

## Buick Verano is Driving Out of the Picture This Fall

by Jim Stickford

That's it for the Buick Verano. GM has officially declared that Buick will cease making the model come this fall.

Buick spokeswoman Jennifer Korail issued this statement: "Buick is announcing that the Verano, manufactured in Orion, Michigan, will be phased out in North America following a short 2017 model year run ending in October 2016. The announcement underscores the changing consumer market dynamics where there is a growing demand for SUVs in North America."

Korail further stated that GM does not foresee any immediate impact on production at the Orion assembly facility.

As to what replaces the Verano, Korail wrote, "... as a global brand, Buick remains committed to providing customers a compelling vehicle portfolio that meets the specific needs and demands of each country where it operates."

The Verano is a relatively new model in the Buick portfolio. Production of the first edition, the 2012 Verano, began in 2011. At the time of its introduction, GM wrote of the Verano that it was designed to be a compact luxury sedan.

It's built on GM's Delta II platform, which was developed by

Opel in Germany and is the successor of the GM Delta platform. Other vehicles using the Delta II include the Opel Ampera, the Cadillac ELR and the Opel Cascada, which will be sold in the U.S. as the Buick Cascada.

At the time of its introduction in late 2011, John Schwegman, then vice president of Buick Marketing, said, "Verano expands our lineup, continues Buick's momentum and gives us a great opportunity to attract a new generation of customers with a product that delivers on their expectations for design, performance and technology."

"It is a smart choice that delivers unexpected luxury in a compact sedan – and it will compete head-to-head with competitors from Audi and Lexus."

Buick spokespeople stated that the Verano carried the modern Buick design cues introduced on the Enclave, the LaCrosse and the Regal.

But consumer vehicle preferences have changed in the last few years. In a paper issued in August of 2015, Philly Murtha of J.D. Power wrote that SUVs, particularly compact crossover utilities, were among the most-in-demand vehicles in the United States.

Murtha wrote that as of August 2015, one of the major drivers behind this trend to own an SUV is



The 2016 Buick Verano will be the last version produced by GM.

"that gasoline prices remain reasonable, averaging \$2.65 per gallon in mid-August vs. \$3.47 a year ago, while SUV engine performance and fuel economy improves."

"In addition, manufacturers continue to make upgrades to the utility, comfort, safety, and technology features of non-premium as well as luxury or premium SUV models."

Tom Libby, manager and Auto Industry analyst for IHS Automotive, said that it's understandable that Buick did what it did by ending the Verano.

"The market is shifting," Libby said, "toward CUVs and SUVs

away from what we think of as the traditional sedan body type of car. Buick is simply responding to the marketplace. It's understandable and it makes sense. This is a trend that's been going on since the turn of the century. I can safely say that this is a trend that isn't going away."

Libby also said that the Verano was a competitive vehicle in its market segment.

"But that segment is languishing," Libby said. "The CUV and SUV segment is really growing. So this move makes sense."

Korail said that GM will continue to manufacture the version of the Verano sold in China.

## Art Van to Hold Blood Drive In Warren

In an effort to meet the anticipated need for blood and platelet donations during the busy summer months, Art Van Furniture has joined forces with the American Red Cross to host a community blood drive on Friday, June 10, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Art Van Furniture's Corporate Training Center at 6500 E. 14 Mile Road in Warren.

"The gift of blood is always needed, but is even more critical during the challenging summer months, when warm weather holidays and outdoor activities make scheduling regular donations difficult," said Gary Van Elslander, president of Art Van Furniture. "Donating blood is such a simple and generous way to do your part to save lives. The Art Van Furniture team is proud to be a partner of the American Red Cross and to provide metro Detroiters with the opportunity to donate blood and support the efforts of this organization."

Donors must be at least 17 years old (or 16 years old with parental consent), weigh a minimum of 110 pounds. Those interested in donating can sign up in advance and schedule an appointment at [www.redcross-blood.org](http://www.redcross-blood.org), sponsor code: artvan, or call 800-733-2767.

