Tech Center News

WARREN, MICHIGAN

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FEBRUARY 27, 2017

McCutchen, Chevy Support Youth Baseball

As spring arrives, thoughts turn to baseball, and Chevy has that covered.

Chevrolet has enlisted the help of two world-class athletes to support the brand's youth sports programs around the country, said GM spokeswoman Afaf Farah.

Andrew McCutchen, MLB All-Star and outfielder for the Pittsburgh Pirates, will work with the brand on its Youth Baseball initiatives. Chevrolet is also working with Alex Morgan, gold medalist and soccer champion, to help the brand grow its youth soccer programs.

"At Chevrolet, we celebrate the power of play and the positive effect it has on kids, families and communities," said Paul Edwards, U.S. vice president of Chevrolet Marketing.

"Partnering with Andrew Mc-Cutchen and Alex Morgan allows us to share their expertise and passion for their individual sports and demonstrate to children everywhere that with perseverance and dedication anything is possible.'

Since 2006, Chevrolet, in partnership with its dealers, has been supporting baseball and softball at the youth level in communities across the country through Chevy Youth Baseball, a grassroots, community outreach program, Farah said.

and softball leagues receive equipment and sponsorship checks from Chevrolet, as well as unique Major and Minor League Baseball experiences such as exclusive instructional clinics. In the last 11 years,

Participating youth baseball Chevy Youth Baseball has donated more than 135,000 equipment kits, renovated 9,400 parks and impacted more than 6.7 million boys and girls across the U.S

> "I have so many great memories playing little league ball -

from hitting my first home run to just being together with my friends - experiences that taught me to love the game," said Mc-Cutchen, the 2013 National League MVP. "I am thankful that I

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Star-struck kids spend time at the ballfield with Pirates all-star outfielder Andrew McCutchen.

In addition to technology trou-

ble, complaints about battery

Battery, Tech Complaints Mar Reliability, Customers Say

MCC to Feature Tall Tales and Michigan Folklore

Macomb Community College is celebrating Michigan's cultural history, formed in part by imaginative myths and folklore.

The Lorenzo Cultural Center, located on Macomb Community College's Center Campus in Clinton Township, will explore that personality with Tall Tales and Folklore: Exploring Michigan's Traditional Stories, March 2 through May 5, said MCC spokesman Sean Patrick.

With 30 presentations and performances complemented by exhibits in the cultural center's 8,500-square-foot Discovery Hall, Tall Tales and Folklore will give audiences a look into Michigan's heritage with presentations on subjects ranging from investigations into the wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald to songs from Michigan lumber camps.

The program series will kick off on Thursday, March 2, at 6 p.m. with a book signing by "The Thrill of the Chill" author Johnathan Rand, Patrick said.

While the presentations and exhibits are open to the public at no charge, preregistration is required for presentations by calling 586-445-7348 or by emailing culturalcenter@macomb.edu.

Visit macomb.edu for a complete listing of speakers.



Nancy Lockhart

White Car Color Is No.1 in World: **Black is Second**

People around the world like different things about different kinds of cars, but there seems to be one preference that is the same around the world - white is the most popular car color.

least reliable, according to the survey.

2015

pairing and misunderstood voice failures jumped by 44 percent commands, put a dent in car and compared with last year. Battertruck reliability scores in a major ies were the most frequently resurvey of automobile owners. placed part not related to normal Lexus and Porsche tied for the wear, the study found. top spot, leading all brands for That's because people are buydependability in the survey reing vehicles with more electric leased Feb. 23 by the consulting features such as power seats and firm J.D. Power. But electronic high-end audio systems, plus au-

problems caused trouble across tomakers are converting mechanical devices such as power the industry, pushing the average up to 156 problems per 100 steering to electric power, said vehicles. That's four problems Dave Sargent, J.D. Power's vice president for global automotive. higher than last year and the highest number since J.D. Power Also, in an effort to save fuel by changed scoring methods in reducing drag on the engine, automakers aren't fully charging Toyota, Buick and Mercedesbatteries in some cases, Sargent Benz rounded out the top five said. "It seems like that maybe ismost dependable brands, while n't going as well as they would Fiat, Jeep and Infiniti were the like," he said.

