GM 'Car Guys' Show Off Special Rides to Fellow Employees

by Jim Stickford

It can be quite interesting to see what private vehicles automotive design experts own.

And that's what happened at

the GM's Design on Woodward event, held at the corner of 13 Mile and Woodward in Royal Oak on Aug. 17.

on Woodward event, said its or-

ganizer Carole Sawyer, who works as a supervisor for Business Operations at GM Design.

"This is our seventh year." This was the seventh Design Sawyer said. "I've been in charge since the beginning. About 10 of

us get together every year to put on this event. Basically, it's a car show that features the vehicles owned by employees at the Design Center. We raise money for the Boys and Girls Club of Oak-

land County by selling T-shirts." The T-shirts cost \$10 and come in three designs, Sawyer said.

Given the fact that they're creat-

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Detroit Auto Scene®

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AUGUST 22, 2016

Dodge Flexes Its Muscles at Woodward Dream Cruise

Dodge believes the golden age of performance cars is now.

VOL. 84 NO. 32

That made this year's Woodward Dream Cruise the perfect time and place to reintroduce the brand's two famed, race-bred nameplates - the new 2017 Challenger T/A and Charger Daytona.

These muscle cars deliver even more performance and precision to the naturally aspirated Hemi V8 lineup with unique powertrain induction and exhaust enhancements, chassis upgrades for greater handling and braking, plus functional performance styling appointments inside and out, said Tim Kuniskis, head of Passenger Cars - Dodge, SRT, Chrysler and FIAT, FCA - North

The two vehicles were unveiled by Kuniskis at the Vinsetta Garage in Berkley at a special live broadcast of the event on Aug.

"More than 1.5 million enthusi-

asts are expected to come to Woodward to celebrate classic muscle cars this week, so it's a perfect opportunity to pay tribute to the Challenger T/A and Charger Daytona with new special editions," said Kuniskis at the unveiling

"We'll continue to celebrate the brand's muscle car performheritage with another announcement special-edition later this fall.'

Kuniskis said that it was appropriate to have the 2017 Dodge Challenger T/A and the Charger Daytona the week of the Woodward Dream Cruise because of the event's celebration of the American muscle car.

'We thought, let's do something special for these cars," Kuniskis said. "To be honest, the Charger and the Challenger represent over 40 percent of all muscle cars sold in the U.S. That's a big, big accomplishment, but I'm

not sure what that means anymore. It used to be simple. A muscle car was either a Mustang, a Camaro, a Charger or a Challenger. Enthusiasts would pick their favorite and from there the bragging rights would start."

But, Kuniskis said, over the past few years, things have changed. Ford and GM have made their muscle cars lighter and smaller and oriented their performances toward the track.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



Charger Daytona, left, and Challenger T/A at the Vinsetta Garage in Berkley

Mobis Takes Big Strides to Expand Globally

by Jim Stickford

auto supplier Mobis opened its technical center in Plymouth in September of 2015.

The company celebrated that opening at the newly-opened M-1 Concourse track in Pontiac on Aug. 15.

We opened the technical center last year," said Dean Hartford, sales director for Mobis North America. "It houses 180 employees and there's room for 300. It has an engineering center as well as our sales and program management. We're a growing busi-

In fact, said Mobis North America Manager of Business Development Frank Schwartz, the company is the sixth biggest auto supplier in the world.

Mobis, 10 years ago the company can do in a real-world environwould have been seen as a regional supplier in Asia with not many customers outside of Hyundai," Schwartz said. "Our new R&D center in Plymouth is part of a big push to expand Mobis globally."

Jimmy Park, CEO of Mobis North America, said the company's structure is complicated.

"Hyundai and Kia are our main customers," Park said. biggest customer in North America is Fiat Chrysler, and they are our second biggest customers worldwide. We also have relationships with OEMs like GM and VW. Kia owns 17 percent of Mobis and Mobis has an ownership stake in Hyundai and Hyundai has an ownership stake in Kia."

Schwartz said that Mobis has a number of module plants around the world. Their facilities include a chassis plant in Toledo, which is located right next to the Jeep

plant where the Wrangler is assembled. All the chassis roll right off Mobis' line and go straight to the Wrangler plant.

Hartford added that Mobis also has a plant on Fort Street in Detroit that makes chassis modules for the Jeep Grand Cherokee, which is produceed at the Jefferson Assembly plant.

Schwartz said Mobis also makes a drum-in-hat park brake for the Corvette, Camaro, ATS and CTS.

"We've also launched a plant in Monterey, Mexico," Hartford said. "We build electronic components and will be expanding that in the near future.

Schwartz said that part of the reason Mobis decided to hold its celebration at the M-1 Concourse was to be able to show off just "If you look at the history of what the company's products ment. Additionally, Mobis will be using the facility to test its prod-

> "It's great to be able to come here instead of having to try to

book time at the Bosch trak or elsewhere," Schwartz said. "By being able to show our products working on the track, we're also able to show engineers from different companies what we can do. Currently, we have no Ford business, but you can be sure that we've invited a lot of Ford people to be here today.'

And, Hartford said, sometimes it's just fun to drive around a race track in sports cars like the Corvette and the Camaro.

Among the parts made by Mobis that were on display at the M-1 Concourse were:

· A cockpit module. This provides equipment for convenience, driving information, control systems, and directly protects the passengers' safety. It's an assembled module unit designed to combine multiple parts - including an instrument panel, a cowl cross bar, an airconditioning system and airbags – into a single package to provide

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



Jimmy Park with a Mobis-made chassis for a Jeep Wrangler.



Fully autonomous Ford Fusion hybrid

Ford to Skip Using Driver To Assist Autonomous Cars

DETROIT (AP) - Ford Motor Co. intends to have a fully driverless vehicle – no steering wheel, no pedals – on the road within five years. The car will initially be used for commercial ride-hailing or ride-sharing services, with sales to consumers coming later.

"This is a transformational moment in our industry and it is a transformational moment for our company," said CEO Mark Fields, as he announced the plan Aug. 16 at Ford's Silicon Valley campus in Palo Alto, Calif.

