Tech Center News

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GM Club Promotes Company, Women

by Jim Stickford

It's always good to have friends, which was the impetus behind the creation of the original Eastern European Club at General Motors.

The club, now just known as the European Club, got its start several years ago as a way for employees from Eastern Europe to network and learn from each other, said Muharema Kolasinac. She is originally from Croatia and works for GM's GBS Finance division.

"The club is meant to do three things," Kolasinac said. "First promote GM products and services within the European communities in and around Detroit. A lot of these people buy the cars from their homeland and don't always think of buying American. Second, promote GM as a workplace of choice within the European communities. And third, help employees advance their careers within General Motors. Use events like the 'Push Progress' event we're holding to network."

Irina Gelbert, a forecaster for GM in Product Planning originally from the Ukraine, is part of the European Club and helped put together the "Push Progress" event held on March 15 in conjunction with this year's International Women's Day celebration.

'We're honoring women this

first time we've done something like this. We are also seeking to earn Employee Resource Group (ERG) status. We want to expand our group. We have more than 170 members coming from 26 countries in Europe."

Kolasinac said that International Women's Day is special to her because it celebrates inclusion

"It helps people and it recognizes that we are living in a changing world," Kolasinac said. So we hold events like this that help put people together. Change happens when we all get together. It's something I am very pas-

year," Gelbert said. "This is the sionate about. I am happy to be here and happy to organize this event."

> Alexandra Millerman works as a GM IT Development Lead in the Global Corporate Functions. She said club wants to support women and raise awareness of issues that affect women. She also said that she was glad to see men at the Push Progress event.

Progress happens when everyone works together - men and women.

Marina Moshkovich, a senior financial analyst at GM, is the European Club's president. She is

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Moshkovich at a recent European Club event honoring woman.



Cadillac Unveils The New CT6 V-Sport V8 Sedan

Sedans just got a little sportier and luxurious.

Cadillac has unveiled its CT6 V-Sport, the first-ever V-Performance model of its top-of-range sedan. The introduction of the high-performance variant coincides with a makeover of the entire CT6 lineup that incorporates the newest iteration of Cadillac's design language featured on the Escala Concept, said Cadillac spokesman JL Lavina. The Cadillac V-Sport portfolio currently includes the CTS V-Sport and the XTS V-Sport.

"Cadillac V-Sport is the embodiment of our passion to deliver an exhilarating driving experience without compromises," said Cadillac President Johan de Nysschen. "The all-new CT6 V-Sport provides the perfect balance of performance and luxurious refinement."

The CT6 V-Sport boasts an allnew Cadillac 4.2L Twin Turbo V8 Cadillac-estimated at 550 horsepower and stunning 627 lb-ft of torque that elevates the CT6's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



Uber's test of autonomous Volvos is on hold due to a fatality.

Fatal Accident Shines Light On Autonomous Testing

by Jim Stickford

Phoenix area, Pittsburgh, San

Ford Goes Local with Urban Farming Plan **Centered Around Metro Detroit Area**

Ford has projects around the dents through a hydroponic garworld designed to help local communites. But that doesn't mean Ford has forgotten about Michigan.

To that end, the Ford Motor Company Fund has unveiled a new mobility program that will expand year-round indoor gardening in Detroit and provide an educational platform to teach local youth about nutrition and farming.

Collaborating with Cass Community Social Services, the Ford Mobile Farm will provide an ongoing food source to Detroit residen inside a 40-foot shipping container, said Ford spokesman Todd Nissen.

An F-150 pickup truck with a garden in the bed will visit local schools to teach healthy eating habits and provide hands-on learning activities.

Ford Mobile Farm is the brainchild of millennial Ford employees who participated in the 2017 class of Thirty Under 30, a philanthropic leadership program launched by Ford Motor Companv Executive Chairman Bill Ford to create a new generation of

community-minded employees, Nissen said.

"I'm proud of the work our employees are doing to develop programs that address some of today's most pressing societal issues," said Bill Ford. "The Ford Mobile Farm project is the latest example of how they are finding ways to not only give back to the local community, but also create a platform to educate future generations and make a lasting, positive impact.'

In 2017, members of a Thirty

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



The first pedestrian fatality involving an autonomously driven car has gained a lot of attention.

And that's to be expected, said Carla Bailo, president and CEO of the University of Michigan's Center for Automotive Research (CAR).

According to The Associated Press, a self-driving Uber SUV struck and killed a pedestrian in suburban Phoenix and is the first death involving a fully autonomous test vehicle. It happened on the evening of March 18 in Tempe, Ariz. The Volvo was in self-driving mode with a human backup driver at the wheel when it struck 49-year-old Elaine Herzberg as she was walking a bicycle outside the lines of a crosswalk in Tempe, police said.

AP also reported that Uber immediately suspended all roadtesting of such autos in the

Francisco and Toronto. The ridesharing company has been testing self-driving vehicles for police months. Tempe Sgt. Ronald Elcock said local authorities haven't determined fault but urged people to use crosswalks. He told reporters at a news conference March 19 the Uber vehicle was traveling around 40 mph when it hit Herzberg immediately as she stepped on to the street.

Neither she nor the backup driver showed signs of impairment. he said.

"The pedestrian was outside of the crosswalk, so it was midblock." Elcock said. "And as soon as she walked into the lane of traffic, she was struck by the vehicle.'