The study found that mainstream brands are catching up with luxury and niche brands with excellent reliability.



2016 Buick Verano

Chevrolet (8th) and Honda (9th) made the top 10. Luxury brands BMW (7th) and Jaguar (10th) also were high in the rankings.

The scores are important, because buyers who are unhappy with their vehicles are less likely to buy a future vehicle from the

Automakers have struggled for nearly a decade to perfect electronic systems that link phones and handle voice commands.

J.D. Power said the audio communication entertainmentnav-igation category caused the most problems in the survey, ac-

At least that's what Axalta, a global supplier of liquid and powder coatings, has discovered.

The company released its Global Automotive 2016 Color Popularity Report on Feb. 20. It confirms a continued global domination by white as a vehicle color, "while hints of colorful hues are tinting traditional neutral colors" bringing color back into the mainstream, said Axalta spokesman John Wray.

We are seeing a clear preference for the neutral shades, but there is a catch," said Nancy Lockhart, Axalta Color Marketing manager. "We are seeing colorful hues being added to these neutrals to create eye-catching

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

The J.D. Power study, now in its 28th year, questioned 35,186 owners of 2014 model-year vehicles about problems they have had in the past 12 months.

DETROIT - Technology glitch-

es, including Bluetooth phone

Of the top-10 brands, five are considered mainstream. Besides Toyota and Buick, Hyundai (6th), poor reputations for dependability, so manufacturers can't afford to let quality slip," Sargent said.

same brand. "We find buyers are counting for 22 percent of comincreasingly avoiding models with plaints, up from 20 percent last year.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



2017 Camaro

There's a New Spelling For Fast: C-A-M-A-R-O

cars, there's fast and then there's Camaro fast – proven on a track in Germany.

The 2017 Camaro ZL1 Coupe has a top speed of 198 mph, said GM spokesman Ron Kiino. Chevrolet tested the max velocity of the ZL1 (with 10-speed automatic) on the High Speed Oval at Germany's Automotive Testing Papenburg GmBH proving ground. Compensating for wind speed, the top speed is the aver-

For American production line age achieved from running the ZL1 in both directions on the 7.6mile loop – 202.3 mph in one direction and 193.3 mph in the other direction, Kiino said.

"This test caps an impressive list of performance stats for the Camaro ZL1, which was designed to excel at everything," said Al Oppenheiser, Camaro chief engineer. "It's the most capable - and fastest - Camaro ever."

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Domestics Slip In Reliabilty Study

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The survey didn't include any vehicles with Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, which automakers have recently allowed into their in-dash systems. Both mimic the user's phone on the car touch screen. Sargent said he expects them to cause more problems at first as drivers become confused about whether they are using the phone system or the car's electronics.

Lexus and Porsche tied as the top brands, with 110 problems per 100 vehicles. Toyota moved up one position, to third, with 123 problems, followed by Buick at 126 and Mercedes-Benz at 131. Hyundai was the most improved brand, jumping from 19th to sixth place, reducing problems per 100 vehicles by 25 to 133.

The study also ranks brands by market segment. Segment-level winners included the Camry for most dependable midsize car while Toyota's FJ Cruiser was the top Compact SUV. Ford's F-150 was the most reliable pickup truck.

Toyota won 10 of 18 segment awards, the highest number ever received by a single corporation. Winners included the Lexus GS, ES and RX, and Toyota's Avalon, Camry, FJ Cruiser, Prius, Prius v, Sienna and Venza.

Chrysler Creates Mini 'Matchmaking' Events for Suppliers

by Jim Stickford

Fiat Chrysler held a special 'matchmaking" event close to Valentine's Day and during Black History Month designed to bring together black-owned Michigan businesses with company officials.