Ford's approach to the autonomous car breaks from many other companies, like Mercedes-Benz and Tesla Motors, which plan to gradually add self-driving capability to traditional cars. Just last month, BMW AG, Intel Corp. and the automotive camera maker Mobileye announced a plan to put an autonomous vehicle with a steering wheel on the road by 2021.

Instead, Ford is taking the same approach as Alphabet Inc.'s Google, which supports moving directly to self-driving cars once the technology is perfected.

"We abandoned the steppingstone approach of driver-assist technologies and decided we were going to take the full leap,' said Raj Nair, Ford's chief technical officer.

Nair says Ford will continue developing systems that assist the driver, like automatic emergency braking or lane departure warning. But he said semiautonomous systems that can operate the car but then cede control back to the driver when an obstacle is encountered are actually dangerous in Ford's view. Engineers couldn't figure out how to make sure drivers stay engaged and ready to take

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Fiat Creates New Ad Campaign for 500X Crossover

The Fiat brand has launched a new television and online marketing campaign, "A Whole New Way to Look at Fiat," for the Fiat 500X crossover.

The videos will air on TV and across the brand's social channels, including YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. The spots – "Dollhouse," "Not a Toy Car," "Two for One," "Take it for a Spin," which was filmed entirely with a Go-Pro camera, and "Around the World" - are currently running across television and online; a sixth video will debut later in August. The videos feature the song, "HandClap," from Fitz and the Tantrums as soundtrack, said Fiat Chrysler spokeswoman Diane Morgan.

"We needed to change the conversation and do a fundamental shift in strategy to highlight the specific attributes of the Fiat 500X crossover, including its larger size and 4x4 capability of the model," said Olivier Francois, chief marketing officer, FCA – Global, and Head of the FiatBrand.

"Provoking people to see Fiat in a new and fresh way achieved through creative techniques not used before in car advertising is also a reflection of our philosophy – do things different to stand out. And do them in a way that makes a meaningful difference."

Using a forced perspective camera technique, "Dollhouse" and "Not a Toy Car" highlight the room for five and the cargo space, Morgan said. The use of split screen for "Two for One" showcases the vehicle's duality and capability for the urban explorer with innovation, functionality and Italian style. "Take it for a Spin," shot with a GoPro, uses a unique rig giving viewers 360 views of the 500X's ability to maneuver on various terrains based on the available all-wheel drive and traction control.

"Around the World" was shot using four simultaneous cameras and a custom rig attached to the car, with footage providing a unique dimension and depth of the surroundings, Morgan said.

The "A Whole New Way to Look at FIAT" campaign is created in partnership with FCB Chicago, directed by Jared Eberhardt and produced by Partizan.



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Simcoe with the 2017 ZO6 Corvette he drove in the employee parade



Tom Peters in his 1965 Chevrolet Impala SS

GM 'Car Guys' Show Off Special Rides to Fellow Employees

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ed by Design Center employees, getting help coming up with original designs every year hasn't been a problem, she said.

"We also sell a more expensive 'garage' shirt that looks like something a garage mechanic might wear," Sawyer said. "We sold 650 T-shirts and 100 garage shirts this year. The money raised goes to paying for everything at the Design on Woodward show, from the tables to the tents and music entertainment."

They also pay "rent" to Beaumont Hospital, Sawyer said, for use of the parking lot where the show is held.

"But after seven years, this is the last show we're holding here at 13 and Woodward," Sawyer said. "Beaumont in a few weeks will begin redeveloping the property and there won't be room for a show next year. We're looking for a new spot, but that's in the future. Right now, we're really working on making sure this show is a success."

Sawyer said they've been lucky so far with the weather. In seven years, there's been no rain during the one-day show.

"We even put on the Design on Woodward show in 2014," Sawyer said. "That was two days after the huge rain that flooded the Tech Center. We sent out the word to employees, many of whom were at home because their work areas had been flooded, and they came out. And no rain this year as well."

But she made that comment at 1:30 p.m. About three hours later, there was a 15-minute downpour that hit the area.

"I also want to thank the Warren police department for their help," Sawyer said. "Every year, we have a parade where employees drive their vehicles from the Tech Center to the show location, and the Warren police department always give us an escort. So again, I can't give enough thanks."

One of the drivers in the parade was Michael Simcoe, the new vice president of GM Global Design. He took over from Ed Welburn, who retired from the position last month. He drove a 2017 Z06 Corvette in the employee parade.

"I had to be careful not to drive too fast," Simcoe joked, "because I was right behind Mark Reuss (GM North America president) and his classic Corvette. But seriously, I've been to this show once before and I have to say it's pretty cool to be here and walk around and see these great pieces of Detroit steel that show off GM's heritage.

"I like to say that I have the best job in the world. I got to arrive in Detroit during the summer in time for the Dream Cruise. And my team has been wonderful and embraced me in my new job."

"What I think is so great," said GM spokeswoman Pam Flores, "is that this show is put on by Design Center employees. GM doesn't fund it. And it gives employees the chance to show off the cars they own in a friendly environment. People talk to their colleagues all year long about the vehicles they own and are fixing up. Here, their colleagues get to see what they've been talking about."

One of those employees with a car on display is Nick Greiwe. He's a creative designer and is in charge of Chevy brand strategy.

"I've worked at the Tech Center for 10 years," Greiwe said. "My car is a 1985 Chevy Monte Carlo Super Sport. I've owned it for four years. It's completely untouched. I bought it from its original owner when it had only 50,000 miles on it. All the parts are original. I take it out about a month in the summer around the



Joseph Nemeck and his 1969 Mercury Cougar Eliminator

Woodward Dream Cruise. It's a great car."

For Joseph Nemeck, a wood model maker at the Design Center, his dream car is his 1969 Ford Cougar Eliminator.

"I bought this car back in 1978," Nemeck said. "At the time, gas stations were changing the kinds of gas they were carrying and it was becoming difficult to find stations that sold the premium fuel. So these cars were cheap to buy then. I paid \$1,500 for the car. It's worth between \$50,000 and \$100,000."

Nemeck said that while he likes his Cougar Eliminator, the downside to owning a rare car is that it becomes difficult to find parts. So driving it can be a hazard. If there's a crash, fixing the vehicle is difficult.