The National Transportation Safety Board, which makes recommendations for preventing

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Cass Community Social Services and the Ford Motor Company Fund help fight hunger with urban farming.

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GM Global Propulsion Develops New Twin Turbo Engine

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European Club Helps Promote GM Brand

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

also originally from the Ukraine and said they expect to achieve full ERG status later this year. thanks in part to the sponsorship of Santiago Chamorro, vice president of Global Connected Customers Experience.

"He will be the executive chairman, and we will still be the European Club," Moshkovich said.

"We will be focusing on customer relationships and the excellence of GM vehicles. The idea is to be a General Motors brand ambassador to our communities. That's why events like this 'Push for Progress' are so important. We get people together.

ERGs and clubs empower employees to take a hand in their own futures, Moshkovich said. It's part of the new GM and European Club members which are glad they have the chance to contribute on a different kind of level

To build a better Cadillac, GM decided to build a better engine.

Cadillac begins a new chapter in its high-performance legacy with the introduction of the brand's first-ever twin-turbo V8 engine. It is the centerpiece of the new CT6 V-Sport, an engaging sports sedan infused with DNA of Cadillac's world-renowned motorsports program, said Cadillac President Johan de Nysschen.

Developed as a small-displacement V8 in the classic vein and offering exceptional power density of 131 hp per liter, this new Cadillac-exclusive 4.2L Twin Turbo V8 GM estimated at 550 horsepower and 627 lb-ft of torque – elevates the CT6's performance to a new plateau and offers drivers an unparalleled experience behind the wheel. An optional 500-horsepower version will also be available.

"Cadillac's performance technology reaches new heights with the new and exclusive 4.2L Twin Turbo V8," said de Nysschen. "The engineering prowess em- heads - to virtually eliminate turbodies the very spirt of Cadillac performance on and off the racetrack.'

The new Cadillac Twin Turbo V8 is a clean-sheet design that also introduces unique design elements developed to balance performance and efficiency with compact, mass-efficient packaging, said Jordan Lee, 4.2L TT V8 chief engineer.

"Designing an all-new engine was the best way to achieve the performance goals for the CT6 V-Sport," said Lee. "It builds on Cadillac's well-established turbocharging know-how and forges new ground with innovative features that deliver exceptional performance and refinement.³

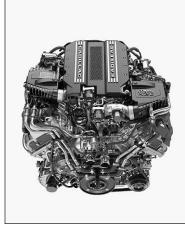
Lee said that at the center of the 4.2L Twin Turbo V8 is a "hot V" configuration that transposes the conventional layout of the cylinder heads' intake and exhaust systems to mount the turbochargers at the top of the engine – in the valley between the bo lag and reduce the engine's overall packaging size.

In a conventional turbocharged engine, the cylinder heads receive the pressurized air charge through ports at the top of the engine and the exhaust exits through ports on the lower outside of the heads into manifolds connected to the turbochargers.

"With Cadillac's innovative hot V design, the intake-charged air enters through the lower outside of the heads and exits through the top inside - where the turbochargers are integrated with the exhaust manifolds - for quick spool-up that translates into more immediate power delivery," Lee said.

The design also allows closer mounting of the catalytic converters, for efficient packaging.

Additional engine highlights include twin-scroll turbochargers, electronic wastegate control, twin water-to-air charge coolers.



CT6 V-Sport 4.2L Twin Turbo V8

twin throttle bodies, direct injection, dual-independent camshaft phasing, active Fuel Management (cylinder deactivation), variablepressure oiling system, stop/start technology.

Each engine will be hand-built at the Performance Build Center in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Wilson Foundation Join With MIT to Promote Industry

DETROIT (AP) - A Detroitbased foundation and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology are collaborating in a competition that funds entrepreneurs who use technology to provide low- and moderate-income earners with skills needed for an evolving job market, officials announced March 15.

The Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation is the major sponsor of the North America region of the MIT Inclusive Innovation Challenge.

The 2-year-old competition is expanding, holding regionals in North America, Latin America, Europe, Africa and Asia. Four regional champions from the United States and Canada will receive

\$20,000 each and be recognized during a September ceremony in Detroit.

The Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation provided a \$300,000 grant for the North America competition and also is helping develop the Detroit event.

"It's an opportunity to spotlight entrepreneurs who are trying to reinvent the future of work ... providing opportunities for workers to transition to new types of jobs," said Lavea Brachman, the foundation's vice president of programs.

The foundation supports programs in southeastern Michigan and western New York. It is named after the founder of the Buffalo Bills. Ralph Wilson was 95

when he died at his home in Grosse Pointe Shores, Michigan, in 2014.

Locally, entrepreneurs and nonprofits in Detroit and southeast Michigan are encouraged to apply, said Brachman, adding 'and we're hoping that those who apply from southeast Michigan will be very competitive."

"Detroit is a place in transition," Brachman said. "There are traditional industries, but innovation is happening in terms of technology.'

Twelve finalists selected from the North America region will get a chance to pitch their plans to a panel of judges at the Detroit event.

"What we're trying to do is to

be constructive, but also optimistic and really shine a light on Detroit as the host city," said Susan Young, a MIT Inclusive Innovation Challenge producer.

The competition also identifies, celebrates and awards organizations, businesses and entrepreneurs who "are reshaping the future of work," Young said.