## Legislators Push For Public to Use Driverless Cars

by DAVID EGGERT  
Associated Press

LANSING, Mich. (AP) – The U.S. auto industry's home state of Michigan is preparing for the advent of self-driving cars by pushing legislation to allow for public sales and operation – a significant expansion beyond an existing state law that sanctions such vehicles for testing only.

While widespread use of driverless cars may be years away, lawmakers and transportation leaders say the technology is progressing so rapidly that Michigan must stay ahead of the curve or risk losing automotive research and development to other states.

Under a newly introduced package of bipartisan bills that would update 2013 laws to allow for the operation of autonomous cars on public roads without anyone at the wheel, tight "platoons" of smart commercial trucks could travel in unison at coordinated speeds. Also, the Detroit Three – General Motors, Fiat Chrysler and Ford – and other auto manufacturers would be authorized to run networks of on-demand self-driving vehicles.

It is a nod to the manufacturers' increasing efforts to reinvent themselves as "mobility" companies. GM this year invested \$500 million in ride-hailing company Lyft and bought a startup that makes autonomous-vehicle software.

Toyota recently announced an investment in Lyft's rival, Uber. Google, which is opening



2016 Chevrolet Malibu



2016 Jeep Compass



2016 Ford Escape

## GM Retail Sales Increase More Than 1 Percent in May

General Motors sold 190,613 vehicles in May to individual or "retail" customers, down 13 percent from last May.

This is largely due to two fewer selling days and very tight supplies of new launched products, said GM spokesman Dan Flores. Based on industry estimates, GM's retail sales were in line with industry performance.

Customer demand has significantly exceeded supply for new vehicles like the Malibu, Cruze, XT5 and CT6, Flores said. GM's full-size utilities, mid-size pickups and small crossovers continued to show strength in the retail marketplace with double-digit increases for Chevrolet Suburban and Tahoe, GMC Yukon and Yukon XL, Cadillac Escalade,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

## Five Fiat Chrysler Vehicles Set Monthly Sales Records

Fiat Chrysler had U.S. sales of 204,452 units, a 1 percent increase compared with sales in May 2015 (202,227 units), and the group's best May sales in 11 years, said Fiat Chrysler spokesman Ralph Kisiel.

The Jeep and Ram Truck brands each posted year-over-year sales gains in May compared with the same month a

year ago. The Jeep brand's 14 percent increase was the brand's best monthly sales ever, Kisiel said.

"Notwithstanding a challenging calendar, we managed to muscle our way to our strongest May sales in over 10 years," said Reid Bigland, senior vice president of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## F-Series Sales Up 9 Percent Despite a 'Lost Weekend'

Ford Motor Company F-Series pickups posted a 9 percent gain in May, while Ford van sales reached their best May sales since 1978.

The company's total U.S. sales of 235,997 vehicles declined 6 percent versus a year ago, said Ford spokesman Erich Merkle.

"We were down, probably not quite as much as the overall in-

dustry," Merkle said in a media call about May sales. "Last year May 2015, we had five weekends in the month of May, we had one weekend after Memorial Day weekend. This year, in the month of May, we only had four weekends, and we didn't have that extra weekend after the

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Chrysler's May  
Sales Fueled by  
Strong Numbers  
From Jeep

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Sales, FCA North America. "Initial sales of our all-new Chrysler Pacifica minivan are brisk and we expect further sales growth from this vehicle over the next few months as dealer inventory continues to build."

Five Fiat Chrysler vehicles set records in the month of May, Bigland said. The Jeep Renegade and Jeep Patriot each recorded their best monthly sales ever, while the Ram ProMaster and Ram ProMaster City vans posted their best May sales ever. In addition, the Jeep Compass turned in its best May sales ever. On the brand side, the Jeep brand continues to set records with its best monthly sales ever.