Randy Kutskill is a design leader at the Design Center. He brought his 1974 Corvette, which he's owned for 33 years.

"When I married my wife Sue, she knew – love me, love my car," Kutskill said. "But she was a GM engineer then, and understood. She's a teacher now."

"I've come around," said Sue Kutskill. "Then he told me getting rid of the car wasn't open for debate, but now I like the idea of owning an investment you don't cash out."

Tom Peters, director of Design for Chevrolet Performance – Car Exteriors, was excited about the show because he was able to debut his 1965 Impala SS.

"I've owned the car since February," Peters said. "I tracked the vehicle on the Internet for about a year before I was able to buy it. Don't ask me how much money I've spent on it."

Peters said he already owns a 1969 Camaro, and that he bought the Impala because he was a vehicle that he could "go with the family to get ice cream" and was fun to drive at the same time. A vehicle that wasn't a monster muscle car, but looked great. The Impala fit the bill.

"I've put a lot of work into the Impala," Peters said. "I went through three consoles before finding the one I chose. I removed the dashboard, repainted it, rewired it. I did some mechanical work as well. The vehicle was basically sound, but it did need work. And yes, I drive this car. I didn't want a vehicle that looks good, but is kept on a pedestal, if you know what I mean."



"FIRST IN THE HEART OF DETROIT SINCE 1933" **AUGUST 22, 2016**

First Camaro Kicked Off Long-Lasting Rivalry with Mustang

tion (HVA) illuminated glass showcase containing the very first Camaro built in 1966 lit up the Woodward Dream Cruise from Aug. 17 through Aug. 20.

The special exhibition celebrated Camaro's 50th anniversary and introduction of the Camaro model that took place in Detroit in August 1966, said HVA spokesman Steve Keyes.

It was located at the grassy triangle on Woodward, just south of Maple road in Birmingham, Keyes said.

The first Camaro built is also being recognized as No. 15 on the HVA National Historic Vehicle Register program in partnership with the U.S. Department of the Interior, Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) to be archived in the Library of Congress, Keyes said.

The exhibition is part of an HVA public heritage program that was launched on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. in April. The exhibition also has President Taft's 1909 white Steam Car and President Reagan's 1962 Willys Jeep CJ-6.

The opening ceremony of the exhibit took place Aug. 17 with an official "Lighting Ceremony" at 8:30 p.m., Keyes said. The Lighting Ceremony celebration was free and open to the public. The exhibit was illuminated until midnight each night through Aug. 20.

"This first Chevrolet Camaro launched one of the greatest rivalries in automotive history with the Ford Mustang," said Mark Gessler, president of the HVA. "That rivalry is still alive and well 50 years later and we are here at the Woodward Dream Cruise with a public exhibition to celebrate where it all began.'

The first Camaro built is owned by 18-vear-old Logan Lawson of Hutchinson, Kan. Logan found the car online in Oklahoma when he was in the seventh

Logan's father inspected the car and completed the purchase. Over the next five years, Logan and his father completed extensive research on this and the 51 other pilot prototypes and returned the Camaro to its launch-day debut specifica-

From 1966 to 2011, the car passed through several owners and dealerships with the distinction of being a very early Camaro, possibly even the first, ter Park, 1827 N. Squirrel Road. Keves said. It was built up as a drag racer before Logan pur- for each adult; students and chilchased the car.

Author Phillip Borris helped confirm the pilot production build records. Researcher Jamie Schwartz contacted the families 364-6726.

of the prior owners to fill in the history.

The first Camaro built, VIN 123377N100001, was completed at the GM Assembly Plant in Norwood, Ohio, on May 21, 1966, Keyes said. It was the first of 52 pilot prototypes produced, 49 at Norwood and three more produced in Los Angeles.

The car is a base model with the 140-hp, 230-cubic-inch inline 6-cylinder engine. The seat belts, wheel covers and whitewall tires were the options present on the first Camaro built. Base price for the new Camaro at the time:

Keyes said Ford spent years teasing the public with show cars and concepts that hinted at the anticipated Mustang.

GM, Keyes said, by contrast, revealed nothing about the Camaro until the car's name announcement on June 9, 1966, which meant "comrade or pal," according to GM. The formal Detroit launch took place in August 1966. Dealers had cars within a month.

During the 1960s, General Motors would often launch a production line with the first car painted gold, Keyes said. This was probably the case for the first Camaro built with the order for special "show paint" in Granada Gold with gold vinyl seats and gold carpeting. Six generations of Camaros are proof it was lucky. In 2016, the color looks appropriate as GM celebrates Camaro's golden anniversary.

With more than one million collector car vehicles insured in the United States, Keyes said the Camaro is third in overall popularity. The most popular collector car is the Chevrolet Corvette followed by the Ford Mustang.

According to Gessler, "The Woodward Dream Cruise is one of the greatest automotive heritage events in the world. It's a great place to tell the story of the

Auburn Hills Will Host a **Country Fest**

The City of Auburn Hills is holding its 20th annual Parade of Stars Bluegrass Festival next month. The all-day celebration of acoustic melodies takes place on Saturday, Sept. 10, from noon to 7 p.m., on the lawn of the Community Center in Civic Cen-

A \$10 entry fee will be charged dren are free, said Auburn Hills spokesman Kyle Scislowicz.

To learn more about the event and how to get tickets, call 248-

imbedded in American automotive culture.

"With this exhibition, we hope to build a strong public memory of how the iconic Camaro model launched 50 years ago.'

The HVA showcase exhibit of the first Camaro was presented, Keyes said, in cooperation with the City of Birmingham, GM Heritage Center and is part of the MotorCities National Heritage Area partnership that inspires residents and visitors with an appreciation of how the automobile changed culture.

The documentation of the first Chevrolet Camaro built as No. 15 on the National Historic Vehicle Register is organized by the HVA



The first-built (1966) Camaro was featured at the Dream Cruise.

and underwritten through the State brands), The NB Center for support of Hagerty, Shell (includ- American Automotive Heritage, ing their Pennzoil and Quaker and Chevrolet, Keyes said.