The top four regional winners in Detroit will move on to a global grand prize tournament in October at MIT in Cambridge. Massachusetts. Winners from each of the five regions will compete there for \$1 million in prize money. Four global winners will be selected. More than \$2 million already has been awarded through the competition.

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Tech Center News

MARCH 26, 2018

Helping Drivers

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With Rough Roads

for the public to learn more

about the condition of our roads

and the estimated costs to bring

them into good condition," said

mation about currently available

funds to fix the roads; a list of

planned projects for 2018; and

information about how roads are

maintained and preserved, Cwik-

Other resources that are avail-

The new online mapping tool

can be found by visiting the Web

site www.MacombGov.org, Cwik-

able include information about

Act 51 funding and state trans-

The portal also includes infor-

COVERS THE TECH CENTER AND THE IMMEDIATE AREA

PAGE 3

New App Launced **Cadillac Brand Debuts its New CT6 V-Sport**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

A crowd of about 100 invited performance to a new plateau guests gathered with County Exe and offers drivers an unparalcutive Mark A. Hackel at Maleled experience behind the comb Community College March wheel, de Nysschen said. The en-19 to see a new online mapping gine is a clean-sheet design and tool designed to help fix county has unique design elements developed to balance performance "Macomb County Roads: Conand efficiency with compact, ditions and Costs" is a webmass-efficient packaging.

based portal that provides a With the introduction of the searchable map of the roads all-new CT6 V-Sport, Cadillac bemaintained by Macomb County. gins a new chapter in its perform-Currently, there are 805 lane ance legacy with the introducmiles rated as being in poor contion of the brand's first-ever twindition and 44 bridges in need of turbo V8 engine," said de Nysschen. "It is the centerpiece of the The cost to fix them all is estinew CT6 V-Sport, an engaging mated at \$1.06 billion, said Macsport sedan infused with DNA of mob County spokesman John Cadillac's world-renowned and championship-winning motorsports program.' This new tool makes it easy

The new Cadillac Twin Turbo V8 is matched with a 10-speed automatic transmission, Lavina said. Its broad, 7.39 overall gear ratio spread enhances off-theline performance and contributes to reduced engine speed on the highway for refinement and efficiency. Narrow steps between the gear ratios also help the engine maintain the optimal speed for maximum power at almost all vehicle speeds.

"The first-ever Cadillac CT6 V-Sport includes a bold, dark front with a large V-inspired mesh grille and new horizontal LED headlamps with strong vertical signatures, making it distinctly Cadillac," de Nysschen said.

"Lower aero components and Gloss Black side window surround trim provide the performance sport sedan's chiseled exterior with a dark and distinguished look. New, unique 20inch V-Sport wheels with summer-only tires, lower aero components and spoiler further express the sedan's performance capabilities.'

New, summer-only performance tires developed exclusively for Cadillac V-Sport are tuned to deliver crisp response and track capable performance while retaining isolation and comfort, Lavina said. Other performance features include mechanical limited-slip rear differential increases traction at the limit and provides more predictable performance during spirited and track driving, V-Sport specific suspension tuning for improved roll control, cornering capability and steering response and a new 19inch Brembo brake system developed specifically for the CT6 high-performance application.

This brake sytem comes with Brembo monoblock, fixed-opposed, four-piston equipped with performance linings and air deflectors that direct air to cool the brakes during sporty, aggressive driving. Lavina said there is also modified steering and Magnetic Ride Control damper calibrations, exhaust system with active valves offering reduced back pressure and more sound character and a tuned for V-Sport

model, with a performance exhaust note.

Its track mode has been optimized for performance, using such feature as Maximized Magnetic Ride Control damper control, re-mapped steering efforts for sportier, dynamic feedback, track-tuned Active Rear Steer. revised AWD torque split, unique, track-focused stability controls and track focused active exhaust valve calibration.

oped for driving enthusiasts who want the best of both worlds: a high-performance sports sedan and a luxury car with all the comforts and technology that come with it," said Lyndon Lie, CT6 chief engineer. "With its lightweight architecture, an all-new Cadillac Twin Turbo V8 coupled with the tightened suspension and revised AWD torque split, we've enhanced the CT6 to be well-balanced and capable of all conditions.'

"The CT6 V-Sport was devel-







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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

crashes, and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, which can enact regulations, sent investigators, according to AP.

"As tragic as the accident was, it was something that was bound to happen," Bailo said. "I don't think this should be a surprise to anyone. But what matters is that everyone stop and consider how this autonomous technology should be tested."

Bailo said that while the accident happened in Arizona, other states, including Michigan and California, have pushed hard to create laws making testing of autonomous vehicle technology

said. "You want your state to be the center of the latest develop-

But now states must look at their regulations and really work to make sure they produce a safe environment for everyone, Bailo said. And if we want autonomous driving, then everyone from OEMs to pedestrians will have to adjust their thinking.

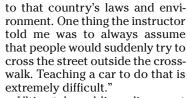
"Jaywalking is technically a crime," Bailo said. "But no one is really punished for it. From what I understand of what happened in Arizona, the pedestrian crossed the street outside any crosswalk lines. We can program vehicles to recognize crosswalk lines and how to react when objects are within those lines, but it's much more difficult to do that for the space outside the lines.'

One method of testing systems that is being talked about more is using simulations, Bailo said. Computers create simulated streets and vehicle systems ride these virtual roads and are tested that way. This method is safer because it's all done in computers. Actual vehicles aren't in danger of hurting actual people.