Jeep brand sales were up 14 percent in May for its best monthly sales ever and its 32nd consecutive month of year-over-year sales gains, Bigland said. The Jeep brand has set a sales record in every month dating back to November 2013. Both the Jeep Renegade – the newest entry to the Jeep product lineup – and the Jeep Patriot turned in their best monthly sales ever.

Sales of the Jeep Grand Cherokee were up 4 percent for its best May sales since the year 2000, Kisiel said. Ram Truck brand sales, which include the Ram pickup, Ram ProMaster and Ram ProMaster City, were up slightly in May for its best May sales since 2005. Both the Ram ProMaster and Ram ProMaster City vans each recorded their best May sales ever.

Dodge Grand Caravan sales were up 76 percent last month for its best May sales since 2014, while Dodge Durango sales increased 2 percent for its best May sales performance since 2005, Kisiel said. In addition, Dodge Charger sales were up 5 percent for its best May in two years. Dodge brand sales were down 5 percent in May compared with the same month a year ago.

In its second month on sale, the new 2017 Chrysler Pacifica minivan posted sales of 2,495 units, up significantly from the 487 units sold in its initial month on sale in April, Kisiel said.

Sales of the Chrysler 300 full-size sedan were up 38 percent for its best May sales since 2012. In addition, Chrysler Town & Country sales were up 49 percent.

Takata Air Bag Problems Continue to Plague Automakers

by TOM KRISHER  
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) – Eight automakers are recalling more than 12 million vehicles in the U.S. to replace potentially dangerous Takata air bag inflators.

Documents detailing recalls by Honda, Fiat Chrysler, Toyota, Mazda, Nissan, Subaru, Ferrari and Mitsubishi were posted May 27 by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

They're part of a massive expansion of Takata air bag recalls announced earlier this month. Seventeen automakers are adding 35 million to 40 million inflators to what already was the largest auto recall in U.S. history.



Mark Rainey

Rainey Named  
Head of Dealer  
Development

Mark Rainey, 47, has been appointed GM's director of Dealer Development, effective immediately.

He will be responsible for the growth of minority and female dealers within the U.S. Chevrolet, Buick-GMC and Cadillac dealer networks, said GM spokesman Jim Cain.

Rainey, who will report to Eric Peterson, U.S. vice president, Diversity Dealer Relations, joins GM after a 20-year career with Nissan North America Inc., where he led dealer development efforts. His successes at Nissan earned him the National Association of Minority Dealers' (NAMAD) Diversity Advocacy Award, Cain said. He has also served in a variety of regional sales and marketing assignments and as a dealership general manager.

"Mark will help us build on GM's decades-long commitment to create a distribution network that reflects the incredible diversity of our customer base," Peterson said.

In addition to advancing GM's national diverse dealer strategy, Cain said Rainey will be the company's liaison with internal and external advocacy groups, including the General Motors Minority Dealer Advisory Council, the Women Dealer Advisory Council, the General Motors Minority Automobile Dealers Association (GMMDA) and Rainbow PUSH.

In addition, the Japanese transport ministry last week announced 7 million additional recalls related to the Takata inflators. Those recalls cover all front air bags that do not have a chemical drying agent.

May 27's U.S. recalls include passenger air bags in older models in areas along the Gulf Coast with high heat and humidity. But other areas of the country are also affected, depending on the age of vehicles.

Takata uses the chemical ammonium nitrate to create a small explosion that inflates the air bags in a crash. But the chemical can deteriorate over time when exposed to high heat and humidity and burn faster than designed. That can blow apart a metal canister designed to contain the explosion, spewing hot shrapnel into vehicles.

The inflators are responsible for 11 deaths and more than 100 injuries worldwide. Two additional deaths are under investigation in Malaysia and may have been caused by the inflators.

The recalls are among the first

to be unveiled by automakers since Takata agreed to the recall expansion, and more recalls will be announced in the coming week. The recalls are being phased in by the government due to a lack of available replacement parts. Models that are from 2011 or older in high heat and humidity areas will get first priority, followed by 2008 and older models in Southern-tier states, then 2004 and older models in the rest of the country.