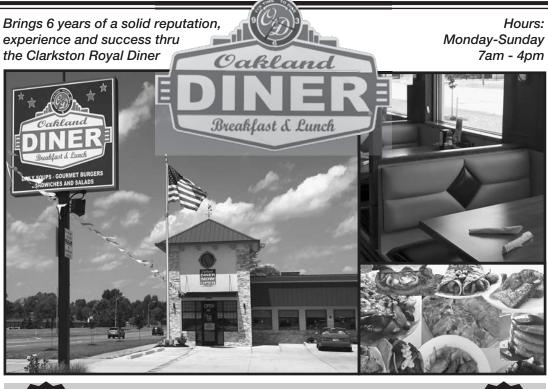


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Viper Owners Tell Why They Regard the Car as Special



Sam Milana and his 1991 Gen 1 Viper

by Jim Stickford

The year 2016 might have marked the end of production for the Dodge Viper, but that doesn't mean that the vehicle is going

Just ask the members of the Motor City Viper Owners Club (MCVO), which held a special rally at the corner of 13 Mile and Woodward on Aug. 18 to celebrate the Woodward Dream

"Even though Dodge is ceasing production of the Viper, we'll still be around," said Sam Milana, vice president of the

"I work at the Jefferson North Assembly plant in Detroit as an electrician and own a 1994 firstgeneration Viper.

"I'm particularly proud that it's first generation because it's the one that looks like the concept car that was first shown in

"I've owned it six years, but the concept version was the one with no top, no windows, no air conditioning.

"I wanted a pure roadster and this version is the closest to

MCVO member Sam Brasile is also a Fiat Chrysler employee. He teaches health and safety procedures to the skilled trade and production employees.

He also owns a first-generation Viper.

He said he doesn't miss all the extras because the first-generation Viper is the one that really demands the attention of the

"I was a Corvette man," Brasile

"I've owned my car since 1995. Back then, I was going to order a Corvette, but, as a Chrysler guy, I decided to at least take a look at the Viper.

"When I did, I realized that this was the car that I really wanted.

There's nothing wrong with Corvettes. They're fine cars. But there are a lot of them.

When I take my Viper out on People comment.

"I'll pull up next to a school bus and the kids will yell, 'Viper!' and ask me to do things like a burnout."

Another advantage to the firstgeneration Viper, Brasile said, is that exhaust system was placed on the side of the vehicle.

That makes for a sweet noise, he said, when the driver revs the

"I don't often drive with the radio on," Brasile said. "I'll be listening to the sound of the engine that pours through the exhaust system. Later generations of the Viper moved the exhaust system from the side, and it was later moved back, but you can't beat the sound of a first-generation

Bruce Heckman, president of MCVO, has owned his current Viper since 2009. His second Viper is a 2009 SRT 10 Coupe.

"I'm retired now, but I used to race cars in my youth," Heckman

"Then I got a job, got married and became a father. I was a group vice president of Development for the Taubman Company. But things changed.

"My son grew up and moved out. I retired and I decided to get back into racing in 2002. I decided to get a Viper and I haven't looked back since.'

Heckman said that when he heard Dodge was discontinuing the Viper, he was disappointed but he wasn't surprised.

"This has never been a highvolume car, and that's been part of its attractiveness," Heckman

"There was a Corvette rally the other day and I heard that they have something like a thousand Corvettes participate. Here tonight we will have between 50 and 55 Vipers and that's a big accomplishment.

"There are, what, 1.2 million Corvettes out there. I don't think Dodge has sold more than 30,000 Vipers since the car's introduction. I would rather have one of the few than one of the common."

Brasile said that the club keeps its members busy.

"Between one thing and another, we meet at least a couple of times a month," Brasile said. "But we are not a racing club. For us, it's more about the destination and not the ride, if you know what I mean."

The Viper isn't the only Fiat Chrysler performance car to evoke such loyalty.

Members of the TeamHellcat Club met in the same parking lot where the MCVO was holding its

Paul Georges is a TeamHellcat member and he came all the way from Toronto.

'We are a North American club that currently has about 500



Motor City Viper Owners Club cars face Woodward Ave. during Dream Cruise.

members," Georges said. "I'm from Canada, but there are members in Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, basically all over North America.

"I own a 2015 Challenger Hellcat Sublime. It's the only one in Canada with a sunroof.

"When people ask me why a guy from Toronto wants a Hellcat with a sunroof, I tell them that Chrysler only built something like 125 of these cars with a sunroof and I have the only one in

"People also ask me why I bought a Hellcat. I say because it has 707 horsepower. If they don't understand that, there's nothing I can say.'

Georges said the club is a charity group and helps raise money for epilepsy organizations in both the U.S. and Canada.

Georges said they're a new club, but the members love their Hellcats and they expect to be around for a while.

Another Fiat Chrysler brand that made its presence known at 13 Mile and Woodward was Jeep.

Darren Jacobs, manager of Media Relations for Mopar, and Trevor Dorchies, manager of Media Relations for Fiat Chrysler, were at the rally showing off some Jeeps that had been modified for the Moab Safari event that is annually held in Moab,

"These Jeeps are the ones that drove on the paths in Moab National Park," Jacobs said. "It's rough terrain and we use specially-made concept Jeeps for the oc-

"But Moab is a long way from here and we thought people attending the Dream Cruise might want to see them.'

One vehicle is called the Trail-



Bruce Heckman and his 2009 SRT 10 Coupe



Sam Brasile with his 1994 Gen 1 Viper

cat. It's a Jeep with a Hellcat engine, Jacobs said. The other is a specially customized Wrangler.

"We've been coming here for a couple of years," said Dorchies. "What we hear from people is that they like the look of our modifications, things like the oversized tires.

"A majority of the parts used in these special modifications are available to the public from Mopar. Another reason we're here is that Jeep owners like to modify their vehicles and this

Studies Show Explorer Sport Appeals to Gen X Buyers

Public tastes are switching from the traditional sedan to the SUV/CUV, and that's good news the road, the car is recognized. for Ford because professional Gen-Xers don't always drive SUVs, but when they do they drive Ford Explorer Sport, according to a new vehicle customer study by MaritzCX.