If we truly want autonomous driving, then people will have to take jaywalking laws seriously, Bailo said.

"I was in Japan for four years when I was younger," Bailo said. "I took a driving course to get used





Ultimately public policy must be looked at, Bailo said. What will the laws be about testing these vehicles. So when she heard that jurisdictions and OEMs are reviewing their policies, she said that is the natural and appropriate approach.

GM spokesman Patrick Sullivan said GM remains focused on safety. In November GM president Dan Ammann said of autonomous technology that "what will control the timing, however, is safety. This will be the gating metric. The bar is very high. This will be the deciding factor for when we will be able to take the driver out of the car."

Sullivan said that nothing has changed for GM. Safety remains paramount. Bailo said that the Arizona accident has reverberated around the world.

"I've received a lot of calls from reporters from different countries to talk about this," Bailo said. "This is the first fatality and has captured the world's attention. As far as I can see, everything is being handled correctly. The information that has been released to the media has been verified and companies are stopping testing on public roads until they learn more about what happened. For operators to reconsider testing methods after an event like this is to be expected."

Macomb County **Celebrates** Manufacturing

Macomb County Department of Planning & Economic Development and the Macomb Intermediate School District held a student video contest as part of its annual celebration of national Manufacturing Day (MFG Day). Students from all districts were invited to assemble a team, work with a teacher mentor and capture what they felt was the essence of MFG Day in a 2-3 minute video.

Student groups from Chippewa Valley, Eastpointe, Fitzgerald, Fraser, L'Anse Creuse, Richmond, and Romeo rose to the challenge. All submitted videos can be found on the Web site www.ManufactureMyFuture.com Judges for the contest included Tom Lehrer and Tom Nahas of Mad Habit Creative, John Paul Rea, Director of the Macomb County Department of Planning and Economic Development and Michael Pfaendtner, a documentary filmmaker and editor with 25 years of experience.

The result? A tie. Two teams will share the honor of first place. They are L'Anse Cruese Team #1 with students Lucas Bryzelak, Tayah Milosch and Nathaniel Zaccagnini with help from teacher/mentor Michael Kaufman for their video of Eclispe Mold. Romeo High School Team #1 with students Michela Hein, Anna Modlinski, Mae Kelke and Alex Naumovski with help from teacher/mentor Stephany Harbison for their video of Ford Engine Plant. Both schools were presented with a check for \$500 that can be used to supplement their video programs. Each team member will get a \$50 pre-paid gift card. New this year, an "indie" category was also established for schools without a formal videography program in place. The winning video was submitted by Chippewa Valley High School students Max Doehr, Emily Goosen, Jacob Rybicki and Tristan Shuelead by teacher/mentor Cynthia Williams.



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The FT 400 was developed in collaboration with Ignites Research, a subsidiary of the FT that provides specialized content on asset management. To qualify for the list, advisers had to have 10 years of experience and at least \$300 million in assets under management (AUM) and no more than 60% of the AUM with institutional clients. The FT reaches out to some of the largest brokerages in the U.S. and asks them to provide a list of advisors who meet the minimum criteria outlined above. These advisors are then invited to apply for the ranking. Only advisors who submit an online application can be considered for the ranking. In 2016, roughly 980 applications were received and 400 were selected to the final list. The 400 qualified advisers were then scored on six attributes: AUM, AUM growth rate, compliance record, years of experience, industry certifications, and online accessibility. AUM is the top factor, accounting for roughly 60-70 percent of the applicant's score. Additionally, to provide a diversity of advisors, the FT placed a cap on the number of advisors from any one state that's roughly correlated to the distribution of millionaires across the U.S. The ranking may not be representative of any one client's experience, is not an endorsement, and is not indicative of advisor's future performance. Neither Raymond James nor any of its Financial Advisors pay a fee in exchange for this award/rating. The FT is not affiliated with Raymond James. space Neither Raymond James Financial Services nor any

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Ford To Offer More 4G LTR Connectivity

Millions of customers can soon upgrade the connectivity in their older-model Ford vehicles to include a 4G LTE Wi-Fi hotspot, smartphone control of existing key fob features, vehicle health and security alerts, and vehicle location tracking.

Using a simple device that plugs into the OBD II port below the steering wheel, the new Ford-Pass SmartLink experience gives owners of 2010-17 model year Ford vehicles those connectivity features normally available only on newer vehicles equipped with modems, said Frederiek Toney, president, Global, Ford Customer Service Division.

Vehicle connectivity has improved at a rapid rate in recent years," said Toney.

"We believe offering an affordable way for our customers to upgrade their older-model vehicles to include more modern technology will improve their ownership experience for years to come.

FordPass SmartLink is available exclusively through Ford dealerships nationwide starting in mid-2018 and is the latest example of Ford's aggressive connected vehicle plan. By 2019, all of Ford's new U.S. vehicles will be built with connectivity.

Ford's Urban Farming Project Expands in Detroit Area

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Under 30 team were challenged with improving Ford Mobile Food Pantries, a successful food distribution program launched in 2008 to address increasing hunger needs across metro Detroit, Nissen said. Team members toyed with the idea of creating a farm in the bed of an F-150, which led to growing vegetables inside a 40foot shipping container.