Research has shown that it takes at least six years for the ammonium nitrate to deteriorate. That's the reason older models are getting priority.

Honda had the biggest recall total last week with more than 4.5 million inflators, while Fiat Chrysler reported 4.3 million. The Honda total even includes about 2,700 Gold Wing motorcycles with optional front air bags.

Honda says the latest recall covers only about 2.2 million additional Honda and Acura vehicles. The other 2.3 million vehicles were recalled previously

for other Takata air bag problems. Honda expects the recalls to start in late summer for automobiles and in late fall for the motorcycles.

Fiat Chrysler said it's not aware of any crashes or injuries involving its vehicles that are part of the recall.

The latest recalls cover mainly front passenger air bag inflators without the chemical drying agent. The jury is still out on whether Takata will have to recall millions more inflators with the drying agent.

Takata has to prove to the government that those are safe by the end of 2019, or they will be recalled.

Since the recalled models vary by state and age, officials say that the best way to see if your car is affected is to go to <https://vinrcl.safercar.gov/vin/> or manufacturer websites and key in the vehicle identification number. That number can be found on the driver's side of the dashboard near the windshield or on your state vehicle registration.

Pickup Trucks Lead Ford Sales in May

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Memorial Day weekend."

Ford F-Series sales of 67,412 pickups marked a 9 percent increase, boosting a 7 percent year-to-date increase with 324,307 pickups sold, Merkle said.

"Customers are showing how much they value the fuel economy, towing capability and technology we offer in our trucks with F-Series sales producing another strong gain in May," said Mark LaNeve, Ford vice president of U.S. Marketing, Sales and Service.

"With strong demand for pickups, vans and SUVs, Ford brand saw average prices grow almost \$1,500 per vehicle in May – about 50 percent higher than the industry."

"F-Series sales will continue to just do great with F-Series pickup trucks," Merkle said. "F-Series

sales were up 9 percent, and that boosted our year-to-date number for F-Series by 7 percent, giving us a total through the month of May of 324,307 F-Series pickups sold."

Ford Transit sales increased 16 percent with 13,640 vehicles sold, lifting overall Ford van results 7 percent for their best May performance since 1978.

The new Ford Escape posted a 6 percent increase with 30,861 SUVs sold. Through May, Ford Brand SUVs totaled 325,475 vehicles. This is a 9 percent gain and the best-ever start for Ford Brand SUV sales in its history.

"It (Escort sales) was up 6 percent," Merkle said, "and that was a total of 30,861 SUVs sold, but as we look at the first five months of the year through May, Ford SUVs are having a record start, so we've sold more Ford brand SUVs through the month of May

this year than at any time in company history, and that total brought us to 325,475 total Ford brand SUVs January through May of this year."

Lincoln sales increased 7 percent, capping six straight months of gains. New Lincoln MKX sales grew 88 percent with 2,794 vehicles sold – Lincoln's best May SUV sales since 2003.

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## Buckeye Nuts and Bolts Capture EcoCAR 3 Title Against Strong Academic Competition

The U.S. Department of Energy and General Motors Co. on May 27 crowned the Ohio State University vehicle this year's winner of the EcoCAR 3 – Advanced Vehicle Technology Competition during an awards ceremony at the Hotel del Coronado in San Diego.

This is the second stage of an ongoing four-year competition that culminates in 2018, said EcoCAR spokeswoman Kimberly DeClark. Ohio State took first place last year, and in the final year of EcoCAR 2, making this the third consecutive win for the team.

"EcoCAR 3 supports the Energy Department's mission to accelerate the development of advanced technologies to reduce vehicle emissions and to increase efficiency so Americans use less petroleum," said David Friedman, principal deputy assistant secretary, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy at the Energy Department.

"American energy holds the promise for job creation and a growing economy, and nothing could be more evident than the efforts made by these creative and talented students in the EcoCAR program.

