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Children will have the chance to see real reindeer at tree lighting event.

Tree Lighting Set for Dec. 2

The city of Warren will hold its of a bunch of volunteers in our annual holiday tree-lighting ceremony Saturday, Dec. 2.

The celebration is set to begin with a small parade from the back of the Warren city hall to the tree-lighting area in front of the building, said Henry Bowman, Warren's director of Parks & Recreation.

The event will start at about 5 p.m. and the tree lighting will take place just before 6 p.m.," Bowman said. "This year is special because we will have two choirs singing. One will be from Regina High School.

The other is the Warren Community Choir, which is made up community and like to sing at events such as the tree lighting.'

Bowman said that in addition to the choirs performing songs appropriate to the season, a petting zoo will be set up where people can actually interact with reindeer.

"The reindeer will be courtesy of Santa & Co. out of St. Clair," Bowman said. "And if you have reindeer, you have to have Santa. There will be an opportunity for children to have their pictures taken with that jolly old elf.'

Bowman said that the Parks &

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

General Motors Creates RoomFinder App

by Jim Stickford

GM has a lot of buildings around the world, which can make it difficult for people to find where they're supposed to go.

That's why employee Keith Fry, at one of the Tech Center's "Geek Week" sessions, suggested creating an app that could be downloaded to smartphones, tablets and PCs. This app would give people directions and how to book conference rooms.

Bob Ronald, director of End User Adoption at the Tech Center, said "Geek Week" sessions are designed to give employees a chance to pitch ideas to improve productivity at GM.

Having a room locator app makes sense when one considers that GM has about 6,000 conference rooms at its various sites around the world, Ronald said. And GM is hiring more people and constructing new buildings, "so the problem is not going away anytime soon," he said.

"You have to remember, a lot of our conference rooms aren't even numbered. We might have a conference room in Korea that is named 'Tahoe' after the vehicle GM makes.'

Ronald said they've been working on the app, officially called RoomFinder, for about a vear-and-a-half. It's now available for download to smartphones, tablets and personal computers.

In addition to telling people where conference rooms are, it also tells app users when rooms are available and what resources are in the room. If a room is available at the right time, the app shows the room in green. If it's not available, the app shows a red color.

So if a group of engineers need video equipment, the app will tell them which rooms suit their needs, and when that room is available.

Because the app is available to all, the information generated through the app is available to all, Ronald said. That makes it easy for people to determine who has the right to use a particular conference room. Nothing has to be cleared through some busy office manager.

And, said Valerie Rosnik, manger of End User Development at GM, the app makes it possible for a group of people to pick the conference room that is best suited for all attending parties. Some group meetings involve different people in different departments who work in different parts of a building or even different buildings.

The RoomFinder app makes it easy to find a room that is relatively close to all parties, Rosnik said.

The biggest obstacle to creat-



The GM RoomFinder app

ing the app, Ronald said, is making sure the app developers had accurate maps of all the buildings GM owns and operates.

In addition to having accurate maps, app developers also had to make sure all the maps were presented in the same format, so they could be accessed by app

"This had to be done site by site," Ronald said, "region by region. This is a GM product made to be used by GM employees. We love it and we're looking for ways to leverage the data. Now that we have this capability, we're looking to create a PeopleFinder app. This will allow employees to find out where other employees work anywhere in the GM system."

Harris Poll Study Shows Road-Trip Parents Are More Stressed by Traffic Than Kids

successful vehicle for the public is knowing how people use that vehicle.

And family road trips are a big part of the American driving experience, said Chevrolet spokeswoman Katie Amann.

As millions of Americans prepare to hit the road for Thanksgiving holiday travel, Amann said a new survey conducted by Harris Poll on behalf of Chevrolet reveals that keeping the kids entertained and hearing the everpresent "Are we there yet?" ranked lower than traffic, packing and cost when it comes to the

Part of what makes creating a top family road trip stressors. The Harris Poll surveyed 1,063

U.S. parents of children under 18 to explore the state of the American family road trip. As traffic levels are projected

to increase during the upcoming Thanksgiving travel Amann said parents indicated that in-vehicle technologies can improve the family road trip experience by making gridlock more bearable.

Technology offered in vehicles such as the new Chevrolet Traverse can give parents added peace and quiet on the road, said Steve Majoros, director of marketing, Chevrolet Cars and Crossovers.

More than half of American parents (56 percent) said that Wi-Fi/internet connectivity would help make family road trips more enjoyable, making it the top invehicle tech on their wish list for family road trips.