The team presented the idea to company and Ford Fund leaders and won \$250,000 in funding from the Bill Ford Better World Challenge, a grant program funded by Ford Motor Company and Bill Ford personally to provide support for employee ideas capable of transformational change.

The grant will help purchase and outfit the freight farm, hire a person to oversee the farm, support the educational arm of the program and prepare an F-150 for school visits, Nissen said.

"Our goal is to get kids excited about where their food comes from," said Chris Craft, a Ford interior lighting engineer and member of the Thirty Under 30 team responsible for the concept of the Ford Mobile Farm. "We want them to learn they have the ability to nurture something to grow and to know what healthy food options look like, and that feeding your body with nutritious

foods is important to the way you feel."

This spring, an F-150 will travel to Detroit-area schools where students will learn about growing vegetables from seed, nurturing plants to grow, harvesting food and good nutrition, Craft said. The children will put plants in the soil, harvest vegetables and taste the produce. Organizers expect to reach 2,250 students this year with the Mobile Farm's F-150 site visits.

Growing food inside a shipping container is an innovation that is gaining in popularity worldwide, especially in urban communities, Nissen said. Cass Community Social Services, a Detroit nonprofit dedicated to providing area residents with food, housing, health services and job training, will house the 40-foot shipping container that will become the Ford Mobile Farm.

Ford Fund and Cass Community Social Services are longtime collaborators on community projects, including the Cass tiny homes neighborhood.

The freight container will be equipped with LED lighting to enable seeds to sprout and vegetables to grow. Hundreds of vertical planters will house produce that will be fed by captured rainwater infused with nutrients. The container will have the growing

Banquet Facility

capacity of up to two acres of land and produce up to 52 harvests per year. The unit will be partially powered by solar panels to reduce environmental impact and offset operating cost.

Nationally, 41 million Americans struggle with hunger, Nissen said. In southeast Michigan, nearly 900,000 adults and children are food insecure and 700,000 live in poverty. Rev. Faith Fowler, executive director of Cass Community Social Services, said produce from Ford Mobile Farm will help feed the hungry at nonprofit's community the kitchen. Produce will be sold to area restaurants to create an income stream to help support the freight farm.

"People who have ready access to fresh produce may not see this as a big deal, but the ability to offer fresh food and a good variety is very exciting to the community we serve," said Fowler. "This program also gives us the opportunity to teach people in our city how to create their own gardens that will give them better nutrition and be more cost-effective."

And that helps fulfill one of the fund's key goals said Jim Vella, president of Ford Motor Company Fund.

"The Ford Mobile Farm is born from innovative young minds within the ranks of Ford," said Vella. "Among our key objectives is to tackle systemic problems that plague our communities. This pilot program has the promise to help solve a stubborn issue that affects not only residents of Detroit, but people across the globe. We are optimistic about the broad impact this program can potentially have."

The Bill Ford Better World Challenge annually awards up to \$500,000 to support programs aimed at solving access to water and improving sanitation, as well as mobility challenges and other basic needs, Vella said. In 2017, additional grant winners included the Clean Water Community Project in Mexico and the Smart Toilet Project in India.

The Ford Mobile Farm exemplifies how members of Thirty Under 30 are increasingly using their expertise in the community.





CLOSED SUNDAYS

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MARCH 26, 2018

Lawrence Tech Students to Compete in National Contest

Two out of three isn't bad at all. Just ask the students at Lawrence Tech.

Two teams from Lawrence Technological University are among three national finalists in the SourceAmerica Design Challenge, an engineering competition where students create assistive technology to enhance workplace success and employment options for people with disabilities, said school spokesman Matt Roush.

The LTU teams created their products as part of a sophomore engineering design studio course in spring semester 2016-17, which ended in May 2017, and fall semester 2017-18, which ended in December 2017, Roush said.

SourceAmerica is a national nonprofit agency with a mission to create employment opportunities for people with disabilities, hosts the Design Challenge annually to bring greater awareness of the need and the impact of assistive technology in the workplace. About 40 universities competed in this year's challenge, Roush said.

The products designed by the LTU students help clients of Services To Enhance Potential (STEP), a SourceAmerica network member nonprofit based in Livonia that works to improve employment opportunities for the disabled.

The spring semester class from last year designed a device to help people with dexterity impairment assemble a clip that is used in automotive headrests. Team members Victoria Pellerito of Macomb Township and Larance Haji of Sterling Heights, both juniors majoring in mechanical engineering, said they learned plenty in the process.

"Your first idea is never the best," Pellerito said. "You will al-



Two teams of Lawrence Tech students have reached the national finals in an engineering contest.

ways think it is, the entire time, and then it's not."

Pellerito said her inspiration for the design came when she was clicking a retractable pen. The device uses spring-loaded technology to put a pin into the clip.

The fall semester team from this school year designed a simple but clever block of 3D-printed plastic called the Cube XL. The device helps people with dexterity issues assemble struts that hold pipes to mounts in ceilings. Cube XL allows struts of varying sizes to be assembled with only one hand.

The inventor was team members Austin Bertuca, a mechanical engineering sophomore from Coloma, who said the design simply popped into his head. Fellow team members George Arango, a mechanical engineering sophomore from Isabella, Puerto Rico; Bram Ligon, a mechanical engineering sophomore from Rochester Hills; and John Bowen, a sophomore double major in biomedical engineering and molecular and cell biology, said they learned a lot in the process of participating in the contest as well.