Fiat Chrysler holds regular "matchmaking" events to build relationships with potential suppliers, said Fiat Chrysler spokeswoman Kaileen Connelly.

The company has a strong commitment to supporting a diverse supplier base, she said.

"The events are very well attended and that is actually something of a problem," said Connelly. "It can be very easy for a potential supplier to get lost in the crowd.

So when Fiat Chrysler's Supplier Diversity Group came up with the idea of holding mini-matchmaker events aimed at specific demographics - African Americans, women, Latinos, veterans having the first matchmaking session be for African Americans during February, also known as Black History Month made perfect sense, Connelly said.

The first event took place on Feb. 20 at Fiat Chrysler headquarters in Auburn Hills. Marvin Blake Washington, director and head of Body, Exterior and Raw Materials Purchasing, along with Dr. Kenneth L. Harris, president and CEO of the Michigan Black Chamber of Commerce, were among those who put the first Black Supplier Engagement Forum together. Washington credited Kevin Bell, who is in charge of Supplier Diversity, for coming up with the original idea.

The forum builds on Fiat Chrysler's long commitment to supplier diversity, Washington said. Since 1983, the company has purchased goods and services from minority suppliers worth more thatn \$60 billion.

More than 50 certified African-American business owners from the Michigan Black Chamber of Commerce came for a half-day program with sessions led by



Harris speaking about how African American businesses can adapt to changing times.

representatives from Bank of America, Merrill Lynch and Plunkett and Cooney. Topics included succession planning and access to capital. Ralph Gilles, head of Design at Fiat Chrysler, was an executive sponsor of the forum.

"The Black Supplier Engagement Forum offers attendees a better chance to make more direct connections with people at Fiat Chrysler," Washington said."

'We need events like this to provide our members with better access to companies like Fiat Chrysler," Harris said. "More importantly, we can use this as an opportunity to educate our members on issues that face African American businesses. Which is why we have representatives from Bank of America Merrill Lynch and Plunkett and Cooney to talk about the topics of succession planning and access to capital."

African American businesses in Michigan have grown greatly three times the rate of businesses overall - in the past few years, Harris said. The number of such businesses in the state have gone from 70,000 to 106,000 between

"Look at the city of Detroit," Harris said. "It's started to see growth in Black businesses. In 2012 there were 49,0000. They range over all kinds of industries. African American auto supplier businesses number about 450 and range from Tier I to Tier IV. Some employee only a few people, but others employ many. We want to make sure that they can grow within the Fiat Chrysler supplier networks. And this forum can give them exposure and access to the company. They can meet with people at the top who make the decisions. This is a company that is a leader in this field and realizes that the county's demographics are changing."

Washington added that one of the reasons the importance of a succession plans was a topic of discussion is because few Black businesses have been able to transcend to the second or third generations of a family. It's a topic many people don't like to think about because who enjoys planning for their own death.

And the success of Black businesses has resulted in children who become doctors or lawyers and don't want to take over the family business.

That needs to be dealt with through planning, Harris said.

COOLANT SYSTEM

And Black businesses need access to capital, which is why they invited Bank of American Merrill Lynch to send speakers, Washington said.

'What we're looking for is creative new ideas and suppliers who can get them to us," Washington said. "The auto industry is undergoing massive changes and we're looking for people with new ideas."

Getting in business with new suppliers isn't always about price, Washington said. "Quality of product is important," he said, "like the work done for Fiat Chrysler by retired Detroit Piston Vinnie Johnson. His company, Piston Group, makes suspension modules Chrysler. They are not cheap, but they are high quality."

Chevy, McCutchen Join to Support Youth Baseball CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

was able to achieve my dream and am excited to support Chevy Youth Baseball so that more of the dedicated and talented vouth around the country have the same support and opportunity to make it to the big leagues.

Chevrolet will once again sponsor Major League Baseball's PLAY BALL initiative, a collaborative effort between MLB, USA Baseball and USA Softball to encourage participation in all forms of baseball and softball.

