great vehicles."

The #GMCprecision social play is part of GMC's larger, multimedia "Precision" campaign that launched with television ads in March. It runs throughout the year and features the entire GMC lineup. Partly on the strength of the campaign, through May 31, GMC sales are up 15 percent year over year as more customers shift to trucks, crossovers and SUVs.

Goebel said it's only been a couple of weeks since the launch of the campaign, so it's too early to measure just how successful it's been.

But, Goebel said, all the anecdotal evidence he's heard indicates that it's been popular with consumers.

Another Potential Takata Airbag Death Found

DETROIT (AP) - A Louisiana woman who may be the seventh person killed by a defective Takata air bag received a recall notice two days after the crash that caused her death, according to a lawsuit filed by her family.

Kylan Langlinais, 22, of Lafayette, Louisiana, died at a hospital on April 9, four days after the 2005 Honda Accord she was driving crashed into a utility pole in the city, according to a lawsuit filed by her family Monday in federal court.

The crash occurred about 4 a.m. on April 5, and the driver's air bag exploded with too much force, sending out shrapnel that severed Langlinais' right carotid artery, the lawsuit stated.

Kenneth St. Pe', a lawyer representing the family, said June 10 that he believes Langlinais would have walked away from the crash if not for the injury from the exploding air bag. Doctors did exploratory surgery and found no other injuries, he said.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is collecting information on the crash and is in contact with the lawyers and Honda, a spokesman said.

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- Bluetooth
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Stk. #GF0355

GM Invests in Grand Rapids Plant and Local Community

General Motors is investing \$119 million in tools and equipment to support production of future vehicle components at its Grand Rapids Operations, creating approximately 300 future jobs.

The plant currently has approximately 500 employees on three shifts and produces a variety of precision-machined automotive engine components used in Chevrolet, Buick, GMC and Cadillac vehicles, said GM spokesman Kevin Nadrowski.

"This is an investment in future vehicle components," Nadrowski said. "This site is vital to to GM and it produces parts for much of the company's line. This announcement is good news for the plant and good news for the community it's located in."

Details about program timing and applications will be released later, Nadrowski said.

"This investment in the future recognizes the excellent workforce at Grand Rapids Operations" said GM North America Manufacturing Manager Scott Whybrew. "It also demonstrates GM's collaboration with our UAW partners to innovate and bring tangible benefits to our customers."

The investment in the GM Components Holdings, LLC plant is part of the \$5.4 billion investment in U.S. facilities that GM announced April 30, with approximately \$3 billion identified to date, Nadrowski said. This news of 300 future plant jobs represents nearly half of the 650 planned employee additions within GM.

"By working together, UAW members and GM are making a difference in communities across

the United States," said UAW Vice President Cindy Estrada. "These investments represent the power of our partnership and collective bargaining to create jobs and improve competitiveness, quality and our manufacturing base in this country."

At the time of the announcement on June 1, GM released some information about the Grand Rapids Operations facility.

It first opened up in 1943 and takes up 1.8 million square feet of space on 95 acres of property. Right now the staff breaks down to about 400 hourly employees and 130 salaried. Items manufactured at the site include:

- Lash Adjusters;
- Roller Hydraulic Valve Lifters;
- Cylinder Deactivation Lifers;
- Continuously Variable Cam Phasers;
- Metal Stampings.

Recent improvements to the facility include consolidation of injector manufacturing at the site in 2006 and between 2009 and 2015 approximately \$50 million worth of investments to support new product programs, capacity expansion and infrastructure improvement.

The Grand Rapids Plant has been building precision machined automotive components for almost 70 years, Nadrowski said. It is the original home of the Diesel Equipment Division of General Motors and is well known for its valve train components. Through the years, it has been a part of the Rochester Products Division, AC Rochester Division, and the Energy & Chassis Division of Delphi. Currently it is one of four plants that make up the GMCH consolidated subsidiary of GM.

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Certified Service

Bosch Supports National Auto Education Contest

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cians are also our sweet spot as well.”

And, Folger said, sometimes it’s just fun to encourage students in their interests.

“Not all of the competition contestants go on to some technical school,” Folger said. “Last year’s a finalist ended up with a full ride to MIT. But having said, that a significant number of participants go on to programs like those that Ford has for training technicians and UTI is also heavily invested in this event as well. So I can say a large number of men, and women as well, who participate go onto further their careers in the auto industry.”

Folger said that the contest begins with roughly 12,000 people taking an exam online. Then individual states hold their own contests made up of people who passed the online test in each state.