Data from the study, said Ford spokesman Chris Terry, shows the vehicle has the highest percentage of Gen X buyers of any non-luxury SUV in the United States, reflecting this group's preference for exclusivity and performance at a great value. With its 3.5-liter twin-turbo Eco-Boost V6 engine mated to a sixspeed SelectShift automatic transmission, Explorer Sport delivers 365 horsepower at 5,500 rpm and 350 lb.-ft. of torque at 3,500 rpm, said Terry.

Explorer Sport has grabbed a significant 15 percent of total nameplate sales since its debut in 2014, Terry said.

Jim Mulcrone, director of research services for MaritzCX, said 23 percent of buyers of other midsize SUVs, on average, are Gen-Xers, but Explorer Sport at-



2017 Ford Explorer Sport

tracts nearly 40 percent of those born between 1965 and 1978.

"Ford has a very interesting customer with this product, and what's unusual is that many are buying it without trading anything in," Mulcrone said. "Our study shows that while 17 percent of all non-luxury SUV buyers classify themselves as 'specialty professionals,' that number is closer to one in four with Explorer Sport. It seems this product is breaking through."

Peak earning years for members of Generation X are between 47 and 54 years old, and these consumers have a more practical, experiential and family-oriented mindset than baby boomers did at this stage of life, said Sheryl Connelly, Ford manager of global trends and futur-

"Boomers felt the need to display their status in more obvious ways than Gen-Xers do," Connelly said.

'While both groups are hugely important, automakers need to pay special attention to Gen-Xers. Our Explorer Sport fits the profile of the successful member of Generation X."

Average household income for a buyer of Explorer Sport, Terry said, is \$175,000, versus \$112,000 for the average midsize SUV buyer, the study reveals.

Mulcrone said Explorer Sport buyers broaden Ford's base by attracting more affluent consumers, including those who have owned premium brands.

Moreover, those Explorer Sport customers who do trade in a vehicle are twice as likely as average midsize SUV buyers - 12 percent versus 6 percent - to trade in a premium one, according to Mulcrone.

"When consumers look at Explorer Sport, they see all the style and performance of a luxury SUV, but at roughly \$20,000 less," said Omar Odeh, Ford Explorer marketing manager.



This Chevy helped rescue downed cars at the Dream Cruise.

Chevrolet Dealers Rescue Cruisers on Woodward

The Chevrolet Certified Serv- Woodward Dream Cruise, breakice Rescue Squad was on hand to be of service to the thousands of classic car enthusiasts on Woodward Avenue on Aug. 20.

It was important, said GM spokesman Kyle Suba, to offer assistance to classic cruisers because they can often stall, overheat or run out of gas.

ASE-certified technicians provided by Buff Whelan, Gordon, Les Stanford, Marty Feldman, John Bowman and Suburban Chevrolet cruised Woodward in both directions in six 2016 Chevrolet Silverado Rescue Squad Pickup trucks, Suba said.

Since the Chevrolet Certified Service Rescue Squad began participating in the Woodward Dream Cruise five years ago, it has serviced almost 200 vehicles of all makes and models, Suba said.

The technicians, who volunteer their time during the Dream and condition of all tires, espe-Cruise, were able to give classic car owners peace of mind in the event that there was a breakdown during the Woodward Dream Cruise, said Suba.

"The volunteers who manage our Chevrolet Certified Service Rescue Squad are above all else. fans of the Woodward Dream Cruise and the cars they service during the event," said Chevrolet Certified Service marketing manager Scott Williams.

With more than 40,000 classic cars that participated in the sics on the road, cruising."

downs were inevitable. Suba

The Chevrolet Certified Service Rescue Squad offered advice for cruisers before they hit the road with their classics in future car shows and cruises:

- Battery make sure the battery is charged, the terminals are clean and check for wear or aging of the alternator belt and distributor cap.
- Fluids check fluid levels to make sure the vehicle is ready to operate for several hours, and bring extra to top off when nec-
- Proper cooling system operation is essential in hot weather and stop-and-go traffic.
- Gas fill up the gas tank all the way before heading to Woodward; a sticky or faulty gas gauge can leave you stranded.
- Tires check the pressure cially if the vehicle is only driven a few times a year.
- Wiper Blades make sure the windshield wipers are in good operating condition.

"Classic car lovers take great care of their vehicles, but unforeseen issues can crop up, especially given the long hours of the Dream Cruise," said Williams. "The professional technicians from the Chevrolet Certified Service Rescue Squad look forward to keeping this year's clas-



Warren Urgent Care

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Dodge Flexes Is Muscles At Woodward Dream Cruise

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

And, Kuniskis said, there's nothing wrong with that. And that has given Dodge an opportunity to make relatively bigger muscle cars that are powerful, but still are meant to be driven on American streets.

"We like this positioning," Kuniskis said. "It's what the original muscle cars were all about. It gives us a great position in the market place and has made Woodward the perfect place to launch these cars."

The new 2017 Dodge Challenger T/A and Charger Daytona models are available with the 6.4-liter "392" Hemi V8 naturally aspirated 485-horsepower engine, or the 5.7-liter Hemi V8 with up to 375 horsepower with the allnew electronically controlled active performance exhaust system.

The new 2017 Dodge Challenger T/A models were initially built for the Sports Car Club of America's (SCCA) Trans Am racing series in 1970 with only 2,399 ever built, and considered one of the most sought after muscle cars of all time, the new 2017 Dodge Challenger T/A model lineup builds on this legacy with models three track-capable loaded with unique appointments and performance hardware – Challenger T/A, Challenger T/A Plus and the Challenger T/A lenger T/A 392.

The new 2017 Dodge Charger Daytona models are in spired by the original Charger Daytona, Kuniskis said. That was created in 1969 as a 501-unit, purpose-built production run for NASCAR.

The Charger Daytona set records with its distinct aerodynamic styling and legendary power. The new Charger Daytona models build on this celebrated history by adding more performance to North America's only four-door muscle sedan, as well as add to the momentum Dodge enthusiasts have generated for the limited edition 2006–2009 and 2013 models.