Youth baseball isn't the only sport Chevrolet sponsors, Farah said. Since 2010, Chevrolet, in partnership with its dealers, has also been supporting soccer at the youth level in communities across the country through Chevy Youth Soccer, a grassroots, community outreach program. Participating youth soccer leagues receive equipment and access to instructional clinics. In the last six years, Chevy Youth Soccer has donated more than 6,200 equipment kits, provided free instruction on soccer fundamentals to more than 600,000 students and impacted more than 5 million kids across the U.S. "Youth sports were a huge part of my life and really helped shape who I am today," Morgan said. "I know how much work goes into chasing your dream and I was so lucky to have the support of my family and community. That is why I am thrilled to be able to support so many young people through Chevy Youth Soccer as they chase their dreams on the field.3



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FEBRUARY 27, 2017

COVERS THE TECH CENTER AND THE IMMEDIATE AREA

PAGE 3



2017 Camaro ZL1 takes the test track at record speed - up to 198 mph.

Camaro ZL1 Proves to be Speed Machine on Track

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Papenburg testing was conducted on the ZL1's production Goodyear Eagle F1 Supercar 3 tires with pressure set at 44 psi, the recommended setting for extended high-speed driving. The car's only deviations from stock were mandatory safety and data logging equipment.

Papenburg's high-speed oval features 2.5-mile straights and 1.3-mile turns with 49.7-degree banking on the top lane. The steep banking allowed Chevrolet test drivers to run the ZL1 flat out around the track without lifting off the throttle in the turns.

The ZL1 was developed with high-speed performance in mind, incorporating a balanced aerodynamic package that reduces lift without significantly affecting drag," said Oppenheiser. "After testing the car in standard settings, which produced the 198mph average, we set the front and rear camber adjustments to 0 degrees and the tire pressures to the maximum allowable sidewall pressure, and saw the ZL1 average over 200 mph."

Special aero features include a stanchion rear spoiler that offers an advantageous lift/drag ratio compared to a blade-style rear spoiler, and a patent-pending auxiliary transmission oil cooler cover that reduces front-end lift with no drag penalty, Kiino said. The front-to-rear aero balance was also fine-tuned for highspeed stability.

Additional performance capabilities of the ZL1 Coupe tested with the available 10-speed automatic transmission include:

• 0-60 mph in 3.5 seconds; • Quarter mile in 11.4 seconds at 127 mph;

3 summer-only tires measuring 285/30ZR20 in front and 305/30ZR20 in the rear;

• 20-inch forged aluminum wheels;

• Brembo brakes with six-piston Monobloc front calipers and two-piece rotors.

The 2017 Camaro ZL is based on GM's Alpha platform, which it shares with the Cadillac ATS and CTS.

It replaces GM's Zeta platform and was developed under the leadership of GM engineer Dave Leone to be light and compact while still being able to handle both rear and and all-wheel drive configurations.

The 2017 Camaro ZL1 starts at \$63,435 for a coupe with manual transmission.

White Remains the Top Car Color Choice

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tones. Watch for tints and effects to add depth and beauty to these neutrals in the future.

Axalta's report states that worldwide, white as a color is in first place with the color being chosen for nearly four of every 10 new vehicles, Wray said.

In Africa, light colors are most favored. White, along with silver, make up 63 percent of new purchases.

In the Chinese market, more than half of vehicles sold are white. And solid white is a more popular shade than pearl white. Conversely, in the Japanese market, pearl white sells at a rate of 27 percent compared with 7 percent solid white.

In Europe, 27 percent of new vehicles are white - 24 percent solid white, 3 percent pearl white. In South America, 41 percent of new vehicles sold are white - 34 percent solid white, 7 percent pearl white.

In North America, white remains the most popular color -25 percent – which is the lowest percentage of any market.

India is the only market where white is not the top color pick. Gray is tops with 31 percent of vehicles being that color. White is second at 29 percent.