Each state then produces a winning team. California is the exception, Folger said. It produces two teams. Washington, D.C. also has a winning team.

Folger said the Michigan winners – Jacob Catanzaro and Jason Foster – come from St. Clair Technical Education Center.

So on June 9, 42 teams with

104 participants – plus advisors for each team – met on the field of combat, Folger said. In this case, it’s located outside of Ford World Headquarters in Dearborn.

This year’s national winners were Morgan White and Jay Saunders of Vale High School in Vale, Ore.

Bosch Automotive Service Solutions helps set up the seven challenges that students will have to diagnose, Folger said.

“We’re involved in a lot of the technical side of things in the contest,” Folger said. “Contestants will also be using our Bosch Pocket Scanners, which are used to diagnose vehicle problems. The company is also heavily involved in the career event that is held the day before the contest.”

Folger said her division, Bosch Automotive Service Solutions, makes the diagnostic devices many technicians use in the repair of motor vehicles.

“That’s why we are involved in the Ford/AAA event,” Folger said. “Bosch’s North American headquarters are in Farmington Hills, but we are located in Warren and I am proud to say that we are one of the main Bosch divisions sponsoring this contest.”



Cadillac makes staying in touch easier than ever.

2016 Cadillacs to Connect Drivers with Apple, Android

These days a car’s performance is measured in more than mileage or smoothness of ride.

Now performance can be measured in things like connectivity and wi-fi speed.

That’s why Cadillac’s 2016 model year products will feature enhanced connectivity and control, including the addition of Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, the predominant new systems for in-car phone integration, said GM spokesman David Caldwell. These additions are part of a broader enhancement of CUE, Cadillac’s user experience, with new features and a faster, streamlined operation.

Apple CarPlay will debut in 2016 Cadillac models featuring CUE’s 8-in multi-touch screen except the SRX Crossover, a model that will move to an all-new generation in early 2016. Android Auto is expected to be phased into 2016 production at a later date. The 2016 model year will begin this summer.

“Cadillac’s product transformation includes continuing upgrades to connectivity and in-car technology,” says David Leone, Executive Chief Engineer. “In 2015 Cadillac became the first luxury brand to feature broad use of wireless charging and 4G LTE Wi-Fi connectivity, and now in 2016 we’re moving quickly to enhance phone integration and overall system performance.”

Cadillac CUE provides owners a smart and simple way to access both Android Auto and Apple CarPlay. A “Projection” icon will appear on the CUE screen, to enable simpler, easier access to key smartphone functions, including navigation, contacts, hands-free text messaging and

select applications supported by Apple or Google.

Apple CarPlay takes the iPhone features you’d want to access while driving and puts them on the vehicle’s display in a smart, simple manner. This allows drivers to make calls, send and receive messages and listen to music right from the touchscreen or by voice via Siri. Apple CarPlay supported apps include Phone, Messages, Maps, Music and compatible third party apps. A full list of those apps can be found at Apple.com/ios/carplay.

Android Auto is built around Google Maps, Google Now and the ability to talk to Google, as well as a growing audio and messaging app ecosystem that includes WhatsApp, Skype, Google Play Music, Spotify, and podcast players.

Many features can be controlled via voice commands through a steering wheel button, helping drivers spend more time with eyes on the road and hands on the wheel. In addition, Cadillac added wireless charging and OnStar 4G LTE Wi-Fi service in the 2015 model year.

Both phone integration systems require the phone to be connected via USB. Apple CarPlay requires iOS 7.1 or higher or an iPhone 5 or later or higher. Android Auto requires Android Lollipop operating system.

A more powerful processor will be added to CUE for all 2016 models, enabling faster system start-up, voice recognition, navigation searches, and media playing. For the navigation system, the control structure has been simplified for easier destination entry and quicker destination searches.

GM Gets Fashionable with Yukon Denali

It's been said that clothes make the man. Which is why a new GM ad campaign draws attention to the parallels between the GMC Yukon Denali and the world of impeccable dressing, from apparel to accessory and grooming.

This campaign, called "Sharp", and is the third installment in the GMC brand's Precision advertising campaign. It was launched in early June.

The Precision campaign is part of a major advertising investment this year that showcases GMC's full line of premium trucks, SUVs and crossovers, including its popular Denali sub-brand, said GM spokeswoman Kelly Wysocki. The two previous spots in the series, "Fastball" and "Swish", focused on how precision influences athletic performance.