Tim Kuniskis

Delivering the most performance in the 5.7-liter Charger lineup, the new 2017 Charger Daytona builds on the Charger R/T model, Kuniskis said, by improving the engine's intake and exhaust with a Mopar cold-air induction system with conical air filter; plus an all-new electronically controlled 2.75-inch active performance exhaust system with 4-inch round tips.

Also included is the Super Track Pak with its performance-tuned suspension, performance brake linings, three-mode ESC calibration with "full off" and high-performance Goodyear Eagle F1 tires. For improved acceleration and speed, Charger Daytona includes a rear differential with a 2.62 axle ratio, plus performance engine and transmission calibration with a high-speed engine controller (150 mph, up from 135 mph).

Given all this power, Kuniskis said it was only appropriate that the public was able to see these cars for the first time at Dodge's special street racing event on Woodward on Aug. 19. And Dodge took over the recently opened M-1 Concourse race track in Pontiac on the same day.

Production for both Challenger and Charger models will begin this fall with Charger Daytona models available for order in September, followed by Challenger T/A models this October.

Ford to Skip Using Driver To Assist Autonomous Cars

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

over. So, Ford decided to remove the driver altogether.

"We learned that to achieve full autonomy, we have to take a completely different path," Nair said.

Jeremy Carlson, a senior analyst with IHS Automotive, says he doesn't know of another automaker that is taking Ford's approach. But there are challenges either way, he said.

Riders may have a hard time trusting fully autonomous cars, for example, but semi-autonomous cars can be dangerous because drivers may not understand what the vehicles can and cannot do.

"I don't think there's going to be any one right answer," he said.

But Dillon Blake, senior director of business development for Runzheimer, a transportation consulting firm, says Ford's approach could go wrong very quickly.

"When you do it in steps, you get to make tweaks along the way. When you go all or bust, it's like going 'all in' in Vegas," Blake said

Ford's vehicle will be specifically designed for commercial mobility services, like taxi companies, and will be available in high volumes. Ford says personal ownership of self-driving cars will come later.

Ford didn't say whether it would work with a ride-sharing partner or try to establish services on its own. Rival General Motors Co. has a partnership with the ride-hailing company Lyft and has also bought a self-driving software company called Cruise Automation.

Dearborn-based Ford also said it plans to double the staff at its Palo Alto research center by the end of next year to nearly 300 people. It will buy two more buildings next to its current building in order to expand its campus, Fields said.

Ford will also make several investments and partnerships to speed its development of autonomous vehicles.

Ford and Chinese search engine company Baidu will each invest \$75 million in Velodyne, a company that makes laser sensors that help guide self-driving

Velodyne, based in Morgan Hill, Calif., says it will use the \$150 million investment to expand design and production and reduce the cost of its sensors. Laser sensors – dubbed Lidar, which stands for light, detection and ranging – can also be used in conventional vehicles as part of driver-assist systems.

Ford said it has acquired Israel-based computer vision and machine learning company SAIPS for its expertise in artificial intelligence and computer vision.

AUGUST IS IT!

Fiat Lovers Get Chance to Hone Racing Skills

The Fiat brand is partnering with the Bob Bondurant School of High Performance Driving in Arizona for a new Abarth Track Experience, offering owners and fans of the "small but wicked" Abarth models an opportunity to develop their racing and driving skills, said Fiat Chrysler spokeswoman Angela Bianchi.

Bondurant's new Fiat Trackside driving program, featuring the 500 Abarth and 124 Spider Abarth, includes an introduction to the Fiat brand and classroom instruction. Guests will then join in instructor-led skid, slalom, autocross and team rally cross activities, as well as hot laps.

The optional second-day "Road Rally" is an all-inclusive program that begins at the Bondurant facility. The 180- to 220mile rally includes a morning coffee break, followed by an array of scenic Arizona highways and a private lunch before participants return to the Bondurant School.

The Fiat 124 Spider Abarth and the Fiat 500 Abarth will join Bondurant's current lineup of high-performance vehicles as part of the new Fiat Trackside and Road Rally programs, which will be available beginning in November, Bianchi said. The 124 Spider Abarth will also be featured in a special race series at Bondurant for Fiat Trackside members.

"We have a great relationship with Bob Bondurant, and extending our partnership is an excellent opportunity to provide Fiat fans with the knowledge, skills and setting they need to fully experience the performance that the Abarth models can deliver," said Tim Kuniskis, head of Passenger Car Brands - Dodge, SRT, Chrysler and FIAT, FCA - North America.

"The Fiat 124 Spider Abarth and 500 Abarth join the ranks of the high-performance Dodge Charger and Challenger SRT Hellcats and Viper models that are already part of Bondurant's fleet. adding to the 'fun-to-drive' factor and bringing the Abarth name to a new group of performance enthusiasts.'

"We're excited that Fiat will join our team to expand our driving programs," said Bob Bon-

Road Work to Affect I-75 by **Square Lake**

The right lane on the northbound I-75 ramp to westbound Square Lake Road was closed Aug. 17.

The left lane on the ramp will remain open, said Oakland County Road Commission spokesman Craig Bryson.

In addition, there will be a continuous single lane closure on northbound I-75 from Coolidge

to Square Lake roads. Initially, it will start out as a right lane closure but eventually will become a closure of the left lane as crews prepare to install a traffic shift in mid-September,

Bryson said. Beginning on Aug. 22, a single lane will close on the ramp from southbound I-75 to westbound Square Lake Road.

An I-75 modernization project began Aug. 15 with a continuous right lane closure on southbound I-75 from Square Lake Road to Coolidge Highway.

On the northbound side, intermittent right and left lane closures will take place from Coolidge Highway to South

Boulevard. This configuration is expected throughout the remainder of August, Bryson said.











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and Tommy Milner won the GT Le Mans (GTLM) class in the No. 4 Mobil 1/SiriusXM Chevrolet Corvette C7.R in a thrilling finish by going from fifth to first in the final seven minutes. It was their fourth victory of the season.