In most markets, the second most popular color is black. In North America, 21 percent of vehicles sold are black; in Europe, that number is 20 percent; in Asia, the number is 16 percent; and in Japan, it's 22 percent. Overall, Axalta stated that

around the world, white is the most popular vehicle color - 28 percent solid white, 9 percent pearl white.

The second most popular color is black at 18 percent, 3 percent solid black, 15 percent effect black.

That is followed by gray at 11 percent, then silver at 11 percent, red at 6 percent, blue at 6 percent, gold/tan at 6 percent, yellow at 3 percent, green at 1 percent and 1 percent miscellaneous.

The report stated that silver was overtaken by white as the most popular color in 2011 and that silver's popularity continues to decline.

Conversely, gray is continuing a gradual climb in popularity.

According to Elke Dirks, Axalta Automotive OEM Color designer, the company uses the color popularity date to help customers in decision making.

"Together we are developing colors years into the future, and the baseline of where we are today is an invaluable start.'

Obtaining this kind of information on a global basis is important, said China-based Axalta OEM Color designer Annie You, because the color design process is now global.

Together, we are developing colors years into the future, and the baseline of where we are today is an invaluable start," You said.



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Presented by: James B. Kruzan, CFP®, CRPC®

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LOCATION: Detroit, MI (Meeting space TBA)

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Saikawa Named Nissan Chief Executive

TOKYO (AP) - Carlos Ghosn, who leads Nissan and Renault, has tapped Hiroto Saikawa, a veteran Japanese executive at Nissan, to replace him as chief executive at the Japanese automaker, although Ghosn will stay on as chairman.

Nissan Motor Co., based in Yokohama, made the announcement in a statement Feb. 23. The appointment, effective April 1, will be up for shareholders' approval in June.

The move does not signal a smaller role for Ghosn. Besides leading the Nissan-Renault alliance, Ghosn is also chairman at scandal-ridden Japanese automaker Mitsubishi Motors Corp., in which Nissan took a controlling stake last year. And Ghosn said he needs to focus on the expanded three-automaker alliance.

Ghosn, sent in by Renault SA of France in 1999, led near-bankrupt Nissan to a turnaround.

He has said for years he hoped to hand over the running of Nissan.

"I will continue to supervise and guide the company, both independently and within the Renault-Nissan-Mitsubishi alliance. This planned change will also allow me to devote more time and energy to managing the strategic and operational evolution and expansion of the alliance," he said.

Saikawa was groomed for the role, serving as co-CEO since late last year. A graduate of the prestigious University of Tokyo, he has overseen various operations at Nissan, which makes the March subcompact, Leaf electric car and Infiniti luxury models.

"I am confident that the management team I have developed at Nissan over the past 18 years has the talent and experience to meet the company's operational



Hiroto Saikawa

and strategic goals," Ghosn said. After joining Nissan in 1977, he has managed Nissan's U.S. and European businesses and its supply chain and customer satisfac-

More recently, he had complete control over its research, design and other overall operations.

Rebecca Lindland, executive analyst for Kelley Blue Book, stressed Ghosn remains very much in command.

"After years of playing maestro to a multi-cultural, multi-branded behemoth, Mr. Ghosn is focusing solely on orchestrating the strategic and operation success of his latest alliance, the symphony of Renault-Nissan-Mitsubishi," she said.

It is still unclear what Ghosn specifically has in mind for Mitsubishi, under the alliance.

But the brand, although tarnished over scandals that go back decades, is believed to have



Carlos Ghosn

potential in the Southeast Asian market.

Nissan stepped in after Mitsubishi was found inflating fuel economy figures for its minicar models, also sold under the Nissan brand.

Buyers of the vehicles inovled in the scandal were compensated with cash rebates.

In an earlier scandal, Mitsubishi's reputation was hammered by a massive cover-up of defects that surfaced in the early 2000s, and had been going on for decades.