"Know what your customer wants, not what you think they want," Ligon said. "They've been doing this for years, they know," added Bowen.

Cristi Bell-Huff, director of the Studio for Entrepreneurial Engineering Design (SEED) at LTU, and Heidi Morano, SEED project engineer, serve as the team's coaches and instruct the course in which the project was conducted.

They say a design course is unusual in engineering education at the sophomore level, and gives students a unique opportunity to talk to real customers and design a real product.

The LTU teams will compete in the SourceAmerica national competition, which takes place in Washington, D.C. between April 9-11, Roush said.

According to SourceAmerica Design Challenge Program Manager Charissa Garcia, the benefits of competing for students can be far-reaching. Past competitors have shared their competition experience in job interviews and on college applications; others have patented their innovations

BlackBerry Inks Deal With Jaguar

BlackBerry Limited and Jaguar Land Rover have entered into a multi-year agreement to collaborate and develop technology for the automotive manufacturer's next-generation vehicles.

As part of the agreement, signed on March 22, BlackBerry will license its QNX and Certicom technology to Jaguar Land Rover, as well as assign a team of engineers to support in the development of new Electronic Control Unit (ECU) modules, said said John Wall, senior vice president and general manager of BlackBerry QNX, BlackBerry. The first ECU project will be a next-generation infotainment system.

"Working with BlackBerry will enable us to develop the safe and secure next-generation connected car our customers want," said Dave Nesbitt, Vehicle Engineering Director at Jaguar Land Rover. "Together with BlackBerry engineers, we will be able to access the most dynamic and up-to-date software to ensure the highest security required for our connected vehicles."

"We are at a pivotal moment, where innovative automakers, such as Jaguar Land Rover, are realizing they need to take an active role in defining the software architecture for their vehicles," said Wall.

"Connected and autonomous vehicles will react and drive based on rich data. Our platforms help process data efficiently and keep it secure and trusted. "We are incredibly honored to work with Jaguar Land Rover and look forward to our teams working hand in hand to deliver an enhanced driving experience for all of their customers."



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Cadillac Racing Teams Do Well in Florida Contest

Under perfect Florida weather laps to get up to temperature. It conditions of sunshine and 80degrees, the Cadillac four-some took to the 3.74-mile, 17-turn historic race track for the 15-minute qualifying session March 16.

"With the new tire spec and the heat, the tires came in very quick," Vautier said. "No one expected that lap time. The lap really didn't feel that good. I saw a 47 on the dash and I didn't expect it to be that quick. That was the first time we were on new tires and low fuel, so the pole is good. The guys have been working hard these last two days. This is two in a row for me. I was on pole in GT last year. This is a high commitment track, especially in Turn 1 and Turn 17. I am always driving 101 percent.Tristan Vautier, No. 90 Spirit of Daytona Cadillac DPi.VR, put in a time of 1:47.432 on his fourth flying lap. The Spirit of Daytona Cadillac team is new to the brand for 2018.

"They acquired their car late in December and had an unfortunate start to the season at the Rolex 24 hours, ending their race just before midnight. Vautier and teammates Matt McMurry and Eddie Cheever III are hungry for a good showing this weekend at Sebring.

"We just got the car in early December. We were in the top five in Daytona and even led the race. There are some big name drivers behind us in qualifying. The guys were on the pit lane lined-up to celebrate. We are focused on the race tomorrow, since Daytona was a disappointment. We will push through the day and stay in contention and look to the last two hours to reallv race.

The No. 31 Whelen Engineering Cadillac DPi-V.R was driven by Felipe Nasr in qualifying. Nasr posted a time of 1:47.853, that will have him starting fifth for tomorrow's 10:40 a.m. ET start. Nasr is joined by Eric Curran and Mike Conway.

"It was a clean qualifying session from our side," Nasr said. "We struggled with the balance of the car a little bit, I had some understeer. I was able to get a clean lap, I gave the tires lots of

is pretty close, a couple of tenths to the front. We are starting P5. Not where we want to be, but plenty of race to make it up. We are thinking of the big race tomorrow. The track here is very challenging for driver and car. With the bumps you get cars going off and bringing dirt onto the track. At night it gets pretty chaotic and drivers make mistakes. We need to let them make mistakes and we need to run a clean race. We have a nice package in our hands to fight for the win."

Filipe Albuquerque had the controls of the No. 5 Mustang Sampling Cadillac DPi-V.R and drove to a time of 1:48.256 that will have him coming to the green flag from eighth on the grid. Albuquerque, Joao Barbosa and Christian Fittipaldi are the Rolex 24-hour winners and are looking to win the 36 hours of Florida with a victory here tomorrow.

"I think we didn't start well this morning," Albuquerque said. "We had a small issue with the car that we had to fix. In qualifying, the car felt good on the first lap, then went away. Our Cadillac is a little out of balance at the moment. We have a smart team and we will make some adjustments for the 12-hour race and be ready to go."

The No. 10 Konica Minolta Cadillac DPi-V.R wheeled by Renger Van Der Zande in qualifying will start 10th tomorrow based upon their fast lap of 1:48.370. Van Der Zande and teammates Jordan Taylor and Ryan Hunter-Reay are poised to get a strong finish this weekend as their Daytona 24 race ended early as well.

