# **Detroit Auto Scene**

"FIRST IN THE HEART OF DETROIT"

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Ashley Buchner



Daniel Tunis

# **Detroit is Home to Young Manufacturing Talent**

by Jim Stickford

Judging by what *Manufacturing* Engineering magazine has to say, the future of manufacturing in Detroit is in good hands.

The magazine earlier this month released its "30 Under 30" list of 30 individuals under the age of 30 who are making a difference in manufacturing and STEM fields, with five of those named based in metro Detroit. The list covers the entire United States.

Two of the engineers - Ashley Buchner and Dan Tunis – work at Fiat Chrysler, Andrew Siwicki, 23. works for ABB Inc. in Auburn

Hills; Anselmo Gallegos, 27, works for General Motors; and Edward Brabandt, 30, is the president and founder of Systematic Manufacturing, Inc., in Sterling Heights.

Brabandt said that he created his company Systematic Manufacturing almost five years ago in his garage.

"I started the company with just one worker - me," Brabandt said. "I had a bridgeport mill, and now we're up to 11 employees."

Brabandt said his company does tooling and makes parts for the aircraft industry.

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# **GM** Joins Other Businesses in Supporting **Country's Military Veterans Get Jobs**

by Jim Stickford

GM's job fair held for military veterans on July 15 at Comerica Park was part of a larger effort by the company to help America's veterans.

Keith Nattrass, GM's Military Affairs officer, said that the company has long been committed to the cause of veterans.

"People need to know that there are companies in Michigan that are working for veterans,' Nattrass said. "GM is a corporate member of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Washington, D.C. For the last five years that organization, through its 'Hiring Our Heroes' program, has been rallying companies to help veterans find gainful employment, and by extension, their spouses."

Nattrass said that GM has been a proud partner with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in helping veterans get jobs.

"Right now there are 40 companies in the United States have joined with the U.S. Chamber to form the National Veterans Employment Council. This group meets quarterly and GM played host to in on July 14," Nattrass said. "The meeting was at the Milford Proving Ground. We brought these people to Michi-



GM supports U.S. Chamber of Commerce's "Hiring Our Heroes" effort.

gan and that's important because once you get out of the state, and say transportation industry, people think trains or airplanes. One of the objectives is to get people to understand what we're doing here in Michigan.

At the quarterly meeting, various members of the from private business, the U.S. Chamber, the White House and state and federal agencies get caught up on what's going on with "Hiring Our Heroes", Nattrass said.

And one of the things talked about, Nattrass said, was the job

fairs, including the two at Comer-

ica Park during 2016. "Through GM's relationship with the Tigers we were able to leverage the use of Comerica Park," Nattrass said. "We had more than 100 organizations there to help the veterans who attended."

These groups included GM, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the state of Michigan's Military Veteran's Affairs Agency, Nattrass said, making it the largest job fair

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 3** 

# **Chevy Proves a Hit with Baseball All Star**

The 2016 All-Star game was good for the American League and Kansas City Royal Eric Hosmer.

Names as the the 2016 Ted Williams All-Star Game Most Valuable Player, Hosmer, chose a Chevrolet Colorado Diesel Midnight Edition during the MVP award ceremony presented by Chevrolet at Petco Park in San Diego on July 12.

Chevrolet gave Hosmer, who went 2-for-3 in the contest with a home run, two runs batted in and a run scored, his choice between the 50th Anniversary Edition Camaro SS Convertible and a Colorado Diesel Midnight Edition, said Chevy spokesman Craig Daitch.

This is Hosmer's first All-Star MVP award and the first for a Kansas City Royal since Bo Jackson took home the award back in

90,000 equipment kits have been donated to teams around the country, nearly 11,000 parks have been renovated and more than 111,000 children received complimentary instruction on baseball fundamentals.

"At Chevrolet, we appreciate the power of play and the positive effect that it has on our kids," said Sweeney.

That positive effect on our kids and ultimately on our communities is why it is so important to us and our Chevrolet dealers to support baseball at every level.

During the afternoon's Red Carpet Parade, Hosmer, along with his All-Star Game teammates from both the American and National Leagues, signed a 50th Anniversary Edition Camaro The proceeds of that auction will support the MLB-MLBPA Youth Development Foundation.

Edition that Hosmer chose begins as a black Z71 Colorado Diesel and adds an all-black front end with body-colored grille, bumper, badging, black 17-inch wheels and aggressive Goodyear DuraTrac tires that add a rugged, off-road appearance, Sweeney said.



The 2017 Ford Escape scored well on the IIHS small SUV light study.

# **IIHS Says Small SUV Lights Can Stand Improvements**

Not a single small SUV out of As with midsize cars, Rader

hood that will be auctioned in the coming days on MLB.com. The Colorado Diesel Midnight

1989.

"Hosmer's spectacular on-field performance tonight demonstrates to all baseball fans and especially our kids that hard work, determination and teamwork is what wins, and that is why Chevrolet is proud to present the MVP award," said Brian Sweeney, U.S. vice president of Chevrolet.

Chevrolet has been the Official Vehicle of Major League Baseball since 2005 and through its Chevrolet Youth Baseball program has helped raise more than \$28 million to aid hometown teams over the last 10 years, Daitch said. Nearly 5.2 million young people in communities across the country have benefitted from the program, and more than 1,500 Chevrolet dealers are involved

Additionally, through Chevrolet Youth Baseball, more than



All-Star Game MVP Eric Hosmer with his Chevy Colorado pickup.

21 tested earns a good rating in the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety's headlight evaluations, and only four are available with acceptable-rated headlights.

Among the 21 vehicles, there are 47 different headlight combinations available, said IIHS spokesman Russ Rader. More than two-thirds of them are rated poor, making this group of vehicles even more deficient when it comes to lighting than the midsize cars that were the first to be rated earlier this year.

Headlight performance in today's vehicles varies widely. Government standards are based on laboratory tests, which don't accurately gauge performance in real-world driving, Rader said. The issue merits attention because about half of traffic deaths occur either in the dark or around dawn or dusk.

said the IIHS evaluations of small SUVs showed that a vehicle's price tag doesn't correspond to the quality of headlights. More modern lighting types, including high-intensity discharge (HID) and LED lamps, and curve-adaptive systems, which swivel in the direction of steering, also are no guarantee of good performance.

"Manufacturers aren't paying enough attention to the actual onroad performance of this basic equipment," says IIHS Senior Research Engineer Matthew Brumbelow. "We're optimistic that improvements will come quickly now that we've given automakers something to strive for."

For 2017, Rader said vehicles will need good or acceptable headlights in order to qualify for the Institute's highest award, Top Safety Pick+.

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#### Detroit Auto Scene

31201 Chicago Road South Warren, Michigan 48093

586-939-6800

Contact us: Info@DetroitAutoScene.com

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William Springer II, publisher Lisa A. Torretta, operations Jim Stickford, news

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#### Employment Sees Strong Hiring in Month of June

WASHINGTON (AP) – Employers shook off two months of weak hiring by adding 287,000 jobs in June, a robust pace that suggests a resilient U.S. economy recovering from a slump early in the year.