In "Sharp," GMC collaborates with leading fashion designer Michael Bastian, who makes a cameo appearance in a new TV ad. The "Sharp" ad is meant to spark the beginning of a creative dialogue between the designer and the GMC brand, Wysocki said, around what it means to be professional grade, juxtaposing the details of an impeccably dressed man, right down to the designer stitching in his suit compared to the precise features in a Yukon Denali.

The Yukon Denali is meant to be the ultimate expression of professional grade, blending unique design elements with upscale amenities, including premium interior materials, Wysocki said.

Ford Steering Problem Causes Trouble with Feds

DETROIT (AP) – Under pressure from U.S. safety regulators, Ford is recalling nearly 423,000 cars and SUVs in North America because the power-assisted steering can fail while they're being driven.

The recall covers certain Ford Flex and Taurus vehicles, as well as the Lincoln MKS and MKT from the 2011 through 2013 model years. Also covered are the Ford Fusion and Lincoln MKZ from 2011 through 2012 and some 2011 Mercury Milans.

Ford says an intermittent electrical connection can cause the power steering to stop. That sends the steering into manual mode, making the vehicles harder to control. The company says it knows of four crashes due to the problem but no injuries.

Dealers will either update power steering control software or replace the steering gear depending on the problem with the vehicle. A new steering gear eliminates the electrical issue.

In October, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration began investigating complaints of power-steering failures on three Ford Motor Co. midsize car models. The probe covered 938,000 Ford Fusion and Lincoln MKZ cars from the 2010 through 2012 model years, as well as the 2010 and 2011 Mercury Milan.

According to a class-action lawsuit filed in June of last year about the matter, the problem could affect more Ford models, including the compact Focus.

NHTSA said at the time that it received 508 complaints alleging that the cars lost power-assisted steering, causing increased steering effort.

Ford said it was unsure if the agency would close its investigation because of the recall.

The company also is recalling 19,500 2015 Mustangs with 2.3-Liter engines due to high underbody temperatures that could degrade the fuel tank and fuel vapor lines, increasing risk of a fire.

To complement the TV spot, GMC created a short film exploring precision in fashion, photography and music, entitled "The Sharp American." Directed by acclaimed storyteller Arnaud Boutin, the film features perspectives from Bastian, photographer Michael Avedon and musician Twin Shadow on how precision shapes their respective crafts. The piece celebrates sharp Americans who stand out from the crowd through their commitment to creating at a professional grade. The feature-length film will be screened during the inaugural New York Fashion Week: Men's, which is taking place July 13-16 in New York City.

"Attention to detail, precision and craftsmanship are at the core of the GMC brand and there are obvious similarities between the design of our vehicles and

the precision and craft which go into other aspects of premium design," said Duncan Aldred, vice president of GMC Sales and Marketing. "We enjoyed exploring these parallels with Michael Bastian and in the film, 'The Sharp American'."

"I was excited when GMC approached me with this opportunity to explore this concept of 'sharpness' and the design parallels between our two worlds, said Bastian. "As a luxury brand, we understand the necessity for attention to detail and craft in everything we do, much like GMC. As we put the finishing touches on our upcoming Spring '16 runway show at the first dedicated New York Men's Week, GMC gave us an invaluable perspective on how a premium brand outside of fashion explores cut, detail, and precision."



Menswear designer Michael Bastian at a GMC photo shoot.

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Was \$27,180 Sale Price: \$20,295*

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Stock# F20968

Was \$22,475 Sale Price: \$16,595*

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- OnStar with 4G LTE with built-in Wi-Fi hotspot!
- Power Driver's Seat!
- Remote Vehicle Start and Entry!
- Rear Vision Camera!
- 17" Aluminum Wheels!
- 36 MPG on the Highway!
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Stock# F23324

Was \$25,985 Sale Price: \$19,495*

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- 7" Color Touch Screen Radio!
- Remote Keyless Entry!
- Bluetooth for Phone!
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Stock# F23649

Was \$20,995 Sale Price: \$16,395*

24 MONTH LEASE

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- Automatic Transmission!
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- OnStar w/4G LTE w/built-in Wi-Fi hotspot!
- Rear Vision Camera!
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- 20" Aluminum Wheels!
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Stock #F21208

Was \$41,770 Sale Price: \$31,775*

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Stock# F22541

Was \$31,870 Sale Price: \$24,385*

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- Rear Parking Assist!
- Remote Vehicle Entry!
- 18" Wheels!
- 31 MPG on the Highway!
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Stock# F23914

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