

FCA Foundation Grants Half-Million to United Way

In this holiday season, it's always nice to remember those who are less fortunate, and the FCA Foundation has done exactly that.

The FCA Foundation, the charitable arm of North American

automaker FCA, last week gave a \$500,000 grant to United Way for Southeastern Michigan. The grant will help United Way implement two primary strategies to ensure that more children have

access to and participate in child nutrition programs throughout the school year and during the summer, said FCA Foundation spokesman Kevin Frazier.

First, the FCA Foundation grant

will enable United Way to provide partner organizations (community groups and schools) with the funds and technical assistance needed to run and expand Meet Up and Eat Up summer meals

programs, Frazier said. Additionally, the grant will support United Way's efforts to implement robust community engagement,

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VOL. 85 NO. 50

ESTABLISHED 1933 AS NEW CENTER NEWS AND 1983 AS OAKLAND TECH NEWS

DECEMBER 25, 2017

Mack Engine Awarded Silver WCM Status

The FCA Mack Avenue Engine Plant is celebrating after being honored with a silver award in the Company's World Class Manufacturing (WCM) methodology.

The Detroit plant, which produces the Pentastar engine family, was recognized earlier in December for its efforts in expanding WCM throughout the facility, an honor they achieved in record time, said FCA spokeswoman Jodi Tinson.

Only 15 months after being awarded bronze, Mack Avenue Engine earned the milestone award following a two-day audit during which it earned a minimum of 60 points in 10 technical and 10 managerial pillars by demonstrating clear WCM know-how and competence through employee-conducted pillar presentations and a review of projects that have been expanded across the shop floor, Tinson said.

Mack Avenue's award brings to

five the total number of FCA North American facilities that have been designated silver plants. The other four are Windsor Assembly Plant (Ontario), Dundee Engine Plant (Michigan), Toledo Assembly (Ohio) and

Saltillo South Engine (Mexico). Windsor Assembly was the first North American plant to reach silver status, an honor they received in March 2014.

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Employees at the Mack Engine Plant earned the silver WCM award.



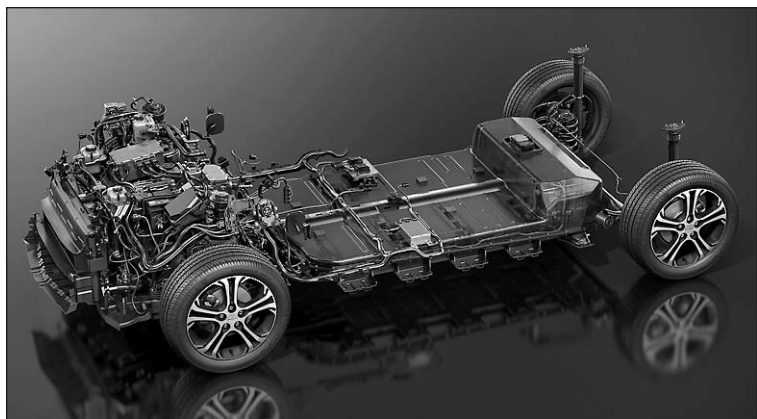
Chevrolet last week released this first picture of the 2019 Silverado.

New Silverado Introduced

The past and future met last week in Dallas with the introduction of the next-generation Chevrolet Silverado at an event celebrating the first 100 years of Chevy Trucks. Many in attendance were Chevy Truck Legends members, some of the brand's most passionate owners. "Our owners' passion for

Chevrolet trucks is truly humbling," said Alan Batey, president of GM North America, and global head of Chevrolet. "Many of our owners depend on their trucks for work and play, personalize their trucks in astonishing ways and pass their loyalty for Chevy

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The 2018 Bolt EV was named to WardsAuto 10 Best Engines list.

Bolt EV Earns High Praise

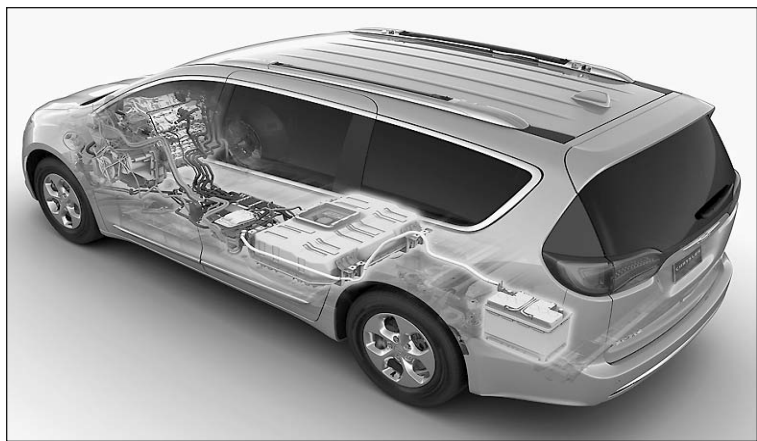
Sometimes the engine of growth for a particular make is its engine. Which is why Chevrolet is so proud of the 2018 Bolt EV, said GM spokesman Tom Read.