The hiring spurt marked a sharp improvement from May's dismal showing, when just 11,000 jobs were added. A modest 144,000 jobs had been added in April.

The unemployment rate rose in June to 4.9 percent from 4.7 percent as more Americans began seeking jobs, a sign of growing confidence, and some didn't find them.

The broadly positive report suggests that the U.S. economy was improving before the United Kingdom startled the world late last month by voting to leave the European Union.

The recent hiring slump had come after the economy grew at a tepid 1.1 percent annual rate in the first three months of the year. Americans' spending rose at the slowest pace in two years during that time – a significant drag given that consumer spending drives around 70 percent of the economy.

Concerns about the global economy have deepened since the U.K.'s "Brexit vote," which sent financial markets gyrating. The yield on the 10-year U.S. Treasury note this week touched a record low of 1.34 percent. Such a decline has historically signaled anemic growth and even an outright recession. When investors fear for the future and seek safe returns for their money, they typically shift into Treasurys.

Rifle River Sanctuary

# **Court Ruling Opens Door to More GM Ignition Lawsuits**

DETROIT (AP) – A federal appeals court has decided that people injured in crashes caused by faulty General Motors Co. ignition switches can sue the company even if they were hurt before GM's 2009 bankruptcy filing.

Under terms of the bankruptcy, the company that emerged, referred to as New GM, was indemnified against most claims against the pre-bankruptcy company, or Old GM. Retired U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Robert Gerber ruled in April 2015 that most ignition-switch claimants could not sue New GM for damages.

The ruling July 13 by the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Manhattan overturns most of that decision and allows hundreds of pre-bankruptcy claims to proceed, including some lawsuits alleging that GM's actions caused the value of its cars to drop.

Steve Berman, a lead attorney in the loss-of-value cases, said the appeals court ruled the bankruptcy order doesn't protect New GM from claims that it misrepresented the safety of cars made by pre-bankruptcy GM. The 2nd Circuit Court, he said, determined that Old GM knew that the cars could stall and air bags wouldn't work, and that those facts should have been revealed during the bankruptcy.

In its opinion, the appeals court said it is not confident that the deal for New GM to leave bankruptcy protection would have been approved "if Old GM had revealed the ignition switch defect in bankruptcy."

Robert Hilliard, a lead attorney in the death and injury cases, says GM is now exposed to billions more in liabilities.

"This takes GM from the bottom of the ninth back to the first inning in regards to financial liability for the ignition switch defect," he said.

GM said it was reviewing the

impact of the ruling, which the company said does not decide whether claims are valid. "Many of the claims we face have been brought on behalf of car owners who want to be compensated even though they have not suffered any loss," a company statement said.

In 2009, Gerber allowed "New GM" to emerge from bankruptcy protection free from liabilities of the company before bankruptcy. But plaintiffs' lawyers argued that GM misled the court seven years ago because it knew about but failed to disclose the ignition switch problems.

The switches, which can slip out of the run position and cause cars to stall unexpectedly, are linked to at least 124 deaths and 275 injuries.

In its ruling, the appeals court said that the desire to move GM through bankruptcy quickly to avoid its collapse was "laudable," but it doesn't do away with basic constitutional principles. It took only 40 days for the bankruptcy to end, an unprecedented period at the time.

"Due process applies even in a company's moment of crisis," the court wrote.

Hilliard estimated that about 1,000 injury and wrongful death lawsuits were put on hold waiting for the appeals court to rule, including 265 that he filed. General Motors' filings with securities regulators say there are another 101 U.S. lawsuits pending that allege that GM's actions caused vehicle values to decline.

The ruling also could affect 399 injury and death cases settled for GM by compensation expert Kenneth Feinberg for a total of \$594.5 million. GM says those who settled gave up their legal rights to sue the company, but Hilliard said he will look into whether some of those claims could be reopened in light of the court's ruling.

# **Chrysler Seeks Benefit of Numbers in Computer Bug Hunt**

Reflecting the rapidly increasing convergence of connectivity technology and the automotive industry, Fiat Chrysler has launched of a public bug bounty program on the Bugcrowd platform to enhance the safety and security of its consumers, their vehicles and connected services, said Fiat Chrysler spokesman Berj Alexanian.

There are a lot of people that like to tinker with their vehicles or tinker with IT systems," said Titus Melnyk, senior manager architecture, security Fiat Chrysler. "We want to encourage independent security researchers to reach out to us and share what they've found so that we can fix potential vulnerabilities before they're an issue for our consumers.'

The Fiat Chrysler bug bounty program leverages Bugcrowd's crowdsourced community of cybersecurity researchers to promote a public channel for responsible disclosure of potential vulnerabilities. Alexanian said Fiat Chrysler believes that the program is one of the best ways to address the cybersecurity challenges created by the convergence of technology and the automotive industry.

The Bugcrowd program gives Fiat Chrysler, Alexanian said, the ability to: identify potential product security vulnerabilities; implement fixes and/or mitigating controls after sufficient testing has occurred; improve the safety and security of Fiat Chrysler vehicles and connected services; and foster a spirit of transparency and cooperation within the cybersecurity community.

"Exposing or publicizing vulnerabilities for the singular purpose of grabbing headlines or fame does little to protect the consumer," said Melnyk. "Rather, we want to reward security researchers for the time and effort, which ultimately benefits us all."

Bugcrowd manages all reward payouts, which are scaled based upon the criticality of the product security vulnerability identified, and the scope of impacted users. A reported vulnerability could earn a bug bounty of \$150 to \$1,500.

"Automotive cybersafety is real, critical, and here to stay. Car manufacturers have the opportunity to engage the community of hackers that is already at the table and ready to help, and FCA US is the first full-line automaker to optimize that relationship through its paid bounty program," said Casey Ellis, CEO and founder of Bugcrowd. "The consumer is starting to understand that these days the car is basical-

**Banquet Facility** 

ly a two ton computer. FCA US customers are the real winners of this bounty program; they're receiving an even safer and more secure product both now and into the future."

Fiat Chrysler may make research findings public, based upon the nature of the potential vulnerability identified and the scope of impacted users, if any, Alexanian said. Last year, Fiat Chrysler contacted customers about a potential vulnerability associated with certain radios; provided the software update and permanently closed remote access to the open port on the radio, eliminating the risk of any long-range remote hacking – all before issuing a recall.

"The safety and security of our consumers and their vehicles is our highest priority," said Sandra Hosler, cybersecurity system responsible, Fiat Chrysler. "Building on a culture of safety, FCA US has developed a cross-functional team comprised of engineering, safety, regulatory affairs, and connected vehicle specialists who are dedicated to collaboration and engagement with a wide range of industry professionals to build security into our vehicles and products by design."

Alexanian called Bugcrown a pioneer and innovator in crowdsourced security testing for the enterprise. Bugcrowd harnesses the power of more than 30,000 security researchers to surface critical software vulnerabilities and level the playing field in cybersecurity.