"It is not what we came for to qualify tenth," Van Der Zande said. "We are trying to find a good handling car. We have seen some speed, but not exactly what we want. We are still working on the Cadillac and we will need it to be just right for the end of the race tomorrow. The Konica Minolta team is strong and we will make some adjustments for the warm-up tomorrow."

State Gas Prices See Slight Drop

DEARBORN, Mich. (AP) - AAA Michigan says gas prices statewide have fallen by about 2 cents per gallon in the past week.

The Dearborn-based auto club announced late March 18 that the average price for self-serve regular unleaded gasoline was about \$2.56 per gallon.

AAA notes it's the first decline in three weeks. Prices are about 20 cents more than at the same point last year.

Michigan's lowest average price was about \$2.49 per gallon in the Flint area.

The highest was about \$2.62 per gallon around the Marquette area.

The Detroit-area's average daily gas price was about \$2.59 per gallon, about 3 cents less than last week's average.

AAA Michigan surveys daily fuel prices at 2,800 gas stations across the state.

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Tesla Board Approves Musk's Pay Package

by TOM KRISHER AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) – Shareholders of electric car and solar panel maker Tesla Inc. have approved an ambitious pay package for iconic CEO Elon Musk that could net him more than \$50 billion if he meets lofty milestones over the next decade, according to a person briefed on the March 21 vote.

Tesla says the all-or-nothing package is worth \$2.6 billion at current stock values, but that would rise dramatically if Musk meets 12 incremental goals including raising the company's market capitalization tenfold to \$650 billion. Also included are targets to increase adjusted pretax income and revenue.

If the goals are reached, Tesla would be fourth-most-valuable U.S. company and Musk would be among the richest people in the world.

Two firms that evaluate proxies for investors recommend that shareholders vote against the pay plan, which they say is unprecedented in size for a U.S. public company.

The firms, Institutional Shareholder Services and Glass Lewis, both peg the current value of Musk's package at around \$3.7 billion.

Tesla has yet to turn a full-year net profit even though it has been in business for the past 15 years.

At least two large shareholders and Tesla's board supported the plan, saying it's necessary to keep Musk in the fold and reach the goal of switching the world from burning oil for transportation to the development and use of sustainable electric vehicles by the public at large.

"We believe as a board and executive team that we can actually achieve these milestones," said board member Antonio Gracias, who points out that under a 2012 incentive package, Musk raised Tesla's market capitalization by 17 times to more than \$50 billion last year. "It's very important to think about the specifics of Tesla and what we have already achieved."

For each of 12 milestones Tesla achieves, Musk, who already owns over 20 percent of the company, will get stock worth 1 percent of Tesla. "The shareholders get 99 percent, Elon gets 1 percent," Gracias said.

To get there, Musk will have to expand Tesla's product lineup to include previously announced semis, a new SUV and a pickup truck. Plus the company's solar roofs will have to be successfully integrated into its energy storage business.

There's also the issue of production delays, which have occurred on all of Tesla's current vehicles.

The company currently is trying to raise production to meet demand of its Model 3, a massmarket electric car that starts at \$35,000.

Gracias says shareholders realize that Tesla is often optimistic about hitting production milestones and is working hard to achieve them.

"We always hit our goals eventually. We are sometimes late," he said. "Sometimes the application of engineering takes longer than we think."

The package is an incentive for Musk to focus on Tesla, which has been a recent concern for investors.

Musk also is the founder and CEO of rocket company SpaceX and co-founder of OpenAI, a nonprofit that researches the development of artificial intelligence systems. Musk has also recently started The Boring Co., a tunnel-building firm that Musk is promoting to build underground light rail systems.

ISS, in recommending against the plan, wrote that Musk could get a substantial portion of the award even if Tesla doesn't reach sustained profitability. The plan would be suspended but not automatically forfeited if Musk takes a leave of absence, the firm wrote in a note to investors. "These issues both potentially undermine the board's given objectives of retaining Musk and further aligning his interests with those of shareholders," ISS wrote.

But investment firm T. Rowe Price and others supported the package, saying the board addresses Tesla's challenges in the right way by thinking creatively. "We believe the final plan is well aligned with shareholders' longterm interests," the company said in a statement to the public and media.

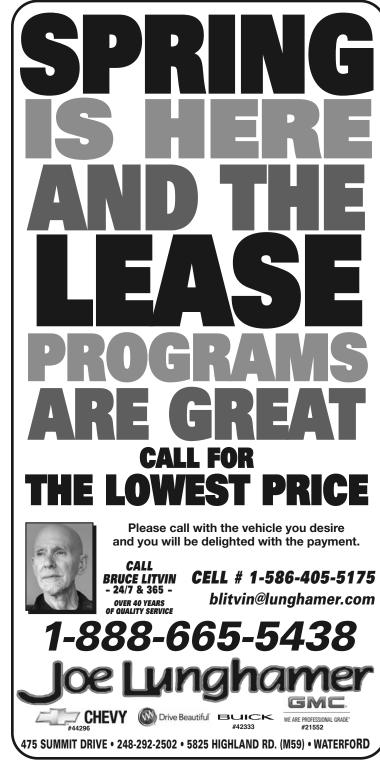
Young companies like Tesla usually experience incredible growth over short periods, then level off for a period as they regroup in the marketplace, said Todd Saxton, associate professor of strategy and entrepreneurship at Indiana University.

That puts Musk's "stepwise goals that assume constant acceleration" at risk of not being met, Saxton said.