These brilliant minds are the pathway of the nation's automotive industry, and their dedication and results are an indication of the bright future ahead of us."

The Buckeyes will return to Columbus with an extra \$10,000 and the coveted Year Two trophy, DeClark said.

The team earned 880 out of 1,000 overall points, had 11 first place category finishes, and placed in the top five in 30 out of 36 categories.

The team was also first to drive their vehicle at competition. The team has set the

groundwork for continued development in Year 3 by demonstrating industry grade processes for embedded controls and software development.

EcoCAR 3, DeClark said, is the latest Energy Department Advanced Vehicle Technology Competition (AVTC) series and challenges 16 North American university teams to redesign a 2016 Chevrolet Camaro to further reduce its environmental impact, while maintaining the performance expected from the car. Teams have four years to harness those ideas into the ultimate energy-efficient, high-performance vehicle.

The competing teams began the finals at GM's Desert Proving Ground in Yuma, Ariz., DeClark said, for a week of rigorous safety, technical, drive quality and emissions testing mirroring those used for real-world production vehicles, followed by several days of scored presentations in areas including consumer appeal, project management, mechanical integration and innovation topics judged by industry and government officials in San Diego.

"The second year of the four-year competition added a level of complexity that definitely tested each of the 16 EcoCAR 3 teams in reworking the propulsion system of the 2016 Camaro," said Al Oppenheiser, Chevrolet Camaro Vehicle chief engineer.

"Even with these new challenges, the students from Ohio State displayed an exceptional ability to integrate their Series Parallel Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV) system, transforming this high-performance vehicle into a uniquely eco-friendly alternative.

"Achieving such results is an impressive feat given the short time

that they had with the vehicle."

In the second year, DeClark said the teams worked with EcoCAR 3 organizers to secure hardware, software and industry mentors needed to help them integrate their hybrid-electric designs into the Camaro, with the end goal of making the vehicle even more energy-efficient without losing high-performance and safety features Camaro buyers expect.

"This year's overall winner, Ohio State, demonstrated all-around excellence by using the research and data gathered in the previous year and successfully applying it during Year Two of the vehicle development process for their Series Parallel PHEV 2016 Chevrolet Camaro," said Kristen Wahl, director of the Advanced Vehicle Technology Competitions at Argonne National Laboratory.

"Most impressively, the OSU team's Camaro was the first to meet all safety protocols even though they only took possession of the vehicle a few months ago."

Virginia Tech and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University took second and third place, respectively.

The student teams have now developed and started to integrate their energy-efficient powertrains to maximize performance, while retaining the safety and high consumer standards of the Camaro, De Clark said. In the remaining years of the competition, teams will focus on integration refinement and market engagement.

Additional sponsors joining DOE and GM include: MathWorks; National Science Foundation; California Air Resources Board; NXP; Clean Cities; AVL Powertrain Engineering; Robert



The winning EcoCAR 3 entry from Ohio State University.

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## MCC Educators Honored with National Award

Three Macomb Community College faculty members are recipients of the 2016 National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) Excellence Award, which recognizes community and technical college educators who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment and contribution to their students and colleagues, said MCC spokeswoman Tish Wirth.

Macomb faculty receiving the awards are Vikki Gordon, of Royal Oak, apprentice coordinator in applied technology and apprenticeships; Gary Mitchell, of St. Clair Shores, an adjunct instructor of history; and Maria Ramos, of Grosse Pointe Park, foreign language professor.

To be eligible, faculty members must submit an essay detailing their teaching philosophy and receive a recommendation from the dean in their academic area. Nominations are then sent to NISOD, which is a membership organization committed to promoting and celebrating excellence in teaching, learning and leadership at community and technical colleges.

Macomb has participated in the NISOD Excellence Awards since 1992. Since then, 127 awards have been granted to Macomb faculty, Wirth said.

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The Hollywood Vampires will perform in a special concert staged by Metro Detroit Dodge dealers.