Chevrolet earned another industry recognition as the all-electric 2018 Chevrolet Bolt EV wins a 2018 Wards 10 Best Engines Award. The Bolt EV has an EPA-estimated 238-mile range on a full charge, and when it's equipped with the optional DC

Fast Charger, customers can get up to 90 miles of range in 30 minutes.

"The Chevrolet Bolt EV is an affordable, world-changing vehicle that delivers on the promise of an electric car for the masses," said Drew Winter, WardsAuto senior content director. "It is quick and smartly designed and its official range of 238 miles makes it attractive to a wider audience.

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The award-winning 2018 Chrysler Pacifica Hybrid is rated at 84 MPGe.

FCA Hybrid Engine a Winner

FCA engineering has stood the test of time.

Editors at WardsAuto have named the 3.6-liter Pentastar eHybrid one of Wards 10 Best Engines for 2018, said FCA spokesman Eric Mayne.

The achievement marks the second time the powertrain has been so-honored, Mayne said. The 3.6-liter Pentastar eHybrid was named to the annual list last year, when it debuted in the Chrysler Pacifica Hybrid minivan.

The plug-in hybrid propulsion system makes the Pacifica Hybrid the most efficient minivan ever, based on its Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rating of 84 miles-per-gallon-equivalent (MPGe) – a measure that accounts for a plug-in hybrid vehicle's blended use of electricity and gasoline, in combined city- and highway-cycle testing, Mayne said.

The 2018 Chrysler Pacifica Hybrid also excels on two other effi-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



WardsAuto staff was "blown away" by the Ford 5.0L DOHC V8.

Two Ford Engines in Top 10

Ford's engine design excellence received some notice when WardsAuto placed two Ford engines – the 2.7L Twin Turbo DOHC V6 (Ford F-150) and the 5.0L DOHC V8 (Ford Mustang GT) – on its 2018 Wards 10 Best Engines list.

WardsAuto editors chose the winners after spending October and November evaluating 32 engines and electric propulsion systems during routine commutes in metro Detroit. It's the 24th year for Wards 10 Best En-

gines, said Drew Winter, Wards senior content director.

"We're happy to recognize great engines in luxury cars, but we're thrilled to see so many high-volume automakers whose vehicles are more affordable for average Americans delivering truly outstanding powertrains," said Winter.

It's been five years since an engine in a gasoline-powered pickup

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Detroit Building Reaching New Heights

by COREY WILLIAMS
Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) – An 800-foot-tall (244-meter) centerpiece is coming to Detroit's resurgent downtown as the city continues to build momentum about three years after exiting the largest municipal bankruptcy in U.S. history.

The 58-story building dominating the local skyline will rise on the site of the iconic J.L. Hudson department store, whose 1983 closing epitomized Detroit's economic downfall.

"When we lost Hudson's, it symbolized how far Detroit had fallen," Bedrock Detroit real estate founder Dan Gilbert said Dec. 14 during a ceremonial groundbreaking for the new building. "When it was imploded in 1998, it was a very sad day for a lot of people."

But the bad times for downtown appear to be largely over. Bedrock Detroit's \$900 million, two-building project will include a 58-story residential tower and 12-floor building for retail and conference space. Up to 450 residential units can be built in the tower.

It is one of four projects representing a \$2.1 billion investment in downtown by the Detroit-based commercial real estate firm. Altogether, the projects are expected to create up to 24,000 jobs in a city that desperately needs them and generate \$673 million in new tax revenue.

Mayor Mike Duggan's office has spearheaded redevelopment

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Deadline: Thursday 5:00 p.m.
for the next edition of Monday

William Springer II, publisher
Lisa A. Torretta, operations
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OCC Appointes Provenzano to New Position

Peter Provenzano was appointed to the position of chancellor at Oakland Community College (OCC).

Provenzano joined OCC in 2014 as vice chancellor of Administrative Services and a key member of the College's executive leadership team, said school spokeswoman Janet Roberts. Since May 2017, Provenzano has served as the interim chancellor at OCC.

The Board of Trustees voted unanimously in favor of Provenzano as successor in the position of chancellor on Dec. 14, Roberts said.