"The vehicle is the new family dinner table, where memories are created and bonds grow strong," said Majoros. "As families prepare to hit the road this holiday to spend time with friends and family, they can depend on crossovers like the 2018 Chevrolet Traverse and Equinox



Survey says: 56 percent of parents say Wi-Fi/internet helps on trips.

to meet their needs, from storage space to USB outlets, available 4G LTE Wi-Fi and Apple CarPlay and Android Auto2 compat-

The survey, Majoros said, also revealed that, despite stressful or unexpected moments, the



Ford Fund and the Detroit Area Agency on Aging (DAAA) pack Thanksgiving dinners for homebound seniors.

Ford Helps Holiday Seniors

For the 10th consecutive year, the Ford Motor Company Fund teamed up with the Detroit Area Agency on Aging as part of the Holiday Meals on Wheels Thanksgiving program.

This decade-long partnership created an opportunity for more than 6,000 area homebound seniors to enjoy a hot Thanksgiving Day meal, said Ford spokeswoman Cheryl Hudson.

Ford employees, their families, and the community came together at Valley Services located at 1980 Bagley in Detroit starting on Nov. 22 to assemble freshly prepared meals for the community. Ford's donation of \$50,000 to DAAA went toward the food for the Thanksgiving meals and provides additional funding for the daily meal service throughout

"At Ford, we want to help make sure that no one goes hungry,

especially during the holiday season," said Pamela Alexander, director of Community Development, Ford Motor Company "We are proud of our Fund. decade-long sponsorship of Meals on Wheels."

Ford Fund also joined with The Parade Company and Gleaners Community Food Bank to help feed the hungry in southeast Michigan during the holiday season and beyond. Hudson said that, according to Gleaners, approximately 670,000 people in southeast Michigan will face hunger insecurity this year, including more than 200,000 chil-

"As we celebrate with friends, family and a hot meal this holiday season, in our community, there are many isolated and hungry homebound seniors and disabled

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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Ford Helps Serve **Holiday Meals** For Seniors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

adults. This is why we are sharing the love and feeding one of our most vulnerable populations on Thanksgiving," said Paul Bridgewater, DAAA president and CEO.

"We are very thankful for the Ford Motor Company Fund. With their generous donation, we are feeding 6,000 seniors. For us and the seniors we serve, we could not do it without Ford Motor Company Fund volunteers and financial support."

This year, the community has an opportunity to join DAAA and Ford to make contributions to the Meals on Wheels program during their first television telethon, Hudson said.

The program will air on Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. on WADL-TV. Ford will be a featured sponsor during the telecast. The additional contributions from the community will help to ensure that citizens in need have hot meals throughout the holidays and beyond.

Corvette to be Sold at Special Auction to Help Veterans

and valuable history, a history that will help American's veter-

GM and Chevrolet are teaming up with the George W. Bush Presidential Center to honor and support those who have served and sacrificed to protect the security and freedom of all Americans, said GM spokeswoman Afaf Farah.

At 4:30 p.m. PST on Saturday, Jan. 20, 2018, Chevrolet will offer first retail production Corvette Carbon 65 Edition coupe, signed by President George W. Bush, for auction at Barrett-Jackson in Scottsdale, Ariz., said Farah.

The money raised will benefit the Bush Center's Military Service Initiative

The Military Service Initiative's primary goal is ensuring that post-9/11 veterans and their families make successful transitions to civilian life, with a focus on gaining meaningful employment and overcoming the invisible wounds that are left by war, Farah said.

With more than 6,000 veterans employed at GM and more than 50,000 GM retirees who are veterans, Farah said GM and Chevrolet are proud to help those who have given so much for their

The first Corvette rolled out of the factory on June 30, 1953. Chevrolet is commemorating the 65th anniversary of that auspicious debut with a new track-inspired Corvette Carbon Edition 65 package offered on 2018 Grand Sport and Z06 models of the Corvette.

Limited to only 650 vehicles, each with a unique vehicle identification number, the distinctive package blends visible carbonfiber exterior elements similar to the Corvette Racing C7.R with a

The Chevrolet has a storied new Ceramic Matrix Gray exterior color and unique interior appointments that include a new carbon-fiber-rimmed wheel.

Vehicle Content:

- Available on Grand Sport 3LT and Z06 3LZ trims (order code Z30);
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- Unique fender stripes and door graphics;
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- Blue brake calipers;
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- Center caps with Carbon lo



This rare Carbon 65 Corvette will be auctioned off this coming January.