## Dodge Dealers Bring Vampires to Detroit

Fiat Chrysler is offering metro Detroit residents something to sing about.

Thirty-nine Metro Detroit Dodge dealers are running a “Tickets for Test Drive” promotion, now until July 11, giving away up to 4,000 tickets to the “Dodge Presents The Hollywood Vampires” concert on Saturday, July 16, at DTE Energy Music Theatre to consumers who test drive a new Dodge vehicle, said Fiat Chrysler spokeswoman Eileen Wunderlich. The Hollywood Vampires show features Alice Cooper, Joe Perry and Johnny Depp.

The ticket giveaway is open to Michigan residents, 18 years of age or older with a valid U.S. driver’s license at the time of the dealer visit. Each participant receives a voucher for two lawn tickets to the “Dodge Presents The Hollywood Vampires” concert, a total face value of \$50. Vouchers must be redeemed online for printed tickets at [www.palacenet.com/hollywood-vampires](http://www.palacenet.com/hollywood-vampires). Limit one voucher per

person, household or address.

“We encourage Dodge fans and Hollywood Vampires fans to visit a Metro Detroit Dodge dealership to test drive a Dodge vehicle and walk away with a pair of lawn tickets on us,” said Jeff Hines, Director, Great Lakes Business Center, FCA US.

“We’re all excited to see Alice Cooper, Joe Perry and Johnny Depp together live and want our local Dodge fans to be a part of the action.”

For full “Tickets for Test Drive” promotion details, participating dealerships and program rules, visit [www.palacenet.com/hollywoodvampires](http://www.palacenet.com/hollywoodvampires).

To participate:

- Visit one of 39 participating Metro Detroit Dodge dealers in Lapeer, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, Sanilac, St. Clair, Washtenaw and Wayne Counties.
- Test drive a new Dodge vehicle.
- Receive one concert ticket voucher that will be redeemable for two lawn seats at

[www.palacenet.com/hollywood-vampires](http://www.palacenet.com/hollywood-vampires).

Tickets must be redeemed online and printed, Wunderlich said. Voucher is not valid for entry. Face value for each ticket is \$25. A facility fee of \$8.50 per ticket will still apply.

Earlier this year, Wunderlich said, the Fiat Chrysler Great Lakes Business Center, the Detroit Pistons and Palace Sports & Entertainment announced a partnership that includes exclusive naming rights to the West Atrium at The Palace of Auburn Hills and naming rights to the Ivy Lounge at DTE Energy Music Theatre. This concert is part of that promotion.

The Hollywood Vampires, Wunderlich said, recently played concerts at the Roxy Theatre in Los Angeles, in front of 100,000 screaming fans at the Rock in Rio festival, and their spectacular worldwide television debut on the 2016 Grammy Awards reaching a global audience of almost 25 million people, fans worldwide demanded more.

## VW Profits Tumble in Wake of Scandal

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP) – German automaker Volkswagen saw its net profit fall 19 percent in the first three months of the year as it grappled with a costly scandal over cars it had equipped to cheat on diesel emissions tests.

The company called it a “respectable” result considering the tough conditions and said it had the financial resources to weather the scandal.

The flagship Volkswagen brand, the one most associated with the scandal and with the most rigged cars, barely broke even.

The company made most of its profits at its luxury brands Audi and Porsche and the financial services branch.

Profits in the January-March period fell to 2.37 billion euros (\$2.63 billion) from 2.93 billion euros a year earlier, the company said. The figure fell short of the 2.44 billion euros expected by analysts surveyed by financial information provider FactSet. Revenue fell 3.4 percent to 50.96 billion euros due in part to shifts in currency exchange rates.

Still, the company reported it had bulked up on its cash reserves and said it was well-funded to deal with the effects of the scandal, which include costs for recalls, fines and lawsuits. The automotive division was sitting on 26 billion euros in net liquidity, up 5 billion from a year ago. Last week’s earnings release contained no new estimate of the overall cost of the scandal; the company set aside 16.2 billion euros from earnings last year,

when it lost 1.4 billion euros.