"The decision to offer the position to Mr. Provenzano reflects the Board's confidence both in his proven leadership abilities and his vision for the future," said OCC Board Chair John P. McCulloch.

"He has been in the forefront of developing a long-range planning process that is responsive to the needs of our students and community."

FCA Foundation Grants \$500K to United Way

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marketing and canvassing strategies to ensure that children and families, school administrators and the public know about both the Meet Up and Eat Up summer program and the School Breakfast Program available each school day.

"FCA US cares deeply about our communities and respects United Way for the work they do. In no uncertain terms, United Way is committed to improving lives," said Brian Harlow, head of Manufacturing, North America and FCA US United Way co-chair. "By focusing on key areas including education, economic prosperity and health, United Way works to connect corporations, nonprofits and government agencies to tackle problems as a team, therefore amplifying what no singular organization could do alone."

Raising awareness about the free food programs remains a priority to United Way, Harlow said. During the school year, nearly 300,000 children in Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties qualify for either free or reduced-price meals.

Yet, of those eligible children, only about 17 percent participate in the free summer meals program Meet Up and Eat Up. In response, FCA US sponsored five United Way block parties this summer to increase awareness and attendance of the Meet Up and Eat Up program.

"We are grateful for strategic partners like FCA US for helping us support families throughout the tri-county," said Tanya Heidelberg Yopp, interim CEO, United Way for Southeastern Michigan.

"With partnerships that reach more than 700 sites, this significant grant will help further our efforts for greater impact so that children continue to have access to this valuable free meals program each summer."

According to data from the Michigan Department of Education, Harlow said the total number of summer meals served in 2016 in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties was 1,210,049.

All donations to United Way this year count toward its overreaching 2016-18 Annual Community Giving goal of \$100 million, set by Fiat Chrysler Automobiles CEO Sergio Marchionne, who also serves as United Way Campaign chair.

United Way for Southeastern Michigan mobilizes the caring power of Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties to improve lives in measurable and lasting ways throughout the region, Frazier said.

The organization is led by a diverse group of volunteers from business, labor, government, human services, education and the community, Frazier said.



The FCA Foundation's \$500,000 grant to United Way will fight hunger.

United Way provides opportunities for the people of Michigan

to invest in the metropolitan Detroit community through a variety of ways, including volunteerism, advocacy and its annual winter fundraising campaign, Frazier said.

Mack Engine Plant Earns Silver in WCM

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"The Mack Avenue employees are to be applauded for their commitment to and focus on continuous improvement, which has resulted in being designated a silver plant in record time, an unprecedented achievement," said Brian Harlow, vice president – Manufacturing, FCA North America.

"They have truly embraced WCM and demonstrated the proper competencies, rigor and pace that make them deserving of this designation. Their deeper understanding of the methodology and tireless efforts to expand its implementation make them a valuable resource for other plants within the FCA network."

The achievement of WCM award levels, as confirmed through independent audits, recognizes the long-term commitment of the workforce to making significant changes that can secure the future of a facility, Tinson said. Awarded plants also have a role in accelerating the implementation of WCM throughout the organization as coaches and mentors.

WCM was first implemented by Fiat in 2006 and introduced to Chrysler Group as part of the alliance between the two companies in June 2009.

It is a methodology that focuses on eliminating waste, increasing productivity and improving quality and safety in a systematic and organized way. WCM engages the workforce to provide and implement suggestions on how to improve their jobs and their plants, promoting a sense of ownership.

During an audit, zero to five points are awarded for each of the 10 technical pillars, which include safety, workplace organization, logistics and the environment, and for each of the 10 managerial pillars, such as management commitment, clarity of objectives, allocation of people, motivation of operators and commitment of the organization. A score of 80 would indicate World Class.

In addition to the five silver plants, there are currently 15 facilities that hold the WCM bronze designation:

- Saltillo Truck Assembly (Mexico);
- Trenton Engine Complex (Michigan);
- Indiana Transmission Plant II (Kokomo, Ind.);
- Kokomo Transmission Plant (Indiana);
- Kokomo Casting (Indiana);
- Toluca Assembly (Mexico);
- Sterling Stamping (Sterling Heights, Mich.);
- Brampton Assembly (Ontario, Canada);

- Belvidere Assembly Plant (Illinois);
- Warren Stamping (Michigan);
- Saltillo Van (Mexico);
- Indiana Transmission Plant I (Kokomo, Ind.);
- Toledo Machining (Ohio);
- Warren Truck (Michigan);
- Tipton Transmission (Tipton, Ind.).