Bigger manufacturers are often better placed to ride out intense competition in the auto industry and Ghosn has said he grabbed at an opportunity to gain manufacturing scale as Mitsubishi shares nose-dived after the mileage scandal surfaced.

vehicle Combining global sales for the three brands, Ghosn's alliance is among the biggest groups in the automotive industry, although it still trails such companies as Volkswagen AG, at No. 1, as well as its major Japanese rival Toyota Motor Corp., and the Detroit-based manufacturer General Motors Co.

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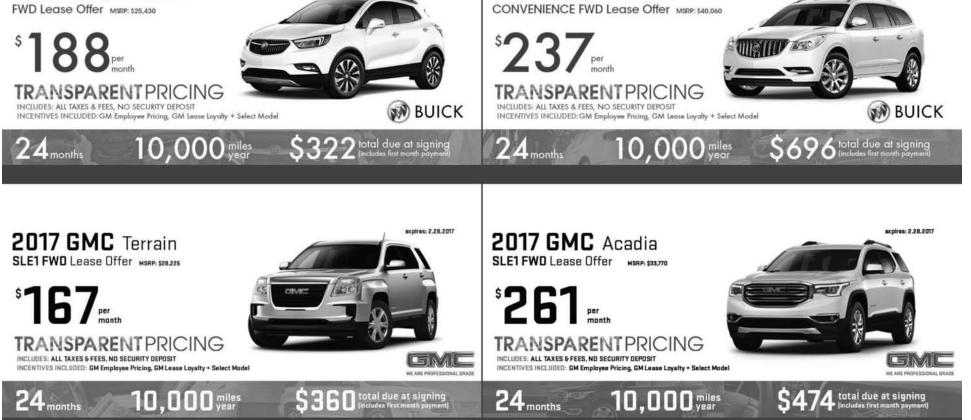




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2017 Buick Encore





2017 Buick Enclave

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tion.

"He's leaving the day-to-day tasks of Nissan to Saikawa-san, and there's no indication Mr. Ghosn is contemplating hanging up his baton," she added, using the honorific "san" for Japanese names.

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TECH CENTER NEWS - WARREN





The 2017 Chevrolet Colorado ZR2 is coming to dealerships.

New Colorado ZR2 Price Set

thing right, doesn't mean you rest on your laurels.

After revitalizing an entire truck market segment with the launch of the Colorado, Chevrolet continues to innovate in the midsize pickup segment, said GM spokesman Monte Doran.

The high-performance, offroad ZR2 ill launch this spring for the 2017 model year with a starting price of \$40,995 MSRP including a \$940 destination fee.

"ZR2 is truly a segment of one and does everything well - from traversing heavy two-track trails to high-speed desert running and full-on rock crawling. We're thrilled to be able to offer it for more than \$2,500 less than the next closest comparable vehicles.

"Taken in the context of serious off-roading, \$2,000 will buy you 50 years of annual passes to Arches National Park in Moab, said Sandor Piszar, Utah," Chevrolet Trucks marketing director.

"Some vehicles that customers might cross-shop with ZR2 can

Just because you got some- spec out as much as \$26,000 more than our truck - or the price of a well-equipped 2017 Colorado.

"When you buy a ZR2 at the starting price of \$40,995, you are getting all of the significant offroad technologies standard with the vehicle, as well as an eightspeed automatic transmission and a wealth of other features at no additional cost."

Available options on the 2017 Chevrolet Colorado ZR2 will include:

• Class-exclusive 2.8L Duramax Turbo-Diesel engine, paired with a six-speed automatic transmission, capable of 186 horsepower and 369 lb.-ft. of torque;

· Choice of crew- or extendedcab configurations (including short and long beds, respectively);

• Seven-speaker Bose premium audio system;

• Dealer-installed, bed-mounted spare tire carrier;

• Full-length black vinyl floor (no additional cost - standard interior features leather seats and carpet).







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TECH CENTER NEWS - WARREN



– NO APPOINTMENTS NECESSARY FOR OIL CHANGES –