CEO Matthias Mueller said in a statement that the company “managed to limit the economic effects of the diesel issue and achieve respectable results under difficult conditions.”

The effects of the scandal were seen most strongly at the Volkswagen brand, which made only 73 million euros in the quarter,

down from 514 million euros a year earlier.

That left a bare operating margin of only 0.3 percent.

Earnings and profit margins were supported by luxury brand Audi, typically a pillar of the company’s profits. Operating profit there fell slightly to 1.3 billion euros from 1.4 billion euros a year earlier.

## Ford Offering U.S. Vets Aid To Become Auto Technicians

Ford Motor Company’s Quick Lane Tire & Auto Center has launched “Trading One Uniform For Another,” a nationwide program developed in collaboration with Disabled American Veterans (DAV) that will award scholarships to U.S. military veterans toward a certification in automotive maintenance and repair, said Ford spokeswoman Sara Tatchio.

To help veterans acquire the skills they need to become automotive technicians, Quick Lane will award scholarships in the amount of \$10,000 each to five veterans, Tatchio said. The funds can be used to pay for tuition, books and fees at any community college, university, trade or vocational school in the U.S. with an accredited program in automotive mechanics.

Beginning June 1, everyone is invited to nominate veterans for these scholarships by going to [QLtradingone.com](http://QLtradingone.com) and writing a short essay on why their nominee is a deserving recipient, Tatchio said. Quick Lane is teaming up with DAV, the longest-running veterans’ advocacy and assistance group in the United States to select 10 finalists from all qualified nominees.

This November, which is Military Appreciation Month, Quick Lane and DAV will unveil the finalists at [QLtradingone.com](http://QLtradingone.com) and invite everyone to vote for a finalist to receive a scholarship, Tatchio said. Quick Lane and DAV will announce the five scholarship recipients at this year’s Quick Lane Bowl at Ford Field in Detroit.



2017 Ford GT

## Ritvo Calls GT Best Design

The 2017 Ford GT received the Gene Ritvo Award for Design and Elegance from the New England Motor Press Association (NEMPA) on May 26 in conjunction with Boston’s Museum of Fine Arts and the Larz Anderson Auto Museum.

The Ritvo honors the best in design in the automotive world, whether it’s a concept car, production vehicle, a marketing campaign or a particular element of a vehicle that defines elegance in design, said Moray Callum, Ford vice president of Design.

“It is an honor to receive this award, an accolade that the entire team behind the all-new Ford GT can proud of,” said Callum.

“The 2017 Ford GT has a revolutionary design that maintains the essence of the original GT40, while making it into a 21st century car. This vehicle truly demon-

strates our commitment to performance and innovation in every aspect of our business.”

“The challenge of producing a car like this is that the original is one of the most iconic and decorated cars in American automobile history,” said Zachary Dollar, officer, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

“Ford kept enough of the soul of the original that it is still identifiable, but used modern tools, materials, and technology to make it a car of today.”

The Ford GT ultra-high-performance supercar was first unveiled at the 2015 North American International Auto Show and represents the ultimate execution of an enthusiast supercar, Callum said.

It sets new standards for Ford innovation through performance.

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# Legislators Push for Public To Use Driverless Cars

He expects a Senate panel to begin considering the bills this summer.

"It's coming fast," Michigan Department of Transportation Director Kirk Steudle said of the merging of Silicon Valley and Motor City technology. "The technology is at a point where it will be incorporated into something that is mass-produced."

Michigan is among seven states with laws related to autonomous cars. Nevada was the first state to authorize self-driving vehicles in 2011, and California, Florida, North Dakota, Tennessee and Utah followed.

Google, based in California, has said it wants to make cars available to the public around the end of 2019. Already next month, a convoy of autonomously driven Army trucks will be tested along a stretch of Interstate 69 in the state's northern "Thumb" region. Someone will be at the wheel of each vehicle, as currently required by state law.