The 1.4 million-square-foot Detroit plant was purchased in 1953 by Chrysler Corporation and converted to a stamping plant in 1974, Tinson said. In 1992, Mack was the production home of the Dodge Viper, which moved to the Conner Avenue Assembly Plant in 1995. Mack Avenue Engine began producing engines in 1998.

In November 2012, the company announced that it would invest \$198 million and add up to 250 new jobs to produce the award-winning Pentastar (V6) engine. Nearly 750 employees currently build three versions of the award-winning Pentastar engine – the 3.0-liter, 3.2-liter and 3.6-liter. Bronze was awarded to Mack Avenue Engine in September 2016.

U-M Reopens Asian Art Laboratory

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) – The University of Michigan Museum of Art has reopened its Robert B. Jacobs Asian Art Conservation Laboratory.

The Ann Arbor school announced the update last month about the lab, which provides conservation services and mounting or remounting of East Asian paintings and Asian and Western works on paper for institutions and individuals worldwide.

The lab, which operates under the direction of conservator Qian He, also cares for the museum's Asian art collections.



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Latest Detroit Project Reaching for the Sky

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

programs targeting a number of city neighborhoods, but Detroit's growth is most evident in greater downtown, where office space now is limited and available apartments are tough to come by.

A ribbon-cutting was held in August for an \$860 million sports complex just north of downtown. The 20,000-seat Little Caesars Arena is the new home of the Detroit Red Wings and Pistons. It will anchor a 50-block neighborhood of offices, apartments, restaurants and shops.

A 6.6-mile-long light rail system launched earlier this year along Woodward Avenue, downtown's main business thoroughfare.

Software maker Microsoft announced in February that it plans to move its Michigan Microsoft Technology Center next year from the suburbs to downtown. In 2016, Ally Financial opened new offices downtown that the financial services company said eventually would be occupied by more than 1,500 employees and contractors.

"Bedrock building on the Hudson's site will be an important addition to the community and the vitality and prosperity of downtown," said John Mogk, a Wayne State University law professor whose work has included policy on economic development issues.

"It will act as an important centerpiece for continuing the overall downtown development . . . but much more has to be done for the entire city to feel a resurgence."

Much of that work remains for a city where many residents are still poor.

Detroit's unemployment rate was about 8 percent in April, yet far below the more than 18 percent unemployment rate during the city's 2013 bankruptcy filing.

The city's 2016 poverty rate was just over 35 percent – the highest among the nation's 20 largest cities and more than double the national poverty of 14 percent. A family of four is considered living in poverty if its annual earnings are less than \$24,563.

Downtown construction projects such as the work at the Hudson's site can help change that, some say.

"What a shame that anybody should be unemployed in Detroit when we have a need for skilled trades," Gilbert said.

"We like to say Detroit is located at the intersection of muscle and brains. We need brains to sort this all out . . . somebody still has to build stuff. We still need muscle."

While Bedrock's new building would be Detroit's tallest, rising above the 727-foot Renaissance Center along the city's riverfront, it still would be far shorter than some other U.S. towers.

One World Trade Center in New York measures 1,776 feet. Chicago's Willis Tower hits 1,451 feet, while the Empire State Building in New York climbs to 1,250 feet.

Although the 25-story Hudson's building was once the nation's tallest department store, it measured only about 400 feet. It was far more famous for what was inside.

When Detroit was humming along and leading the nation in car production, the store was where auto executives and assembly line workers shopped. From household goods to clothing and furs and many things in between, it was a primary downtown destination.

There were 50 display windows, 12,000 employees and 100,000 customers per day. But as shopping tastes shifted to expansive suburban malls and Detroit's population tumbled by



This rendering shows how the Bedrock project will look when finished.

more than 600,000 people between the 1950s and 1980, Hudson's lost its luster.

"Building something of significant magnitude on the old site will provide a good deal of good feelings by older generations," Mogk said.

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson called it a "huge magnet for people like me who grew up in Detroit." He and his brother would ride a city bus downtown and play tag on the Hudson's escalators.

"I think the fact they are put-

ting up this glorious glass building, I think it's a fitting succession," Patterson said.

Honda's Electric Hybrid to Hit 2018 NAIAS

DETROIT (AP) – Honda will unveil a new five-passenger gas-electric hybrid sedan at the Detroit auto show next month.

The company says it's bringing back the Insight name for the compact car that will offer mileage competitive with other hybrids. Fuel economy and price weren't released Dec. 19 for the car that will be in U.S. showrooms next summer.

The Edmunds.com auto buying site is predicting that sales of electric and hybrid cars will hit record numbers in the U.S. next year. The website says fully electric vehicles, plug-in rechargeable hybrids and traditional gas-electric hybrids will make up 4.4 percent of the market. That's up from an estimated 3.2 percent this year.