Bugcrowd also provides a range of responsible disclosure and managed service options that allow companies to commission a customized security testing program that fits their specific requirements.

Bugcrowd's proprietary vulnerability disclosure platform is deployed by Tesla Motors, The Western Union Company, Pinterest, Barracuda Networks and Jet.com, Alexanian said.



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# **Detroit Auto Scene**

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The new Cadillac XT5 has proven to be a sales hit for the brand.

# Cadillac Sales Up 13.8 Percent

paid off for the brand, at least according to June sales figures.

Cadillac sold 25,785 new vehicles globally in June, an increase of 13.8 percent driven by the brand's two new products, the CT6 prestige sedan and XT5 luxury crossover.

Strong growth in the brand's three largest markets fueled the June global sales increases, said Cadillac spokesman David Caldwell. U.S. sales increased 5.5 percent for the month, accompanied by gains of 33.7 percent in China and 13.5 percent in Canada. For the year to date. Cadillac sales in China are up 16.2 percent.

The new 2017 XT5 luxury crossover model sold 6,719 units in June, Caldwell said, which was just its third month of sales in the U.S. and its second month in most export markets. The CT6 prestige sedan registered its highest sales since its launch earlier this year, Caldwell said, benefitting from an acceleration in its production rate. Escalade sales surged more than 15 percent in June, as well.

In the U.S., the brand experi- 13,515. A 5.5 percent increase. enced volume growth while continuing to earn a more premium percent increase. position in the marketplace, Caldwell said. Cadillac average transaction prices were \$54,279 (according to J.D. Power Information Network, June 12), the highest among full-line luxury brands.

"Earning higher transaction prices in the market indicates the rising stature of Cadillac in consumers' minds," said Cadillac

New product by Cadillac has President Johan de Nysschen. "Elevating all aspects of the business, driven by rising product substance, is our disciplined approach to global expansion. In doing so, we can truly earn incremental volume growth as we

build brand prestige." June 2016 compared to June 2015 sales figures are as follows: • ATS – 5,201, 5,509. A 5.6 per-

cent decline. • CTS - 1,782, 1,826. A 2.4 percent decline.

• ELR - 96, 65. A 47.7 percent increase.

• XTS - 3,937, 3,755. A 4.8 percent increase.

• CT6 – 1,516. (Not for sale in 2015.)

• SRX - 2,918, 8,360. A 65.1 percent decline.

• XT5 – 6,719. (Not for sale in 2015.)

• Escalade – 3,616, 3,134. A 15.4 percent increase.

• Total sales - 25,785, 22,660. A 13.8 percent increase.

This breaks down further. Sales by country, 2016 compared to 2015.

• United States – 14,263,

• China – 9,552, 7,147. A 33.7

• Canada - 1,126, 992. A 13.5 percent increase.

• Middle East - 450, 528. A 14.8 percent decrease

• Mexico - 118, 148. A 20.3 percent decrease.

• EU and Russia - 159, 171. A 7 percent decrease.

• Rest of World - 117, 159. A 26.4 percent decrease.

# **Detroit Boasts Some Young Manufacturers**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We offer special support for manufacturers and help them solve their problems," Brabandt said. "I grew up in Romeo and went to Romeo High School Engineering & Technology Center."

The school's program was aimed at giving students a solid STEM education. Brabandt said he went to Western Michigan and received his degree in manufacturing engineering technology.

"I followed my interests," Brabandt said. "I had been interested in science since I was a teenager. When I graduated from Western in I took a job with a company in the state, and a few months later decided to start my own company."

Brabandt has a son, Edison, with his wife Kendall.

"Right now I am keeping my focus on Systematic Manufacturing," Brabandt said. "I want to grow it. We have a younger staff and are working on moving to a product-based business."

Fiat Chrysler has two of the named engineers. Ashley Buchner has a masters degree in mechanical engineering from Oakland University.

"I grew up in Chesterfield," Buchner said, "with my parents - Ray and Sharon Ellerbe - and sister Mary. I attended Anchor Bay High School, and was the first graduating class out of the current high school (2004), with a class of over 500 students. From a very young age, I believe

my parents thought I was going to do something in engineering. When I was 3, I took a screwdriver and started to take apart the kitchen table from underneath; the leaf portion almost fell on me. My mom continues to tell that story to people to this day."

She said she's grown up in the heart of the auto industry, her parents are "GM" folks, and while didn't automatically want to work in the business, her love of engineering helped.

"Currently, I am the virtual assembly lead, supporting Industrial Engineering and Manufacturing Engineering" Buchner said. "My job involves supporting a successful vehicle launch by virtually showing the product and process of the operator's job in each workstation. Through this virtual assembly process, the team works to identify issues early, without having physical parts in hand.

"The biggest challenge and surprise for our group is making sure we are keeping up with technology and focusing on our customers. We know that our processes are never perfect, there is always room to improve and push the envelope in the industry. Knowing this, we are always seeking new and innovative technologies to integrate into our process, to be more successful digitally, and support our customers to get the best outcome for a better vehicle.'

Like Brabandt and Buchner, Tunis is also from Detroit.

"I grew up in Waterford, with my parents, Gary and Phyllis, and brother Chris," Tunis said. "I attended Lutheran High School Northwest in Rochester Hills. At a young age, I took an interest into engineering. Legos are where it all started. I spent hours building intricate cars, trucks, and buildings with Legos. When I was 13, I started welding and fabricating and knew that some form of engineering would be in my future."

Tunis said that growing up in Detroit, to his mind at least, made working in the auto industry inevitable. He has a Batchelor of Science degree in industrial systems engineering from Oakland university and is currently the professional maintenance pillar lead at Warren Stamping.

"My job involves supporting our maintenance teams in executing proper preventive maintenance activities to optimize machine up time," Tunis said. "The biggest challenge our team faces is the age of our equipment, and our production demand. We have to work as a team to find creative ways to make our maintenance activities more efficient so that we can perform them more quickly to minimize production down time. With aging equipment also comes breakdowns. We work as a team to understand each component breakdown and develop countermeasures that will eliminate that breakdown in the future on similar machinery."



\*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Rates are "as low as" and based on credit score, term of loan. Subject to change at any time

**GM Working to Help Military** Vets Find Jobs

# Learn How To Get The Most From Your Retirement Savings

#### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

in the state for veterans.

We try to sign up people in advance and match their skills with companies looking for employees," Nattrass said. "But for the walk-ins, we had a two-hour program that showed them how to improve their resumes and how to improve their interview skills."

There are between 180 and 200 "Hire Our Heroes" job fairs held across the country in any given year, Nattrass said, held in the major cities and close to major military bases in the U.S.

"Right now we are working with the U.S. Chamber to plan next year's job fairs," Nattrass said. "As for Michigan, the fair on July 15 was the last this year. but we are working hard to make sure that veterans will receive the help they need and that next year's fairs in the state are as good as the ones on the past."