Action Express Racing's Dane Cameron and Eric Curran won at Road America in the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship's Prototype class for the second year in a row and posted their second straight victory of the season in their No. 31 Whelen Engineering/Team Fox Corvette Daytona Prototype.

Corvette Racing

Wins Two at

Road America

Corvette Racing and Action Express Racing gave Chevrolet and the Corvette marque two victories Aug. 7 at Road America in the Continental Tire Road

Race Showcase. Oliver Gavin

It is the first time this season that a Corvette C7.R and Corvette DP recorded victories in the same race. Corvette Daytona Prototypes swept the Prototype podium for the third time in 2016. Chevrolet also solidified its leads in the Prototype Engine and GTLM Manufacturer championships.

"The Corvette DP 1-2-3 finish is the result of great execution by the teams, crews and drivers,' said Jim Campbell, Chevrolet U.S. vice president, Performance Vehicles and Motorsports. "Congratulations to Dane, Eric and the Action Express Racing No. 31 Whelen Engineering team on the overall win.

'What a wild finish in GTLM. Tommy and Oliver drove a great race, the crew made the right adjustment during the last pit stop, and the engineers called a terrific race. Importantly, when the opportunity arose late in the race, Tommy took advantage of it. This 101st win was exciting and special. The Corvette Racing and Corvette DP teams never give up, and today is another example.'

The GTLM finish was one the team and fans will remember for a long time. It gave Corvette Racing its 101st victory two weeks after winning No. 100 at Lime Rock Park. More importantly, it extended the lead of Gavin and Milner in the GTLM Driver's Championship and Chevrolet's advantage in the class Manufacturer standings.

Ford, Baidu Bet **Big on Sensor Development**

DETROIT (AP) - Ford and the Chinese search engine company Baidu will each invest \$75 million in Velodyne, a company that makes laser sensors that help guide self-driving cars.

Velodyne, based in Morgan Hill, Calif., says it will use the \$150 million to expand design and production and reduce the cost of its sensors. The laser sensors are called Lidar. They can also be used in conventional vehicles as part of driver assist systems such as automatic emergency braking.

Velodyne says that lower costs will allow the sensors to be used in all vehicles to make roads safer. Ford says Velodyne's technology is a key enabler of selfdriving vehicles. Baidu's testing autonomous vehicles in China, hoping to cut congestion.

Ford CEO Mark Fields said on CNBC Aug. 16 this move helps Ford transition to a mobility company, and the next decade will be defined by automation of vehicles

"Autonomous vehicles could have just as much significant impact on society as Ford's moving assembly line did 100 years ago,' Fields said.

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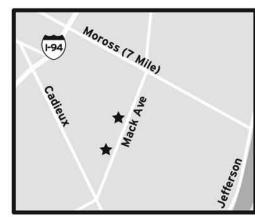








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The Future of Self-Driving **Vehicles is Around Corner**

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - Ridehailing service Uber says it will start hauling passengers with self-driving cars on the streets of Pittsburgh in the next several weeks.

The company says that its autonomous Ford Fusions will have human backup drivers but will transport passengers just like normal Uber vehicles.

Uber has a self-driving research lab in Pittsburgh and is working on autonomous technol-

Also on Aug. 18, Uber and Volvo announced a \$300 million deal for Volvo to provide SUVs to Uber for autonomous vehicle research. Eventually, the Volvo SUVs will be part of the self-driving fleet in Pittsburgh. Volvo will develop base vehicles for research and both companies will develop autonomous vehicles on their own.

The ride-hailing company also announced that it is acquiring a self-driving startup called Otto that has developed technology allowing big rigs to drive themselves

The maneuvers are intended to significantly accelerate Uber into the quest to deploy self-driving vehicles to the public. It's also the latest tie-up between Silicon Valley, ride-hailing firms and major automakers.

Über's CEO Travis Kalanick has said the ride-sharing company's future – indeed, the future of all transportation - is driverless.

The deals are a bold down payment on that vision, one characteristic of the ambitious Uber, a company valued in the billions.

With the acquisition of Otto, Uber gets a fast infusion of selfdriving expertise, including Otto co-founder Anthony Levandow-

Self-driving technology is not ready for the masses. Hurdles include software that is not yet good enough for public rollout, safety concerns raised by state and federal regulators, and uncertainty over society's readiness to trust robot drivers.

But the race is on. Large tech and auto companies suggest they could start selling selfdriving cars within three to five

If history is any guide, that push will begin with high-end models that few people can afford. Uber's vast on-demand auto fleet could presumably bring the technology to ordinary people more quickly.

Uber, however, isn't alone in the race for autonomous vehicles. It's not even a leader.

The company's primary U.S. competitor, Lyft, received a \$500 million investment from GM earlier this year. Those two companies said they plan to put selfdriving vehicles into Lyft's fleet on a small scale sometime in the next year. GM also bought itself some self-driving expertise in March with the acquisition of a company called Cruise Automation.

Last week, Ford Motor Co. announced - in Silicon Valley, not Detroit - that it intends to have a self-driving vehicle on the road by 2021. The car will have neither a steering wheel nor pedals and will be rolled out for commercial ride-hailing services, not directly to consumers.

Google's parent company Alphabet Inc. is even further ahead in pursuing driverless cars that offer passengers little control beyond an emergency stop button.







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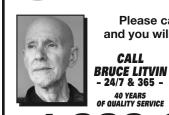
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Cascada Convertible 'Designed for Adventure'

Just because one chooses to drive a convertible doesn't mean one has to give up a luxurious

That's the idea behind the new 2017 Buick Cascada ST convertible, said Buick spokesman Stuart Fowle

The Buick Cascada convertible delivers, Fowle said, the freedom of open-air motoring through a driving experience with unexpected luxuries such as UV-reflective leather-appointed seats and a quiet, triple-insulated top.

And just as important, Fowle said, the Cascada's attainable luxury will now include the uniquely bold style statement with an all-new Sport Touring edition.

"In the 2017 Buick Cascada Sport Touring, customers will have the chance to make an even more stylish statement with a unique paint color, new wheel design, and other custom content that enhances the Cascada's balanced proportions," Fowle said.