Edmunds expects automakers to sell 17.2 million new vehicles this year and says that will fall to 16.8 million next year. Most of the sales will be driven by gas-powered trucks and SUVs. The company predicts that cars will fall to a record low of 34.5 percent of the U.S. market next year.

Honda's funky two-door Insight hybrid came out in 1999 and got 70 miles per gallon on the highway.

The company said the new version will have four doors and a two-motor hybrid system. It'll have top features and performance for mainstream buyers.

2019 Silverado Gets Texas-Sized Preview

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Trucks down from generation to generation.

"For the Chevy Truck Centennial, we wanted to recognize the customers who have made Chevrolet part of their lives, and have them help kick off the next 100 years of Chevy Trucks."

The 2019 Silverado 1500 is all new from the ground up, Batey said, and leverages Chevrolet's experience building more than 85 million dependable, long-lasting pickups.

It also reflects feedback from more than 7,000 people on what they wanted in their next truck – the most customer research in the company's history.

"The 2019 Silverado's strong, modern design advances Chevrolet's history of industry-leading pickup design," Batey said.

"It's a legacy built on decades of experience with models such as the Advance Design trucks of the 1950s and the C/K series of the 1960s. Those trucks set the standard for pickup design in their eras, and currently are some of the most coveted vintage trucks on the market."

"The next-generation Silverado is poised to change the face of trucks again, with a breakthrough design that is unmistakably Chevrolet."

The new Silverado also delivers improved capability and per-

formance, said GM spokesman Monte Doran. For example, a higher-grade alloy is used in the roll-formed, high-strength-steel bed floor, contributing to a bed that is more functional and lighter weight.

This use of mixed materials and advanced manufacturing is evident throughout the Silverado, resulting in a significant reduction in total vehicle weight and improved performance in many measures, Doran said.

As no two truck customers are alike, the next-gen Silverado will offer an expanded range of models, more engine/transmission

combinations and more technology and convenience features to help customers find their ideal truck, said Doran.

The new Silverado LT Trailboss is one of eight 2019 Silverado models, Doran said. It integrates the off-road equipment of the Z71 package as well as a two-inch suspension lift.

Unlike aftermarket lift kits, the Trailboss suspension is fully tested, validated and warrantied by Chevrolet.

The 2019 Silverado will make its public debut in January at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit.

Van Elslander Makes Big Donation

DETROIT (AP) – A businessman is donating \$20 million to help expand a Catholic pilgrimage site in Detroit.

Art Van Elslander, founder of Art Van Furniture, donated to the Solanus Casey Center, *Crain's Detroit Business* reported. Interest in the center has increased since November when the late Rev. Solanus Casey was beatified and put on the path to sainthood.

The center hopes to use the money to acquire city-owned property to create more parking space for the center, said Rev. David Preuss, the center's director. The center is in negotiations for about 75 city-owned and privately owned properties. Offi-

cials also hope to build a cafe with outdoor seating, open green spaces for large gatherings, gardens, an outdoor votive chapel and housing for visitors of the center.

Van Elslander said the donation pays homage to his father's friendship with Casey.

"Growing up in Detroit, I remember my dad going to see Father Solanus when he needed help and guidance," Van Elslander said. "Father Solanus still offers that hope to so many through the work of the Center and the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, and I am privileged to honor his legacy in a way that will benefit the entire community."

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D8-12155

3.6L Pentastar

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27 Mos. \$1450 due

27 MONTH 1 PAY LEASE

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D7-71020

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LEASE FOR \$179**
36 Mos. \$1995 due

D7-50122

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D7-50046

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D7-40941

2017 DODGE DURANGO SXT AWD

LEASE FOR \$179**
36 Mos. \$1995 due

D7-30089

Chrysler Pacifica Named Best by Canadian Website

For the second year in a row, Chrysler Pacifica has been named AutoTRADER.ca's Top Pick for Minivan.

This is the second year of the awards from one of Canada's largest and most respected automotive portals, decided on by a roster of top automotive journalists, said FCA of Canada spokesman Bradley Horn.

All vehicles currently on sale in the Canadian marketplace are considered in 14 categories, Horn said. Despite new or reinvigorated minivan competition, the Chrysler Pacifica again earned the top spot among its peers based on measures such as value, innovation, performance, comfort, technology and ultimate desirability.

What's more, said AutoTRADER.ca Managing Editor Michael Bettencourt, for the first time, the industry-first Pacifica Hybrid was factored into the expert judges' decision.