#### JULY 18, 2016

# **Kelley – Car Sales Strong**

The analysts at Kelley Blue Dodge brands rising most. Book – www.kbb.com, report the estimated average transaction price (ATP) for light vehicles in the United States was \$33,652 in June 2016.

New-car prices have increased by \$655 (up 2 percent) from June 2015, while rising \$31 (up 0.1 percent) from last month, said Kelley spokeswoman Brenna Robinson.

"It is no surprise that strength in trucks and SUVs continue to drive up average transaction prices and help brands with models in these segments," said Tim Fleming, analyst for Kelley Blue Book. "In particular, midsize trucks stand out as one of the strongest segments with prices up nearly 9 percent in June 2016. With full-size trucks now averaging \$47,000, a large gap still exists to the segment's mid-size counterparts, which sit closer to \$32,000.'

The domestic automakers reveal the greatest year-over-year gains this month. Fiat Chrysler transaction prices grew nearly 4 percent with the Chrysler and

Chrysler is seeing a 9 percent average gain due to the new Pacifica minivan, while nearly every model in the Dodge lineup is up, helping the brand's transaction prices increase 5 percent.

Ford also is up 4 percent due to stronger F-Series sales and increased pricing on the Explorer, which was up 6 percent. The Transit also had a great month, increasing 5 percent. The Lincoln brand was flat overall, but the redesigned MKX was a bright spot for the automaker, climbing 6 percent to \$48,009 on average.

GM increased most of all major manufacturers, up 4 percent in June 2016, helped most by Cadillac and Chevrolet," said Fleming. "Cadillac rose 8 percent, helped by the new ATS-V and CTS-V sedans, as well as the new XT5, which is transacting 10 percent above the SRX that it replaced. Chevrolet was up 5 percent with strong pricing on most of its key products, including the Silverado (up 5 percent), Malibu (up 6 percent) and Equinox (up 4 percent).'



Ford's World Headquarters recent celebration of victory at LeMans lit up the night.

## Lights On For Ford LeMans Celebration

self and that makes it worth it to light up the sky to let the world know.

On June 19, 1966, the Ford GT 40 racing team finished 1-2-3 at the Le Mans 24 Hours the biggest global stage in motorsports. And 50 years to the day, Ford did it again - winning the Le Mans 24 Hours with Ford Chip Ganassi Racing with the Ford GT, and another Ford GT finishing third.

To commemorate the Ford GT victory, the company illuminated the World Headquarters building in Dearborn with the message "GT Wins at LeMans."

The No. 68 Ford GT of Sébastien Bourdais (FRA), Joey Hand (US) and Dirk Müller (GER) crossed the finish line at Le Mans at three o'clock on June 19, as the overall GT winner of the 2016 Le Mans 24 Hours. The No. 69 Ford GT of Ryan Briscoe (AUS), Scott Dixon (NZ) and Richard Westbrook (GB) joined the winners on the podium after scoring third place. The Nos. 66 and 67

ninth places, respectively.

"This is an historic moment for the Ford Motor Company," said Bill Ford, executive chairman, Ford Motor Company. "We dared to dream that we could return to Le Mans, 50 years after the incredible 1966 win, and take on the toughest competition in the world. The pride we all felt when the Ford GT crossed the line at Le Mans is indescribable. The team that designed, built and raced the Ford GT has worked tirelessly to bring us to this result and I am proud of each and every one of them. The Ford Chip Ganassi Racing team demonstrated the spirit of Ford, that of innovation, determination and true teamwork. We cherish our history and heritage, but today we made history again and I couldn't be more proud.'

First unveiled to the media at Le Mans last year, the Ford GT's Le Mans victory comes 395 days after the car turned a wheel for the first time on May 20, 2015, at Calabogie Motorsports Park in Canada. A Herculean effort from the Ford Chip Ganassi team has transformed the car into a Le Mans winner in just over one vear.

"Building a new car and racing it at Le Mans is a monumental task," said Mark Fields, president and chief executive officer, Ford Motor Company. "We took it on and we conquered the biggest challenge in sportscar racing: the Le Mans 24 Hours. It has been incredible to share this event with our dealers, owners, employees, sponsors and guests who are all bursting with pride at being part of the Ford family. Every manufacturer in the GTE Pro class fought with everything they had in the best competitive spirit,

Sometimes history repeats it- Ford GTs finished in fourth and behind the wheel on the three occasions that the Ford passed the Ferrari, rekindling a 50-yearold rivalry between the two car manufacturers.

"It's a big deal to come back here 50 years after the Ford win in 1966," said Hand. "We said we wanted to win but to actually do it is huge. This team has come so far in a short space of time. They all worked hard, right through Christmas and New Year and gave us a race car that we can race hard. We drove like it was a sprint race for 24 hours. I've won a lot of races and this is a big one. I'm honoured to be part of this programme. I'm a red, white and blue guy so to be part of the Ford family, where they treat you like their own, is a great place to be.

This victory is particularly sweet for Bourdais who was born within sight of Tertre Rouge. The Frenchman had competed at Le Mans 10 times previously but this is his first win.

"It's an unbelievable feeling to be able to make this happen,' said Bourdais. "There was so much effort, so much emotion, and to be the one that wins the trophy to give to the Ford family and everyone involved is very special.

"Everything aligned for us to-- the history, the day Ferrari/Ford battle, 50 years on and the Ford family being here. To come out on top of all that is an amazing feeling.

The No. 66 Ford GT, raced by Billy Johnson (US), Stefan Mücke (GER) and Olivier Pla (FRA) was in contention for a top result during the race's infancy but a small electrical problem put paid to their attack.

Such is the pace of the Le Mans 24 Hours, one extra mo-



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the start of the race so they had to play catch up for the full 24 hours, coming home in ninth place. With his 175th victory as a team owner, Chip Ganassi becomes the only owner in history to win the Indianapolis 500, Daytona 500, Brickyard 400, Rolex 24 At Daytona, 12 Hours of Sebring and Le Mans 24 Hours.

The No. 66 Ford GT earns maximum FIA World Endurance Championship points from this event, which fires up the competition for the remainder of the WEC season.

The IMSA Ford Chip Ganassi Racing team is flying high all the way back to the US for the next round of the WeatherTech SportsCar Championship at Watkins Glen on July 3.

# **Attention! Current GM Employees** DON'T PAY TOO MUCH TO **LEASE YOUR NEW CAR.**

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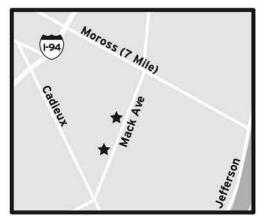
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## **Chrysler Invests in Plants**

Fiat Chrysler will invest more than \$1 billion in its assembly plants in Illinois and Ohio to retool them to support the future growth of the Jeep brand.

As a result of these investments, 1,000 new jobs will be created, subject to market condi-Fiat tions, said Chrysler spokesman Jodi Tinson.

The Belvidere Assembly Plant (Illinois) will receive an investment of \$350 million to produce the Jeep Cherokee, which will move from its current production location in Toledo, Ohio, in 2017.