- Carbon Flash badges and outside mirrors;
- · Jet Black suede-wrapped interior with blue stitching;
- New visible carbon-fiber spoiler (all models) and quar-
- ter intake ducts (Coupe);
- · Carbon-fiber steering wheel rim and gloss carbon-fiber interior trim;
- Carbon Edition sill plates;
- Competition sport seats.

Tesla Move Affects World Battery Market

The battery technology supply market got another push last week as automaker Tesla unveiled its long-awaited electric freight truck.

News of the addition signaled further future supply demands on lithium and other battery materials, including the need for high-grade, high-purity manganese, according to an analysis issued by USA News Group.

Several manganese mining companies are gaining interest as a result, including Ferroglobe PLC, Anglo American PLC, Glencore PLC, and Maxtech Ventures.

The analysis noted that highgrade, high-purity manganese is used as a primary cathode material in lithium-ion manganese batteries (NCM batteries).

The lithium-nickel-cobalt manganese (NCM) formulation of batteries is slated as the next generation of battery cathodes, after the lithium-nickel-cobalt-aluminum design (NCA) battery, and offers superior efficiencies, high power and low cost.

Large producers of manganese are moving on news of more demand, the report stated, and one smaller mining company is gaining attention to its move to expand manganese resources in Brazil. Maxtech Ventures is on track for near-term production of manganese with a promising revenue plan for local distribution, according to the analysis. Miners that produce manganese are seeing increased global demand.

In 2016, the top 13 battery makers boasted annual production capacity of 29 gigawatthours (GWh) of energy-storage products. By 2020, those same companies are expected to grow production capacity to 171 GWh, with Tesla's first Gigafactory representing 35 GWh.

That was prior to Tesla's new announcement to enter the freight game. With the Semi, unveiled last week and due out in 2019, Tesla is promising a vehicle that can travel 500 miles on a single charge - enough to cover most regional freight deliveries and is cheaper than diesel trucks.

So the already-heavy demand on lithium is now about to add a whole new layer that is pushing lithium and all battery materials suppliers into a near frenzy.

According to Frost & Sullivan, the global market for Li-ion batteries doubled to \$22.5 billion in 2016 from \$11.7 billion in 2012.

Suddenly, other materials used in battery technology are becoming very attractive. In answer to technology needs, battery and automotive manufacturing giants are developing their own NMC supplies and formulations.

Already, 3M has patented its own NMC battery, which is used by LG Chem in the Chevy Volt and Nissan Leaf. BMW has also selected the NMC battery. General Electric has selected a lithiummanganese combination battery.

In fact, GM has declared that its entire future in manufacturing is headed toward an all-electric vehicle fleet, according to the report.

Tesla meanwhile has signed a five-year exclusive agreement with prominent NMC battery researcher, Dr. Jeff Dahn, to help reduce the costs of its batteries.

All of this can really only mean that the supply for manganese, along with its star counterpart lithium, are on a rising demand path that won't be slowed.



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COVERS THE TECH CENTER AND THE IMMEDIATE AREA **NOVEMBER 27, 2017**



GM volunteers help pack supplies to be shipped to Puerto Rico to aid in the Hurricane Maria recovery.

GM Employees Helping Hurricane Victims

When Hurricane Maria struck and truck drivers. Everyone had Puerto Rico a little over a month an important role in making this ago, GM engineers mobilized to help the U.S. island territory.

Hundreds of GM employees donated more than 12 tons of goods, including batteries, solar cellphone chargers and lights, hand sanitizers, disinfecting wipes, bottled water, baby formula and canned foods, said GM Foundation spokeswoman Torri Moncrief.

"There were so many people involved in this project," said NASCAR Program Manager Alba Colon, who is from Mayaguez, Puerto Rico.

"It would be impossible to recognize everyone, but we would not have done this without all those involved in planning, leads from every area, managers, supervisors, teamGM Cares and employees from facilities, docks

Warren to Hold Tree-Lighting Ceremony

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Rec department is always looking for sponsors for events like the tree-lighting ceremony.

This year, they were lucky to find a new sponsor for the event.

"A company called Power Home Remodeling out of Southfield has helped sponsor the ceremony." Bowman said.

"We usually have to look for sponsors, but this time they called us.

Thanks to them and our other sponsors - Lake Trust Credit and Hamilton Chevrolet, we will have the reindeer and a horse-drawn carriage that will take people around city hall, as well as food, including hot chocolate and the fixings for s'mores.'

There is no cost for attending the event, Bowman said, but a food collection will be held to help out those who need it at this time of year

"We will have a food drop-off box," Bowman said.