He noted that the Pacifica Hybrid takes the minivan a step further with its innovative, advanced hybrid powertrain, achieving 2.6 Le/100km [109 miles per gallon equivalent (MPGe)] in city driving, 53 kilometers of all-electric range and 911 km of total driving range.

"Now with added plug-in hybrid capability, the Chrysler Pacifica is not only the most attractive and feature-rich minivan on the market, but the most environmentally friendly as well," said Bettencourt. "For its ability to haul the family without using their weight in fuel, the Chrysler Pacifica is a natural choice for Top Minivan."

Both Chrysler Pacifica and Chrysler Pacifica Hybrid are Canadian-made at the award-winning Windsor Assembly Plant (WAP), alongside the Dodge Grand Caravan.

DTE Energy Helping Out In Cold Weather

DTE Energy is donating \$10 million to Michigan outreach agencies to help low-income residents across the state stay safe and warm during what is expected to be a more "typical" cold winter for Michigan.

Frigid weather has already affected many customers, even before the official start of the season, and this donation will help provide energy assistance and drive enrollment of nearly 3,600 customers per year in DTE's Low-Income Self Sufficiency Plan (LSP) payment program for the next four years, said DTE Energy spokeswoman Jill Wilmot.

"Extreme cold and snow have already hit most of the state pretty hard, and we understand that this causes challenges and creates just one more burden for our customers to deal with," said Mark W. Stiers, president and chief operating officer of DTE Gas, DTE Energy.

"We're committed to providing assistance to customers to help lighten the load, especially during the holidays. This \$10 million donation will allow our agency partners to help many of our customers keep the heat and lights on during the upcoming holiday season and through the New Year."

The donations will be given to and administered by the Salvation Army, The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW) and the United Way for Southeastern Michigan, and will provide relief to elderly, unemployed, underemployed and disabled DTE customers across Michigan who are struggling to pay their energy bills, Wilmot said.

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Pacifica Hybrid Engine in Ward's Top 10

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ciency fronts, with EPA driving-range ratings of 33 miles in electric-only mode, and 570 total miles.

“We knew this was a special project when we were asked to develop the most fuel-efficient minivan ever,” says Bob Lee, head of Engine Powertrain and Electrified Propulsion Systems Engineering, FCA – North America. “Receiving this award, especially for the second time, validates our early conviction – as do reports from our customers.”

FCA has engaged 100 Pacifica Hybrid customers who have agreed to participate in monthly ownership-experience surveys over a two-year period, Mayne said. To date, 47 percent of respondents report more driving range than expected, with 22 percent saying they have observed “much more.”

Wards 10 Best Engines judge Drew Winter echoes this satisfaction.

“The Pacifica Hybrid is a big, seven-passenger plug-in hybrid minivan with all the bells and whistles families have come to adore, but with 33 miles of full electric range and levels of fuel efficiency unimaginable just a few short years ago,” said Winter, senior content director at *Ward'sAuto*. “With most owners using their minivans to run errands and occasionally take a long-distance drive, the Chrysler Pacifica Hybrid is a stroke of genius.”

Central to the vehicle's performance is its eFlite electrically variable transmission, Lee said. An in-house FCA innovation, it was developed by a team of engineers assigned exclusively to the task of delivering a high-efficiency driving experience that retains the functionality customers expect from minivans.

Conventional electrification schemes dedicate one motor to serve as a generator and a second motor, usually much larger, to deliver torque to the wheels, Lee said. The eFlite gearbox uses a one-way clutch that enables the motor typically used only as a generator, to power the wheels, depending on driving conditions.

The result is increased efficiency, refinement, and improved component packaging. The lifeblood of the 2018 Pacifica Hybrid is its 16-kWh lithium-ion battery pack, which is located under the second-row floor, Lee said. Recharging can take as little as two hours using an optional 240-volt (Level 2) charger, available from Mopar through dealers.

When the battery's energy is depleted to a certain threshold, the Pacifica Hybrid becomes a

part-time electric vehicle, like a conventional hybrid, to maximize energy and efficiency, Lee said. Power to the wheels is supplied by the electric drive system or helped by a specially adapted version of the gasoline-powered Pentastar 3.6-liter V6, which was named one of *Wards* 10 Best Engines in 2011, 2012 and 2013.

“Imagine the convenience that comes with plugging in at home, instead of stopping at the gas station once or twice a week,” says Tim Kuniskis, head of Passenger Car Brands – Dodge, SRT, Chrysler and FIAT, FCA – North America.

“Now combine that with the capacity to transport up to seven people in superior comfort. That makes the 2018 Chrysler Pacifica minivan a mobility solution like no other.”