Approximately 300 new jobs will be created. Production of the Dodge Dart and the Jeep Compass/Jeep Patriot will end in September 2016 and December 2016, respectively, Tinson said.

The company will also invest \$700 million in the Toledo Assembly Complex (Ohio) to retool the North plant to produce the next generation Jeep Wrangler, Tinson said. Approximately 700 new jobs will be added.

An announcement regarding the future of the South plant will be made at a later date, Tinson said.

These production actions are subject to the formal approval of incentives by state and local entities, Tinson said.

Since 2009, Fiat Chrysler has announced investments of more than \$6.8 billion and added more than 23,500 (including nearly 18,000 hourly) people in its U.S. operations.



The Wrangler will continue to be made at Toledo Assembly Complex.

## Federal Government Has **Questions for Tesla**

DETROIT (AP) – Federal safety ing the system, and they must be investigators are asking electric car maker Tesla Motors for details on how its Autopilot system works and why it failed to detect a tractor trailer that crossed its path in a Florida crash.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in a letter to Tesla posted July 12, also requests data on all crashes that happened because its system did not work as expected.

The agency is investigating the May 7 crash in Williston, Florida, that killed 40-year-old Joshua Brown, of Canton, Ohio. Tesla says the cameras on his Model S sedan failed to distinguish the white side of a turning tractortrailer from a brightly lit sky and didn't automatically brake.

The agency gave Tesla until Aug. 26 to fully comply with its request. The company faces penalties of up to \$21,000 per day, to a maximum of \$105 million if it doesn't comply.

Although the agency called the problem with Tesla's Autopilot system an "alleged defect," a spokesman said in a statement that it hasn't determined if a nicated to the driver. safety defect exists. The information request is a routine step in an investigation into the crash, spokesman Bryan Thomas said. The investigation could have broad implications for the auto industry and its steps toward self-driving cars. If the NHTSA probe finds defects with Tesla's system, the agency could seek a recall. Other automakers have or are developing similar systems that may need to be changed as a result of the probe. Tesla's system uses cameras, radar and computers to detect objects and automatically brake its vehicles if they're about to hit something. It also can steer the car to keep it centered in its lane. The company says that before Autopilot can be used, drivers have to acknowledge that the system is an "assist feature" that requires a driver to keep both hands on the wheel at all times. Drivers are told they need to "maintain control and responsibility for your vehicle" while us-

prepared to take over at any time. Tesla has said.

In the letter, which was dated July 8, NHTSA also asked Tesla for results of its own investigation into the May 7 crash, and for all consumer complaints, field reports from dealers, reports of crashes, lawsuits and all data logs and images from problems with the Autopilot system. It also seeks details on any modification to the Autopilot system that Tesla has made.

"Describe all assessments, analyses, tests, test results, studies, surveys, simulations, reconstructions, investigations, inquiries and or evaluations that relate to or may relate to the alleged defect," the letter says.

Investigators also want to know how the system recognizes objects and decides whether they are crossing the path of a Tesla. They also asked the company to describe how the system detects how signals from cameras or other sensors have been compromised or degraded and when that information is commu-

#### **MSU Alumnus Helps Promote** Innovation

EAST LANSING, Mich. (AP) -Michigan State University's Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation is getting a \$4.5 million boost from businessman Robert "Bob" K. Burgess.

The gift for the institute, which is part of the East Lansing school's Eli Broad College of Business, was announced July 13. Burgess made a \$2 million gift to the institute in 2005 which, in honor of his gift and service, will be renamed the Burgess Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation. It seeks to advance research on entrepreneurship, venture capital and private equity.

Burgess earned a bachelor of science degree in packaging from Michigan State in 1966.

#### Mopar Dodge Charger Race Team Wins

Just like last season at Route 66 Raceway just outside of Chicago, there were two Don Schumacher Racing (DSR) Mopar Dodge Charger R/T Funny Cars battling it out for the trophy in the waning moments of the 19th annual Route 66 NHRA Nationals on July 10.

At the 2015 event, Tommy Johnson Jr. scored the win over Matt Hagan in their head-to-head Hemi battle, and this time around it was Jack Beckman and Ron Capps locking horns with the trophy in sight. Ultimately, it was Beckman who scored the win, putting an exclamation point on a weekend of powerful performances and memorable milestones for Team Mopar.

"On behalf of everyone at Mopar, I would like to congratulate Jack Beckman on his first victory of the season with the title win at Chicago," said Pietro Gorlier, head of Parts and Service (Mopar), FCA - Global. "It's great to see a Mopar Dodge Charger R/T Funny Car in the winner's circle for an eighth time this season."

The win was the seventh in a row for the Dodge Charger Funny Cars, and it came in the sixth all-Mopar final of the year. Of particular note, a DSR Dodge Charger has won the Chicago trophy in each of the last four seasons.

Beckman's Dodge Charger was hot in the Windy City this year, and he blazed into July 10 with a 3.928-second pass at 327.59 mph that was the fastest speed of the first round in a swift defeat of a traction-troubled John Hale. Beckman had the second quickest and fastest pass of round two, a 3.939/325.92, in a decisive victory over another troubled opponent, Courtney Force, who limped to a 6-second pass.

Beckman disposed of Force's teammate, Robert Hight, in the semifinals with a 3.955/324.05 to 3.970/323.12. With the win light came Beckman's ticket to the 48th Funny Car final round of his career and 4th of the season.

#### Oakland U Earns High Rating from *Forbes* Magazine

The 2016 *Forbes* magazine rankings of America's Top Colleges is out and Oakland University holds a strong presence on this year's list. The honor is based on total return on investment for students graduating from colleges and universities, said OU spokesman Brian Bierley.

Oakland is the top ranked school from Oakland, Macomb and Wayne counties on the list



and ranks fourth among all Michigan public universities.

"This year's ranking list reassures me that we are steadily moving in the right direction towards our mission to be recognized among the top Michigan universities," said George W. Hvnd, Oakland University president. "We are a public, doctoral research institution with a global perspective, and as a metropolitan university, we engage students in distinctive educational experiences that connect them to the unique and diverse opportunities within our region and beyond."

The Forbes magazine website reports using data from the Department of Education, along with payscale.com and the America's Leaders List to compile the rankings on the top 660 schools. They rated each school on post-graduate success, student debt, student satisfaction, graduation rate and academic success.

SIX

# **Camaro Celebrating 50 Years of a Stylish History**

The Camaro arrived in dealerships on Sept. 29, 1966 and customers were eager for Chevrolet's entry in the new personal sports car segment.

Sales of nearly 221,000 in its first year made the Camaro a success and firmly established its role in American popular culture, said GM spokesman Ron Kiino.

In the 50 years since its introduction there have been six generations of the Camaro, Kiino said, all distinguished by styling that uncannily captured the design zeitgeist of their respective eras and performance technologies that remained sharply focused on the driving fun that made the original a hit from day one

First Generation: 1967-69:

• The Camaro's first generation was born into the era's raging muscle car and drag racing wars - as well as road racing, which spawned the original Z/28in 1967. First-generation Camaros also served twice as the Indy 500 pace car: first in 1967 and again in 1969. The '69 examples, with their Hugger Orange stripes and orange houndstooth interiors, are among the most distinguishable and recognizable special models of the time.