And the new Cascada ST recently made its first road trip, Fowle said, on Aug. 13 and Aug. 14. Road-trippers participating in the fifth annual Mille Mitten rally got a first look at the Cascada ST on a 1,000-mile drive through the forests and lakefronts of northern Michigan.

"The Mille Mitten celebrates the unique combination of features Michigan has to offer, from the deep blue of the Great Lakes to stunning star-filled nights deep in the forest," said Ben Bator, Mille Mitten founder.

"The Cascada is the perfect companion for this memorable experience, and the new Sport Touring builds off the same color palette that makes nature so inspiring.

The Cascada was designed with road rally-like adventures and road trips in mind, Fowle said, and its convertible top retracts in 17 seconds at speeds up to 31 miles per hour so customers can breathe in every second of sunshine and scenery.

The 2017 Cascada ST is only available in True Blue Metallic, a paint color not offered on other Cascada models. The unique paint is complemented by a black cloth top that includes three layers of fabric structure for signature Buick quietness and insulation, said Fowle. Fivespoke, 20-inch wheels are new for the Cascada ST, as are Black Magic interior trim components, sport pedals and a flat-bottom sport steering wheel.

When it arrives at dealers this fall, Fowle said the Cascada Sport Touring will be priced at \$37,885 including destination. Priced and packaged for a simple buying experience, it features all the content offered on other Cascada models.

To capture the Cascada ST on the open road, Buick worked with photographer Zach Allia, who left a career in Silicon Valley to explore the natural world and express it through his photogra-



2017 Buick Cascada convertible

phy, which has gained him an Instagram following of 420,000 fans, Fowle said.

Customer response to the Cascada has been strong since launch, with 2016 sales outpacing expectations, Fowle said.

Through the first half of the year, said Fowle, Cascada has outsold the Audi A3 convertible and Audi A5 convertible combined.

Cascada offers a base price lower than the A3, but with space on par with the A5.

New App Provides Quality Recycled Parts

launched The PartCycle Marketplace, an e-commerce platform providing recycled and remanufactured Original Equipment (OE) auto parts.

The idea, said PartCycle spokeswoman Betsy Heckert, is to provide a platform that makes it easy for collision and mechanical repair professionals, and consumers, to quickly compare and purchase the highest quality parts from professional automotive recyclers all over the United States.

"We want to make it easier for professionals to find the right parts," says Brandon Gillis, president of PartCycle Technologies. "We have a huge network of pro-

PartCycle Technologies has fessional recyclers who provide high-quality parts, with warranties, and ship them fast. It's never been easier for collision and/or mechanical repair professionals to save time sourcing parts. PartCycle's streamlined parts search and ability to purchase multiple parts at once removes the need to spend hours calling and comparing prices, quality and suppliers.

'That's why we built Marketplace. We knew that if we could make it quick and simple to compare the price and condition of exact replacement parts, and if every supplier was someone you could trust, that people would

PartCycle reviews every sup-

plier, requiring each to ensure high quality and environmentally safe dismantling and inventory storage processes before allowing them to list parts on the Marketplace, Gillis said.

Many PartCycle suppliers are also members of the United Recyclers Group (URG), Automotive Recyclers Association (ARA) and Team Premium Recycled Parts (PRP), Heckert said. These groups require members to abide by local and national regulations when dismantling vehicles and salvaging undamaged components for resale. These quality control procedures help ensure that every part sold through the Marketplace is clean, tested and includes a standard warranty.



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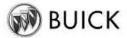














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Mobis is Taking Big Strides to Expand Globally

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

CBU (completely built unit) production lines.

- Front end module a product unit to provide CBU makers with integrated parts placed in the front of the engine compartment, including the radiator, headlamps, bumper beam, carrier and AAF (Active Air Flap). It contributes to parts integration, increased productivity and enhanced quality.
- MDPS (Motor Driven Power Steering), an electronic steering system, provides optimal steering performance by highly accurately controlling the motor according to the vehicle condition without using the conventional mechanical hydraulic system, which improves the driving convenience and safety.
- AFLS (Adaptive Front Lighting System), an intelligent headlamp that provides the best visibility of changing road conditions. Besides, LED headlamps, utilizing the new luminous source of LEDs, expands the AFLS function to secure night visibility and improves the safety by increasing reaction speed.
- UVO audio. This is an audio system with the MS AUTO 4.1 platform, which can be interlocked with TMU (Telematics Management Unit), featuring a 4.3-inch TFT touch screen LCD, interior and exterior AMP, a juke box, Bluetooth hands-free, an HD Radio, voice recognition, and rear camera interlock.

Cadillac Racing Team Earns Success In Utah

Cadillac Racing put two in the top ten at the Pirelli World Challenge GT Championship at Utah Motorsports Campus Aug. 14.

Michael Cooper (Syosset, N.Y.) started from fifth on the grid according to his fastest race lap from yesterday with teammate Johnny O'Connell (Flowery Branch, Ga.) coming to the green in 13th. Both Cadillac drivers were able to get a clean start to the 50-minute race at the 3.04mile, 14-turn natural terrain road course located 30 minutes east of Salt Lake City. As the race progressed caution free and with little movement amongst the 14 GT competitors, O'Connell was able to move up three positions. The finishing positions were a testament to teamwork and driver race craft as they posted the 10th (O'Connell) and 11th (Cooper) fastest laps of the race while finishing sixth and tenth. "I was able to get a clean run

through Turn 1 at the start," Cooper said. "I lost a position or two, but that is really where we are at with the Cadillac ATS-V.R Coupe in relation to the other cars. I was able to put some pressure on the McLaren, but if they don't make a mistake we just can't get around them. We can get close in the corner, but by the time they exit and get on a straight they have already pulled away. It was good to get a result for the team today.' "We moved forward," O'Con-

nell said. "You start 13th and finish 10th that is a pretty good day. It is frustrating. We are used to running a lot further up the field. With the way the cars are regulated right now, you just can't make up 5 mph down the straight. With that said, I had a much better Cadillac ATS-V.R Coupe today. We put Michael's set-up on my car and it was much more responsive and easier to drive. We work as a team. The Cadillac Racing guys put in a lot of work to get us dialed in and I appreciate their effort."