Michigan's DOT worked with legislators to develop the bills, which also have support from the state's economic development officials. Gov. Rick Snyder is "very supportive" of the concept, a spokesman said.

"We're working with the industry and MDOT so that once these vehicles are on the road, you can rest assured that they are safe," said the lead sponsor, Republican Sen. Mike Kowall, who lives near a GM testing facility in suburban Detroit.

"I see the autonomous vehicles being tested on the road every day. It's weird. But it's

– Mike Kowall  
*State Senator*

Consumer Watchdog, a California-based advocacy group that has voiced safety and privacy concerns over autonomous vehicles, criticized the Michigan legislation. President Jamie Court said a “line needs to be drawn” to ensure that a human driver can take control if something goes wrong. Court said self-driving cars have a “long, long way to go” in part because “robots and humans don’t communicate.”

One of the Michigan bills would end the human operator requirement, while another would help create a facility to test autonomous and wirelessly connected cars at highway speeds at the site of a defunct GM plant that once churned out World War II bombers.

"We're going to lead on this. That's very important," said Steve Arwood, the state's top economic development official. "It's not good enough to just be good enough."

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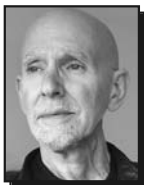
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# Cadillac Racers End in Middle Of the Pack

Cadillac Racing drivers Michael Cooper and Johnny O'Connell finished 14th and 17th, respectively, in race two of the Pirelli World Challenge GT Championship race weekend at Lime Rock Park May 27.

Based upon their fast laps from Friday's race, O'Connell (Flowery Branch, Ga.) started from the third grid position and Cooper (Syosset, N.Y.) took the green in from the seventh. On lap one, Cooper got hit by JD Davison in the No. 33 Nissan and was pushed off the track and back to 17th position. O'Connell was able to keep his inside second row starting position and come around in third place.

On lap 18, O'Connell reported a "funny motion in the rear" of his No. 3 Cadillac ATS-V.R Coupe. On lap 24, he was going into Turn One when the right rear tire went flat.

He had to pit for a new Pirelli P-Zero tire and returned to the race a lap down in 17th.

"At the start, we went into Turn 1 and Turn 2 racing two wide and running pretty clean," said Cooper. "Going into Turn 3, I got tagged from behind by Davison and he sent me off the track spinning."

"It put us in a hole that we couldn't recover from. It is tough to pass with where we are at with our performance. Tough for Cadillac Racing, but we will be back at Road America."

O'Connell had a good start going.

"At the start, I was able to hold my third place starting position," said O'Connell. "Alvaro (Parente, No. 9 McLaren and eventual winner) got a jump, Patrick Long in the Porsche followed and I was in third."

"Right around lap six or seven I started to feel something funny in the car. I was talking to the guys to see if they could find anything with the telemetry. I must have picked up something early in the race and it finally went flat."

"I am proud of everyone at Cadillac Racing. We were running third today. I had a good car. It's a shame. There are nine races to go. We need some help to get us back where we are supposed to be with performance, especially heading into Road America at the end of next month."

# JPMorgan Chase, Ford Foundation Join Forces

DETROIT (AP) - Financial giant JPMorgan Chase is giving \$4 million in an effort to match 10,000 Detroit high school students with career education and work experiences.

The grant to help boost employment over the next three years is part of the bank's New Skills for Youth effort. The Detroit Free Press reports it's in addition to a \$100 million commitment made in 2014 to Detroit's economic recovery.

United Way for Southeastern Michigan, the Skillman Foundation, the Ford Foundation and the Ford Motor Company Fund are involved in the project as well.

The Skillman Foundation invested \$650,000 into Linked Learning and a Skillman Foundation spokesman says the organization plans on making a similar-sized investment in Detroit over the next three years.

The Ford Foundation committed up \$2 million and is now committing an additional \$2.4 million over three years to Linked Learning's efforts in career education.

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