Such packages can encourage CEOs to take risks in order to meet the milestones, Saxton said. But he doesn't think Musk will do that.

"I really do believe that Musk will act in the best interest of Tesla," Saxton said. "He'll come as close to winning as he can."

The shareholders meeting took place March 21 near San Francisco.







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FCA's Conner Site to Serve as Home of Company History

FCA has found a way to honor the heritage of the discontinued Dodge Viper as well as find a new use for the Conner Assembly Plant. The facility that has been out of use since the last Viper rolled off the assembly line in August of 2017.

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Christopher Topham, head of **Business Operations & Modeling** Organization Product Design at FCA, said the Conner Assembly Plant, located off of Van Dyke near 8 Mile in Detroit, has been repurposed and will now be called the Conner Center.

"When the Viper was discontinued, we brainstormed ideas of what the Conner site could bewe settled on was to turn it into a combination of internal meeting space, display space and storage space."

Essentially, the site will be converted into a meeting area for FCA employees, Topham said. And it will also be used to display and store FCA's historic vehicle collection.

When the refurbishing is completed, the site will have 22,000 square feet of meeting space. The construction work should be completed by the end of the second quarter 2018, Topham said.

Mike Tonietto, the last Viper director of Manufacturing, said that when they closed the site, part of the job was to help prepare it for its next use.

When we were cleaning up, we realized that we had a collection of Viper paraphernalia going back to the beginning of the vehicle. Things like art and materials Viper. We found things like signs sketches, photos and poster, not to mention all the items that were part of the operations of the Plant. We called Brandt Rosenbusch, manager of FCA's



come," Topham said. "The idea These are just some of the Viper items being auctioned for charity.



1995 Chrysler Atlantic concept

his crew came and collected some items.'

More than 1,800 items were removed to be kept in company used to promote and honor the archives. But that still left a lot of materials to be disposed of, Tonietto said.

> Among the leftover items are eight signed hoods, more than 500 pieces of art, prints and signage, as well as posters and

Historical Services and he and Viper merchandise from key chains to apparel to coffee mugs.

But instead of throwing it out, Tonietto had the idea of auctioning the items off via the Internet. So as of March 21, a special Web site - auction.unitedwaysem.org - went live. People going there can see all the Viper items for sale and make bids on them.

"The beauty of this is that all the money goes directly to the



1953 Chrysler Special



1941 Chrysler Thunderbolt concept

United Way of Southeastern Michigan," Tonietto said.

Rosenbusch said the Conner Center is an ideal site to honor FCA's legacy.

"With a storied history of its own, the Conner Avenue facility is an ideal location to showcase the vehicles that have sustained the company for more than 92 years," Rosenbusch said. "We are proud of our history and have been working diligently in the daily care and restoration of these important vehicles. This move will allow us to house all of our collection under one roof and have the space to share that history with our employees.3

Rosensbusch said that FCA has about 400 classic and concept vehicles in its collection. Since the closing of the Chrysler Museum in 2017, they haven't a place to show these vehicles off. The Conner Center will have, at any one time, about 80 vehicles on display.

These vehicles, when displayed, will rotate, so people vis-

iting the center will see a variety of different vehicles at the Center over time.

So far, plans are for the Conner Center to be used strictly at an FCA meeting space, Rosenbusch said. It might be possible, in the future, for it to be opened to public for meeting or tours, but there are presently no plans for that.

"We really want to get this up and running the way we planned for it," Rosenbusch said. "Once that happens, then we can look to the future.'

The media attending the Conner Center announcement were given a chance to see the classic vehicles and concept cars that will be on display once the center is opened.

Among the vehicles they got to see were the 1995 Atlantic concept car, the 1941 LeBaron concept car, the 1941 Thunderbolt concept car, a World War II Wylls jeep, the 1997 Chronos concept car, the 1963 Chrysler Turbine special and the 1953 Chrysler Special.

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New Tool Track Car Recalls

Automakers are launching a tool in collective, continuing efnew tool aimed at increasing consumer participation in auto recalls by allowing approved commercial and governmental entities, including state depart- hicles on U.S. roads have unfixed ments of motor vehicles, state recalls, despite the fact that volehicle registrars, state vehicle nspection programs, motor veicle insurers, auto finance companies, motor vehicle dealers, whicle fleet managers, automoive parts recyclers and vehicle uction companies, to search for open recalls for thousands of auos at once, free of charge. This search tool, available at www.freeautorecallsearch.org, is a result of a partnership among the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers and the Association of Global Automakers - which together represent 99 percent of automakers in the United States – and Carfax, provider of vehicle history-based products trusted by buyers, sellers and owners of used cars. said Alliance spokesman Wade Newton. The search portal will allow authorized users to search for open recalls for up to 10,000 vehicles at once and get results usually within a matter of seconds.

forts to increase recall participation rates, Newtons aid.

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untary recall remedies are completed free of charge to the consumer.

"The industry's highest priority is safety," said Mitch Bainwol, president and CEO of the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers. "Research has told us that nationwide, 93 percent of those who had heard about a safety recall on their vehicle learned about it from the automaker and new vehicle dealer communications. Establishing this portal is another step in working to inform customers to take action and address open recalls."

The Vehicle Recall Search Service will serve commercial and governmental entities, complementing resources already available to dealers, insurers and individual car owners, Newton said.

Authorized, registered users can access open recall information through the new search portal free of charge.



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