Second Generation: 1970-81:

 The Camaro's second generation was its longest and its most successful, despite tumultuous changes in the industry that saw the horsepower of performance models such as the Z28 erode significantly. An all-new structure offered a slightly wider footprint and lower center of gravity - attributes that gave the Camaro excellent handling characteristics. It also supported dramatic, European-influenced styling. The Camaro enjoyed its best year ever in 1979, when 282,571 were sold, including nearly 85,000 Z28 models

Third Generation: 1982-92:

• The third-generation Camaro also introduced and all-new architecture, with a contemporary strut-type front suspension, rackand-pinion steering and more. The chassis system turned a car already renowned for its handling capability into a serious track machine, which was taken to its zenith with the special 1LE package, introduced in 1988. Aggressive styling complemented

#### **GM**, Lyft Program **Expanding to New Cities**

Lyft and General Motors are expanding their Express Drive short-term vehicle access program to California and Colorado, including the all-new 2017 Chevrolet Bolt EV.

Launching in San Francisco in the summer of 2016 and in Los Angeles by the fall. Express Drive's California members will have access to vehicles from the largest electric vehicle fleet in ridesharing, including the 2017 Chevrolet Bolt EV and the extended-range electric 2016 Chevrolet Volt, said GM spokeswoman Annalisa Bluhm, Express Drive will also launch operations in Denver by the fall of 2016. In San Francisco, Los Angeles and Denver combined, over 130,000 people who applied to become Lyft drivers but didn't have qualifying cars will now have the opportunity to drive on the platform.



1967 Camaro Z28



1970 Camaro RS, second generation

SIX



1982 Camaro Z28 25th Anniversary, third generation

the car's performance capability and it was the first Camaro with a hatchback. Additionally, the 1982 Z28 was the first American production car to incorporate ground effects - and it was also named the Motor Trend Car of the Year.

Fourth Generation: 1993-2002:

• Performance continued to improve with the fourth-generation Camaro, with higher-power engines and chassis enhancements that built on the basic layout of the third generation. Styling evolved with more dramatic proportions, including a fast-raked windshield that gave the car an undeniably sleeker profile. The Camaro's front end was redesigned in 1998, which coincided with the introduction of the landmark LS1 V8, which gave Z28 and SS models performance reminiscent of the muscle

car heyday.

#### Fifth Generation: 2010-2015:

• The seven years between the fourth-generation's hiatus and the launch of the fifth-generation (it was introduced in 2009 as a '10 model) didn't seem all that long, but was a comparative eternity in the automotive world. Chevrolet decided a new Camaro would have to acknowledge its heritage on the outside and it was the right call. The fifth-gen car went on to sell more than 500,000 copies and outpace its pony-car rival for five consecutive years. It also spawned new, track-focused 1LE, Z/28 and ZL1 models.

Sixth Generation: 2016+:

• The Gen Six Camaro introduced the Camaro's highest-ever levels of performance, technology and refinement, all rooted in a lighter, stronger architecture,



2017 Camaro 50th Anniversary edition

tor Trend Car of the Year award. For 2017, new track-capable 1LE and ZL1 models debut, with the

#### **Cooper-Standard Creates New V.P. Innovation Job**

Cooper-Standard Holdings Inc. has appointed of Christopher E. Couch to the newly created position of vice president, innovation and product groups effective July 11.

Couch will report to Keith Stephenson, executive vice presi-

which helped earn the 2016 Mo- ZL1 driven by a supercharged 6.2L V8 estimated at 640 hp and offered with a new 10-speed automatic transmission.



The expansion follows successful launches in Chicago, Boston, Washington D.C. and Baltimore. Since March, the Lyft-exclusive program has seen tremendous interest and adoption:

• 30 percent of new Lyft-driver applicants in Chicago have requested an Express Drive vehicle.



Dan Ammann (center) with John Zimmer (right) and Logan Green.

• Boston's program was fully subscribed in less than 4 days.

• Nearly \$2 million earned by Lyft drivers in the program to date.

"Expanding Express Drive provides opportunities to hundreds of thousands of new potential Lyft drivers and continues to make car ownership optional for both drivers and passengers" said John Zimmer, Lyft's president and co-founder. "We are also excited to be adding electric vehicles to Express Drive, which is an important milestone for Lyft and the industry."

"We are very pleased with the success of Express Drive and how quickly the team implemented the program since our alliance was announced earlier

this year," said GM President Dan Ammann. "The Chevrolet Bolt EV and Volt are a perfect fit for ridesharing offering very low operating costs and a wide range of connectivity features for both drivers and passengers."

For more information about Lyft and GM's partnership, visit Lyft at blog.lyft.com/posts/lyft-1billion-gm.

To learn more about GM's initiatives in the personal mobility please, space visit: media.gm.com, Bluhm said

Lyft was founded in June 2012 by Logan Green and John Zimmer to reconnect people and communities through better transportation, Bluhm said. It is the fastest growing rideshare company in the U.S.

dent and chief operating officer, said Cooper Standard spokeswoman Sharon S. Wenzl.

With more than 20 years of global automotive manufacturing experience garnered through technical, strategic and senior executive roles at both automakers and tier one suppliers, Couch will lead Cooper Standard's i3 Innovation Process from idea inception to commercialization. Utilizing his expertise in business development and advanced engineering, he will work closely with core product line leaders to develop market strategies and work in tandem with Cooper Standard's global regions to execute these strategies in support of global customers.

"Our i3 Innovation Process has already spawned several breakthrough innovations, especially in material science and lightweighting," said Stephenson. "Chris joins Cooper Standard at a pivotal time, as his extensive experience in commercial develop-



Christopher E. Couch

ment and product innovation will provide the technical leadership required to realize the full potential of the groundbreaking innovations."

Couch most recently served as chief technical officer and global manufacturing vice president at Lear Corp. in Southfield, where he drove and evolved the company's strategic technical direction. He joined the company in 2013 as a senior executive responsible for advanced engineering, advanced manufacturing, advanced sales and cost optimization.

He worked at Johnson Controls, Inc. from 2006 to 2013, holding a variety of leadership positions based in Korea and Japan, Wenzl said. He was group vice president for Johnson Controls Asia-Pacific, responsible for regional operations.

# **GM Avoids Supply Shutdown**

Difficulties with a supplier that could have shut down production of GM vehicles across the country have been avoided.

According to reports in the media, the bankruptcy of a GM supplier based in Massachusetts - Clark-Cutler-McDermott - had the potential to shut down production lines last week because the company was the only provider of acoustic insulation material and certain interior trim parts.

But, said IHS auto analyst Mike Wall, GM won a court battle on July 13 in U.S. Bankruptcy Court that allows GM to get the tooling needed to make the parts from Clark-Cutler-McDermott.