F-150 Engine Earns Honors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

up truck has landed on the *Wards* 10 Best Engines list, Winter said.

“Cars seem to have the upper hand in our competition because they're lighter, quicker off the line and more fuel-efficient,” Winter said.

“This year was different. Ford loaned us the redesigned 325-hp twin-turbo 2.7L EcoBoost V6 in the F-150, and our staff was blown away by its vibration-free idle, its nearly imperceptible stop/start system and especially its tomb-like silence. We've been in luxury cars that aren't this quiet.

“Judging by its relatively small displacement, one might assume this engine, using both direct and port fuel injection, is merely an adequate offering within the F-150 lineup. Not true. It will snap your head back if you stomp on

the gas at just about any speed. No wonder the 2.7L is now the most popular engine in America's most popular pickup truck.”

Winter and his fellow judges also had strong things to say about the redesigned 5.0L V8 in the Mustang GT. “This engine shares some of its voodoo with the Shelby GT350's 5.2L V8 that made our list two years ago, such as lightweight spray-in cylinder liners,” he said.

The 5.0L now adds direct fuel injection to existing port delivery and has a higher (7,500-rpm) redline, reinforced crankshaft and bumped-up compression ratio (12.0:1), enabling 460 hp and 420 lb.-ft. of torque, Winter said.

Paired to a new 10-speed automatic transmission, this muscle car is “shockingly efficient as some of our editors routinely topped 24 mpg despite our heavy-pedal testing.”



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Bolt EV Earns High Praise

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

thrilling acceleration, which makes it fun to drive every day, and it is available now in dealerships in all 50 states."

For the competition, *Wards Auto* editors evaluate every new propulsion system available in production vehicles on sale in the U.S. Vehicles must have a starting MSRP less than \$63,000, Winter said.

The editors score eligible vehicles on horsepower, torque, technology, observed fuel economy, relative competitiveness and noise characteristics.

"The *WardsAuto* 10 Best recognition of the Bolt EV propulsion system is an accolade for the entire team behind its design, engineering and manufacturing," said Tim Grewe, general director for GM Global Electrification programs. "Chevrolet committed to offering the world's first affordable, long-range EV and delivered."

"More than 20,000 Bolt EV owners are already benefiting from great range and performance thanks to its state-of-the-art battery and electric motor technology."

Starting at \$37,495 with destination and freight charges and excluding tax, title, license, dealer fees and any available federal or state tax incentives, the Chevrolet Bolt EV's 266 lb.-ft. of torque and 200 hp help propel the Bolt EV from 0-60 mph in 6.5 seconds.

In addition to the award-winning propulsion system, Grewe said the 2018 Bolt EV offers as standard equipment remote keyless entry; Teen Driver technology that helps encourage safe driving habits and lets parents know how their teenager drove the vehicle; 10 air bags, and a rear vision camera.

Available features include On-Star 4G LTE with Wi-Fi hotspot (data subscription required), Lane Change Alert with Side Blind Zone Alert, Rear Cross Traffic Alert, Rear Park Assist, Low Speed Forward Automatic Braking, Lane Keep Assist with Lane Departure Warning, Forward Collision Alert, Following Distance Indicator and Front Pedestrian Braking.

Among other honors, the Chevrolet Bolt EV is a 2017 IIHS Top Safety Pick when equipped with the optional Driver Confidence II package, Read said.

Auto Dealership Now Accepting Electronic Cash

EAST GREENBUSH, N.Y. (AP) — A car dealership in suburban Albany is accepting bitcoin purchases.

Michael Severance, of Michael's Auto Plaza, tells WTEN-TV the dealership recently started accepting the digital currency. Severance says he became interested in bitcoin as its value rose.

The East Greenbush businessman says he wanted his dealership to take advantage of an opportunity.

Bitcoin is the world's most popular virtual currency. Such currencies are not tied to a bank or government and allow users to spend money anonymously. They are basically lines of computer code that are digitally signed each time they are traded. The price of one bitcoin is approaching \$20,000.

Severance says he saw people purchasing large pieces of property with the digital currency and figured cars should be no different.

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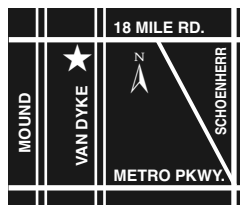


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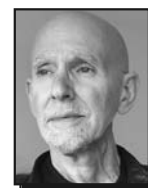


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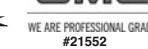
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26125 VAN DYKE AT 10 1/2 MILE ROAD

Now looking for experienced salespeople to join our team!