"We collect food stuffs and donate the proceeds to the Salvation Army and to Stillwell Manor, which also maintains a food

"So the only cost is the giving of food to those who need it. That's something that we can all get behind."

happen.'

The giving didn't start or stop there, Moncrief said. When Hurricane Harvey was barreling down on Texas, Dallas-Fort Worth area employees collected trailers full of items and delivered them to nonprofit organizations in the impacted areas along the coast.

Also in Texas, 30 employees helped families clean their homes of debris and start the rebuilding process as part of the Habitat Hammers Back campaign

"I had the opportunity to volunteer, so I jumped on it," said Shawn Angel, District AfterSales manager in Katy, Texas.

And, 25 employees from GM's Atlanta IT Innovation Center teamed with other companies to gather saws, hammers, tape and other items to help families in Puerto Rico repair their homes.



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Center for Performing Arts Sets Its Holiday Schedule

Macomb Community College's Center for the Performing Arts will be busy this holiday season.

The venue is hosting a series of holiday shows beginning on Dec. 1. with Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker, which will be offered in collaboration with the Macomb Ballet Company, choreographed by artistic director Amber Megna Michalik, and assistant directors Sarah Boik and Mary Sherman.

The first showing begins at 10 a.m. with a second show at 7 p.m. Additional performances will take place on Dec. 2 at 2 and 7 p.m., as well as Dec. 3 at 1 and 3 p.m.

Guests will have the opportunity to meet the cast at a "Meet and Greet" following the shows. All seats are \$20.

On Monday, Dec. 4, the Macomb Children's Chorus will hold a concert beginning at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for children ages 12 and under.

On Saturday, Dec. 9, the play, "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown," will be performed twice. The first show begins at 3 p.m., followed by a second performance beginning at 7:30 p.m.

PAGE 3

Pit tickets are \$40 for adults, \$20 for students. Gold Circle tickets are \$40. Wings tickets are \$38 and House/Balcony tickets are \$35. Ticket prices for children ages 12 and under are \$15.

On Sunday, Dec. 10, excerpts of memorable Hollywood movies and TV presentations will be shown on screen followed by music played by the Macomb Symphony Orchestra, beginning at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$24 for adults and \$18 for students.

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Myers, left, and Rooker in front of the Smart House GMC helped build.

GMC Program Unites Vet With Man Who Saved His Life

In support of its partnership with the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation and the foundation's Building for America's Bravest (BFAB) program, GMC united U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Eric Myers and U.S. Army Medic Steven Rooker for the first time since a life-changing day five years ago.

In 2012, Myers, from Linden, N.C., was serving his third deployment in Afghanistan with the 82nd Airborne Division when he stepped on an IED, said GM spokeswoman Jennie Ecclestone.

He sustained serious injuries and lost both legs above the knee.

Myers was rescued by fellow platoon member Rooker, who sprang into action to stabilize Myers until he could be airlifted out for more advanced medical treatment.

Rooker and Myers had not seen each other since that fateful day until GMC in mid-November brought the two veterans back together, Ecclestone said. GMC filmed the reunion at the house built for Myers and used the footage to create several advertisements featuring both men.

As a primary sponsor of the Building for America's Bravest program, GMC has pledged more than \$2 million in 2017, Ecclestone said, toward building smart homes for catastrophically injured service members.

GMC also regularly supports the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation, the parent foundation for Building for America's Bravest, to raise awareness for the injured veterans.

Since the partnership launched, GMC has provided more than \$4 million and contributed to building 66 smart homes, but there's a long way to go to reach the goal of 200 smart homes nationwide.

GMC is working to raise an additional \$1 million through the end of 2017 to build more smart homes for our most catastrophically injured service members Ecclestone said.

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Report States Not Enough Takata Air Bags Replaced

DETROIT (AP) - A new report on recalls of potentially deadly Takata air bag inflators shows that automakers have replaced only 43 percent of the faulty parts even though recalls have been under way for more than 15 years.

The report, issued Nov. 17 by an independent monitor who is keeping tabs on the recalls, also shows that auto companies are only about halfway toward a Dec. 31 goal of 100 percent replacement of older and more dangerous inflators.

The slow completion rate comes even though the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration began coordinating the recalls and phasing them in two years ago. Before that, the automakers were obtaining parts and distributing them on their own. Normally, automakers fix 75 percent of vehicles within 18 months after the recall is announced.