"This is very good news for GM," Wall said. "I actually never heard of the company and when GM was having its troubles I had to ask around about it. But what this case really shows is just how vulnerable Automakers are to disruptions in the supply chain."

Wall said that over the past decades OEMs have streamlined the auto supply process, often depending in just one supplier for a particular part.

'Over the past few years we've seen how this can affect OEMs..' Wall said. "In 2011 Japan suffered from an earthquake and tsunami that severely affected auto production. Just early this year, Japan had an earthquake that shut down some suppliers for a few days and GM had to cease production for a short time."

Just-in-time supplies means that factories don't keep huge inventories of parts on hand, Wall said. So if there is a physical disruption to the supply chain from natural causes like what happened in Japan, or a financial problem a supplier has like with Clark-Cutler-McDermott, automakers face trouble.

"Right now auto production

has very high," Wall said. "Having a plant idled because of supply problem you are just leaving money on the table. This situation shows that it takes just one supplier to mess up the entire production process. Automakers have kept a laser focus on the system to keep it running smoothly."

Wall also said that whatever caused Clark-Cutler-McDermott to experience its financial difficulties, he believes that auto suppliers in general are in pretty good shape financially right now, and its to the benefit of automakers that they remain strong financially.

"When I heard how forcefully GM acted to make sure that they could be the parts they needed, I wasn't surprised. The market is so strong now, they don't want their plants down. All automakers are working to make sure that doesn't happen."

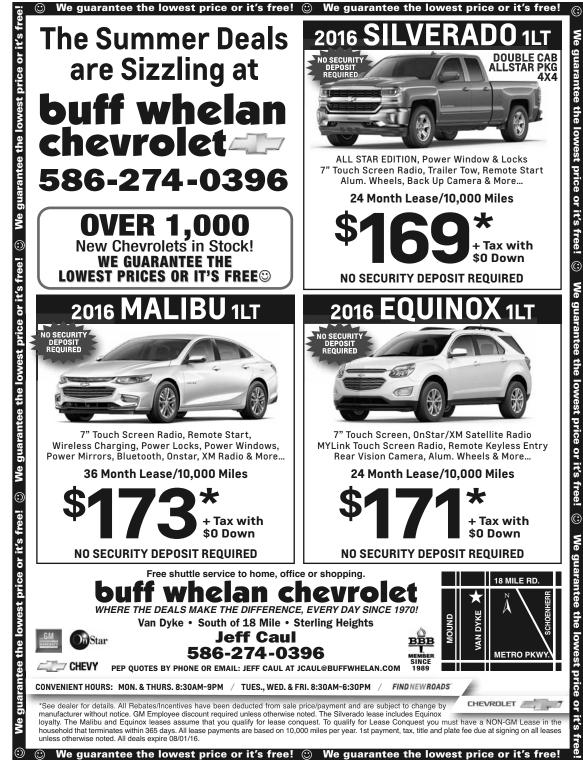
#### Weather Will Not **Shut Down Salt Flats Races**

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - Organizers of the Speed Week races at Utah's Bonneville Salt Flats say they have enough smooth, dry salt for the event this year.

The races was canceled two years in a row after wet, patchy and muddy salt made it impossible to mark out a raceway for cars, motorcycles and more.

Bill Lattin, president of the Southern California Timing Association, says as long as conditions remain relatively dry before the Aug. 13 event, Speed Week will be on.

The race is the largest of several annual events at the flats, about 100 miles west of Salt Lake City.







PAGE 9

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As the Camaro marks the 50th anniversary of its introduction this year, the sixth-generation Camaro SS will serve as the model for Chevrolet race cars in the NASCAR XFINITY Series, starting next season, said GM spokeswoman Afaf Farah.

The updated Camaro race car was shown June 30 at Daytona International Speedway ahead of tomorrow's Subway Firecracker 250 Presented by Coca-Cola. The official racing debut comes next February at the 2017 season's NASCAR XFINITY Series kickoff race at Daytona.

"For the past 50 years, Camaro has played a key role in Chevrolet's racing success in winning races and championships," said Mark Kent, director, Chevrolet Racing. "We look forward to further success with the new Camaro SS in the NASCAR XFINITY Series."

Computational fluid dynamics analysis, as well as traditional full- and reduced-scale wind-tunnel development, was used to refine the shapes of the unique upper nose and hood of the new 2017 NASCAR XFINITY Series Camaro SS.

The fifth-generation Camaro was introduced into the NASCAR XFINITY Series in 2013.

The NASCAR XFINITY Series showcases some of the world's most talented drivers and the stars of tomorrow – all creating defining moments that help make their name and ignite legacies. Chevrolet drivers have captured five NASCAR XFINITY Series checkered flags so far in 2016, bringing Chevrolet's tally to 408 victories in the modern era since 1982 – and contributing to the most manufacturer titles in NASCAR history.

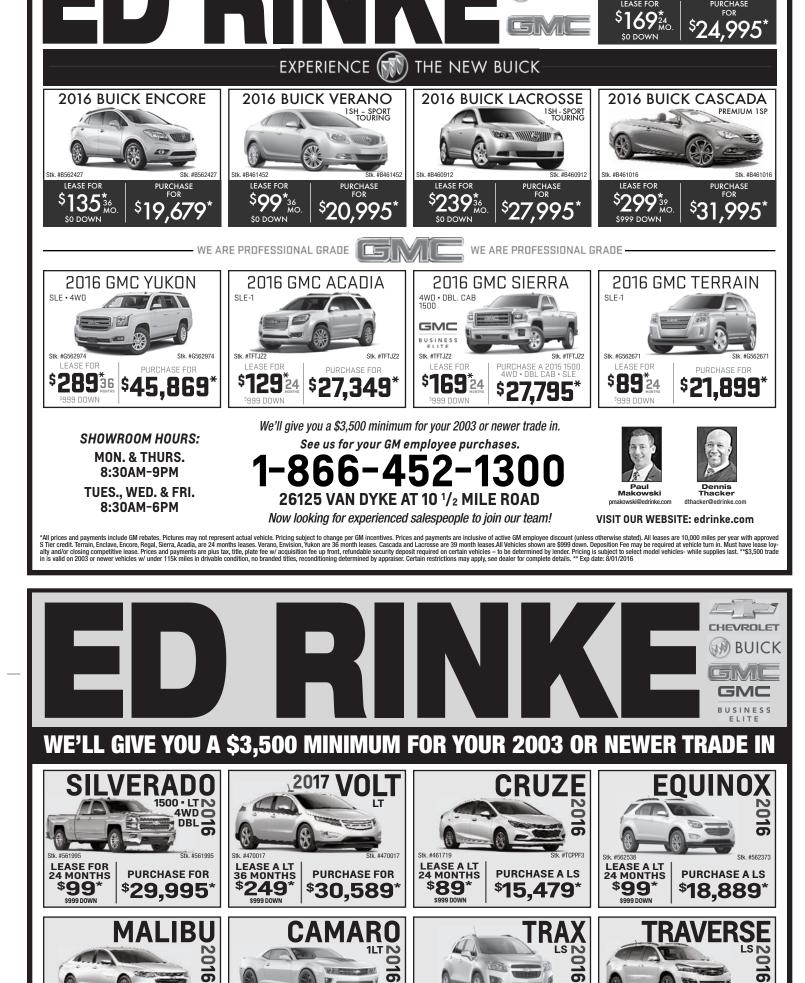
#### Capuchin Soup Kitchen Holding August Event

The 23rd annual Benefit on the Bay will take place Friday, Aug. 26, 5:30 p.m., at the newly renovated MacRay Harbor, located on Lake St. Clair, Harrison Township. 100 percent of the event's proceeds benefit the Capuchin Soup Kitchen.