Paul Makowski
pmakowski@edrinke.com



Dennis Thacker
dthacker@edrinke.com

All prices and payments include GM rebates. Pictures may not represent actual vehicle. Pricing subject to change per GM incentives. Prices and payments are inclusive of active GM employee discount (unless otherwise stated). All leases are 10,000 miles per year with approved S Tier credit. Disposition Fee may be required at vehicle turn in. Vehicles. Must have lease loyalty and/or closing competitive lease depending on vehicle model. Lacrosse purchase price is gm employee discount, lease loyalty, and trade in rebate. Lacrosse purchase price is plus interest rate. Lacrosse purchase is \$2500 down plus title taxes and fees. Prices and payments are plus tax, title, plate fee w/ acquisition fee up front, refundable security deposit required on certain vehicles - to be determined by lender. Purchase pricing is gm employee discount plus title, taxes and fees. Pricing is subject to select model vehicles- while supplies last. Pricing has included instant value certificates, while supplies last. **\$3,500 trade in is valid on 2003 or newer vehicles w/ under 115k miles in drivable condition, no branded titles, reconditioning determined by appraiser. Certain restrictions may apply, see dealer for complete details. ** Exp date: 12/31/2017.



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WE'LL GIVE YOU A \$3,500 MINIMUM FOR YOUR 2003 OR NEWER TRADE IN



2018 CHEVY SILVERADO
1500 LT DBL CAB
LEASE FOR **\$109*** PER MONTH OR **\$34,809*** PURCHASE FOR
24 MONTHS **\$999** DOWN STOCK #580719



25% OFF
2017 CHEVY MALIBU LT
NO GM EMPLOYEE DISCOUNT REQUIRED
LEASE FOR **\$209*** PER MONTH OR **\$20,209*** PURCHASE FOR
24 MONTHS **\$999** DOWN STOCK # 470477



25% OFF
2017 CHEVY CRUZE LT
NO GM EMPLOYEE DISCOUNT REQUIRED HATCHBACK
LEASE FOR **\$109*** PER MONTH OR **\$17,949*** PURCHASE FOR
24 MONTHS **\$999** DOWN STOCK #471364



2018 CHEVY EQUINOX LT
LEASE FOR **\$129*** PER MONTH OR **\$23,319*** PURCHASE FOR
24 MONTHS **\$999** DOWN STOCK #580043



2017 CHEVY BOLT EV LT
NO GM EMPLOYEE DISCOUNT REQUIRED
LEASE FOR **\$279*** PER MONTH OR **\$32,149*** PURCHASE FOR
36 MONTHS **\$999** DOWN STOCK # VCWZ33



2017 CHEVY TAHOE LS
NO GM EMPLOYEE DISCOUNT REQUIRED
LEASE FOR **\$289*** PER MONTH OR **\$42,289*** PURCHASE FOR
36 MONTHS **\$999** DOWN STOCK #578757



25% OFF
2017 CHEVY TRAX LT
NO GM EMPLOYEE DISCOUNT REQUIRED
LEASE FOR **\$129*** PER MONTH OR **\$18,199*** PURCHASE FOR
24 MONTHS **\$999** DOWN STOCK #578373



2018 CHEVY TRAVERSE
LS
LEASE FOR **\$269*** PER MONTH OR **\$27,390*** PURCHASE FOR
24 MONTHS **\$999** DOWN STOCK #580417

GM CARD TOP OFF UP TO \$3,000 • NO APPOINTMENTS NECESSARY FOR OIL CHANGES

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FAST • FRIENDLY • DISCOUNTS



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MICHIGAN'S LARGEST • SERVICE DEPT. • PARTS • BODY SHOP

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26125 Van Dyke @ 10 1/2 Mile • Center Line, MI 48015

SERVICE HOURS: Monday & Thursday 6:30am-9:00pm; Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 6:30am-6:00pm • Shuttle at 6:30am - Pick-up Both Ways • All Day starting at 6:30am.

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LUBE OIL FILTER

\$23.95 Up to 5 qts.

Fluid Level, Brake & Alignment Check Included.

We use Genuine GM Oil & Filter
No additional or hidden charges. Out the door pricing.
Open Mondays & Thursdays until 8:30pm
Excludes synthetic, Diesel & Med. Duty Trucks.
Most GM cars & trucks. One coupon per customer.
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FREE OIL CHANGE With Each Major Repair

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26125 VAN DYKE AT 10 1/2 MILE ROAD



VISIT OUR WEBSITE: edrinke.com

SHOWROOM HOURS: MON. & THURS. 8:30AM-9PM / TUES., WED. & FRI. 8:30AM-6PM / **FIND NEW ROADS™**



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Jim Pfeiffe
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