The report brought criticism from a U.S. senator in Florida, whose state has seen three deaths caused by the problem and where automakers have fixed 41.7 percent of the 3 million affected inflators.

Takata uses the chemical ammonium nitrate to create a small explosion and fill air bags quickly in a crash. But the chemical can deteriorate when exposed to high humidity and temperatures and burn too fast, blowing apart a metal canister designed to contain the explosion. That can hurl hot shrapnel into unsuspecting drivers and passengers. At least 19 people have been killed worldwide and more than 180 in-

The problem touched off the largest series of automotive recalls in U.S. history, with 19 car and truck makers having to re-

The report by independent monitor John Buretta says that as of Sept. 15, automakers have recalled 43.1 million inflators. Of those, only 18.5 million have been replaced, even though Takata recalls date to 2001.

In his report, Buretta concludes that there is "much room for improvement" in the Takata recalls. But he says that manufacturers are starting to make meaningful progress toward "developing sound strategic approaches."

The automakers, he writes, are using different communications methods to reach owners such door-to-door canvassing. They also are offering mobile repair and trying to use third parties such as independent repair facilities to speed up the

Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Florida, blamed the slow pace on a lack of leadership at NHTSA, which has been without its top administrator since the end of the Obama administration in January. "We still don't have any leadership at NHTSA to ensure this stuff actually gets done by the automakers," he said in a statement. "Until the agency gets a permanent administrator, this recall is going to continue to drag on while the injury and death toll mounts."

NHTSA said in a statement that the Takata recalls are unprecedented in size and complexity and have resulted in groundbreaking lessons that will help automakers reach their repair goals. The agency said it is monitoring the automakers' progress and working to expand best practices to boost completion rates. The agency also has the authority to fine automakers that don't make recall repairs in a





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Study: Road-Trip Parents Most Stressed by Traffic

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

spirit of the American family road trip remains alive and well. The vast majority of American parents (93 percent) say they enjoy road trips with their family, with more than half (53 percent) saying they "love" them.

The top reasons for America's love affair with family road trips? Chevrolet and Harris Poll find that spending time with family (80 percent) ranked as parents' favorite thing about road trips, followed by exploring and stopping at interesting locations/destinations (69 percent).

Besides the previous statistics, the following results are based on the survey:

Nearly three in 10 parents who take family road trips but do not have Wi-Fi/internet connectivity in their car say they would be more likely to take longer (29 percent) or more frequent (28 percent) family road trips if their vehicle had Wi-Fi/connectivity.

Of those who do have Wi-Fi/internet connectivity in their cars, more than half of parents who take road trips said they are more likely to take longer (54 percent) or more frequent (56 percent) family road trips because of the feature.

Kids like spending time on the road with their families as well: 90 percent of parents who take road trips say their kids also enjoy time on the road.

About 86 percent of American parents who took road trips when they were growing up say they have "a lot of fond memories" from childhood that took place on family road trips, including nearly half (49 percent) who strongly agree.

The poll also showed that fam-

ily time and new explorations drive America's love of road

Unplugging from everyday life (49 percent), indulging in foods and snacks (44 percent) and being out on the open road (45 percent) round out the top five favorite parts of taking family road trips.

What stresses parents out the most on family road trips? The Harris poll stated it's not the kids, according to the survey. Traffic and other unexpected delays is by far the most stressful part of the family road trip, according to nearly two in three parents (63 percent).

Only about one in four parents (26 percent) are most stressed by getting asked, "Are we there yet?" and just under one in three (31 percent) find it stressful to keep the kids entertained.

When asked, "Is there a "perfect" road trip length?" the consensus is yes, according to the survey. American parents who take road trips believe that the "perfect" family road trip length is typically six hours.

And parents who take road trips today bring 6.6 mobile devices, on average, in the vehicle.

Which wheels are best? Nearly two-thirds of all American parents (63 percent) say they would prefer to take a family road trip in an SUV over any other type of vehicle, with more than two in five (42 percent) preferring a large SUV with three rows.

And 67 percent of parents who take road trips involve their children in the planning.

Chevrolet vehicles, Majoros said, provide families with technology that meets what the survey says most concerns drivers on road trips.







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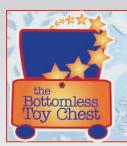






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- Power Driver's Seat!
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Was \$26,895 Sale Price: \$19,799*

24 MONTH LEASE

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2017 TAHOE "Z71" 4WD



- Luxury Package!
- Color Touch Screen Radio w/Nav!
- Rear Seat Entertainment!
- Power Sunroof!
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