Organizer Mike Schodowski's business, Shelving, Inc., will be underwriting the costs of the event.

"This is our 23rd year of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen fundraiser," Mike Schodowski explains. "The Soup Kitchen does so much for people who have so little. The Soup Kitchen not only feeds the hungry, but also helps children learn.

"They teach job skills. They have an organic urban farm that



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produces over six tons of healthy food. They provide groceries and clothing. They have a residential rehabilitation facility that has an amazing success rate. The Capuchin Soup Kitchen does so much for the community, all without government funding."

Jay Towers, Fox 2 News and 100.3 WNIC, will again serve as the event's Master of Ceremonies. The event will feature two bands. "John Dickson & the C-Notes" will feature jazz and easy listening music. Musical group "The Key Suspects" will also be on hand. Special musical guests will be the Capuchin Soup Kitchen Choir, a joyous group that travels the area, sharing their Gospel music.

To learn more about the event and how to order tickets, go to http://www.benefitonthebay.org/ #!/HOME.

Tickets may also be ordered in advance by calling Diane Steil at 586-954-3864.

# **IIHS Says Small SUV Lights Can Stand Improvements**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

While studies have pointed to advantages for advanced lighting systems, the IIHS rating system doesn't favor one type of technology over the other. It simply measures the amount of usable light provided by low beams and high beams as vehicles travel on straightaways and curves.

IIHS engineers evaluate headlights on the Vehicle Research Center's track after dark, Rader said. A special device is used to measure how far the light is projected as the vehicle is driven on five approaches: traveling straight, a sharp left curve, a sharp right curve, a gradual left curve and a gradual right curve.

Glare from low beams for oncoming drivers is also measured in each scenario. A vehicle with excessive glare on any of the approaches can't earn a rating higher than marginal.

The only type of technology given an explicit nod in the ratings is high-beam assist, Rader said, which automatically switches between high and low beams based on the presence of other vehicles. Vehicles can earn extra credit for this feature because of its potential to increase low rates of high-beam use.

The best-performing headlights in the small SUV group belong to a new model, the Mazda CX-3, and are available on its Grand Touring trim. They are curve-adaptive LED lights with optional high beam assist. The low beams perform well on both right curves and fairly well on the straightaway and sharp left curve; however, they provide inadequate light on the gradual left curve. The high beams perform well on most approaches.

The other vehicles available with acceptable headlights are the Ford Escape, the Honda CR-V and the Hyundai Tucson. None of the three are curve-adaptive, and only the Escape has high-beam assist, Rader said. Still, all of them provide fair or good illumination in most scenarios.

The worst headlights among the small SUVs belong to the new-for-2016 Honda HR-V.

The illumination provided by the HR-V's halogen low beams and high beams is inadequate on all four curves and on the straightaway. The HR-V is one of 12 small SUVs that can't be purchased with anything other than poor-rated headlights.

For those vehicles available with higher-rated headlights, consumers need to make sure they're getting the right ones. For example, the Tucson's acceptable headlight combination is available on the SUV's Limited version, but the headlights on other trim levels of the Tucson earn a poor rating. Even the Limited, when equipped with curveadaptive headlights, gets a poor rating due to excessive glare.

Seventeen of the rated SUV headlight combinations have unacceptable glare. They include all types of lights - halogen, HID and LED - and none of the headlight types is more likely than the others to have excessive glare.

"Glare issues are usually a result of poorly aimed headlights," Brumbelow says. "SUV head-lights are mounted higher than car headlights, so they generally should be aimed lower. Instead, many of them are aimed higher than the car headlights we've tested so far.'

IIHS plans to test pickup headlight next, Rader said.







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#### Magazine Asks Tesla Not to Use 'Autopilot' Name

DETROIT (AP) – Consumer Reports magazine is calling on electric car maker Tesla Motors to change the name of its Autopilot semi-autonomous driving system and to disconnect the automatic steering feature after a fatal crash in Florida.

The magazine says in a statement that calling the system Autopilot promotes a dangerous assumption that Teslas can drive themselves. It also says the automatic steering should be disconnected until it's updated to make sure a driver's hands stay on the steering wheel at all times.

The magazine's calls come after 40-year-old Joshua Brown died in a May crash in Florida with the Autopilot on. The system didn't detect a tractor-trailer that had turned in front of Brown in bright sunshine, and Brown didn't react.

Messages were left July 14 seeking comment from Tesla spokespeople in California.

#### Settlement Over DENSO Parts Scandal Reached

On July 14, attorneys representing American consumers and businesses announced that a \$193.8 million settlement has been reached in In re Automotive Parts Antitrust Litigation, the litigation stemming from an alleged long-running international price-fixing conspiracy.

"We are very proud of this recovery, which will provide a real and meaningful benefit to the consumers and businesses we represent," said Hollis Salzman of Robins Kaplan LLP, interim colead counsel for the End-Payor Plaintiffs.

The settlement, which is the largest in the case to date, calls for DENSO Corp. and its affiliates to pay \$193.8 million to members of the End-Payor Plaintiff Classes, which include business and consumers that purchased or leased new automobiles and similar vehicles not for resale containing certain automotive parts sold by DENSO, or that indirectly purchased certain replacement automotive parts sold by DENSO.

"Today's settlement brings the recoveries in this case to \$482 million. This settlement and this litigation have been difficult and hard-fought since the case began in 2011, and we will continue this fight against the remaining defendants to recover for our clients and the classes," said Steven N. Williams of Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, LLP, interim co-lead counsel for the End-Payor Plaintiffs.

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The litigation involves allegations that the leading automotive parts makers engaged in a long-running conspiracy to rig bids and fix the prices that they charged to automakers. The End-Payor Plaintiffs allege that this unlawful conduct resulted in artificially high prices for automotive parts that were then passed on to the ultimate customer, consumers, and businesses that purchased new cars and other vehicles in the U.S. End-Payor Plaintiffs allege that the conspiracy spanned more than a decade and involved illegal conduct throughout the world. "We are continuing our vigorous prosecution of this litigation against the remaining defendants and will be seeking, either by settlement or trial, additional recoveries for the consumers and businesses we represent," said Marc M. Seltzer of Susman Godfrey L.L.P., iinterim co-lead counsel for the End-Payor Plaintiffs.



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