# **Detroit Auto Scene**

"FIRST IN THE HEART OF DETROIT"

VOL. 86 NO. 18



The 2018 model year ATS Sedan will be the last version of the car.

# **Cadillac Says Bye to ATS Sedan**

Cadillac ATS sedan have been confirmed.

On May 9 Cadillac spokesman Donny Nordlicht confirmed in an email to the Web site CarBuzz that the brand will be discontinuing the ATS sedan at the end of its 2018 model year.

"Production of the ATS Sedan is ending due to extensive plant upgrades, expansion and re-tooling to prepare for the next generation of Cadillac sedans. Cadillac's future sedan portfolio will

Rumors about the end of the consist of three sedans, positioned in different segments and clearly differentiated by size and price," Nordlicht said in the email to CarBuzz.

The confirmation came just weeks after Cadillac announced that it was replacing brand president Johan de Nyscchen with Steve Carlisle. That announcement was made on April 18.

Rumors about the fate of the ATS had been circulating in the automotive press for the past several months. The Web site

The Truth About Cars in December wrote a story speculating that Cadillac would be discontinuing the ATS sedan.

The editors wrote that sedans were not selling nearly as well as they had in the past.

'Going by GM VIN code docu-

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 3** 

### **A Supplier's Fire Halts Production** Of Ford F-150

Trouble caused by a fire at a factory that supplied parts to Ford's best-selling F-150 pickup truck resulted in production of the vehicle being halted at the company's Dearborn Assembly Plant on May 9.

In a statement to the press on May 9, Ford officials declared that the company was working with its supply base to offset impacts of a fire that occurred at one of the company's suppliers on May 2 and is affecting the production of certain vehicles, due to a shortage of die-cast components.

"This is a fluid situation, but we are working closely with our supplier partners to do everything we

#### CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

### **Backup Cameras are Now Required For All New Vehicles** Backing up is a challenging 2018, as required by new federal

driving task, said FCA Multimedia Editor Dale Jewett.

Whether in a crowded parking lot or just your own driveway, backing up requires the driver to check multiple areas several times over just a few seconds," Jewett said. "Watching for pedestrians and on-coming traffic behind the vehicle is important. Always remember to check the surrounding of your vehicle before climbing into the driver's seat."

Backup camera technology is standard equipment on all light vehicles (everything from small cars to heavy-duty trucks with a gross vehicle weight rating under 10,000 pounds) built since May 1,

regulations, Jewett said. The milestone completes a phase-in period for backup cameras that began in 2014 under Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 111 (FMVSS 111). A similar regulation is in effect for Canada.

A backup camera views at least a 10-foot by 20-foot area directly behind the vehicle. That image automatically shows on a screen in the instrument panel or rear-view mirror when the driver shifts to reverse.

That view is important, Jewett said. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



A view of the guide lines in FCA's new rear-view camera system.

### 2019 Corvette Pacesetter at Indy 500 Race

The 2019 Corvette ZR1 is the official Pace Car for the 2018 Indianapolis 500 presented by PennGrade Motor Oil and will lead drivers to the green flag on Sunday, May 27, for the 102nd running of the legendary race.

It marks the 15th time a Corvette has served as the official Pace Car since 1978, and the 29th time a Chevrolet has led the field dating back to 1948, when a 1948 Fleetmaster Six convertible paced the race, said GM spokeswoman Afaf Farah.

No other vehicle has served as the Pace Car more than the Corvette. To celebrate the supercar's connection to "The Greatest Spectacle in Racing," the 2019 Corvette ZR1 and the other 14 Corvettes that have paced the 500 were on display on the front straightaway last month at the Indianapolis Motor Speed-

"The ZR1 is the most powerful and fastest Corvette ever made. It's the perfect choice to pace 'The Greatest Spectacle in Racing.

- The 2019 Corvette ZR1 Pace Car features:
  - LT5 Small Block 6.2L super charged V8 engine with 755 hp and 715 lb-ft of torque; 8-speed 8L90 paddle-shift
  - automatic transmission;
- ZTK Performance Package featuring a stanchion-mounted adjustable carbon-fiber high rear wing, Michelin Pilot Sport Cup 2 tires and performance suspension;
- Magnetic Selective Ride Control;
- Brembo Carbon Ceramic brake system;

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 3** 





Scott with the special "oversteer" 2019 Mustang GT.

Ford, Michigan Police Teach **Teens to Drive Cars Safer** 

by Jim Stickford

school students today about safe

way, Farah said.

'Chevrolet is proud to once again pace the Indianapolis 500," said Steve Majoros, marketing di-

rector for Cars and Crossovers. The 2019 Chevrolet Corvette ZRI to pace 102nd Indianapolis 500.

### **Musk Behavior Raises Questions on Tesla**

#### by TOM KRISHER AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) – Elon Musk's quirky behavior has long been chalked up to that of a misunderstood genius. But never have his actions caused so much angst on Wall Street.

Investors have for years endured millions of dollars in shortterm losses in hopes of a longterm payoff. They might have even been able to stomach the \$8.3 million that Telsa Inc. burns through each day. But it was a blogger who served up queries conference call May 2 that left

many wondering how much more they can take.

Just after the electric car and solar panel company announced a record first-quarter loss, the Tesla CEO cut off two analysts who sought some basic answers: details about the company's cash needs and orders for its allimportant Model 3 mass-market electric car.

"These questions are so drv. They're killing me," Musk said as he dismissed an RBC Capital Markets analyst in favor of a more to his liking.

Musk called the analyst questions boring and "not cool."

Shares fell quickly in afterhours trading, and analysts began writing that Musk shouldn't bite the hands that feed his company's enormous cash needs because soon he may need more. By the afternoon of May 3. Tesla stock had lost nearly 6 percent of its value.

While they may be dry in nature, we argue such questions are extremely important for a highly leveraged and cash-hun-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

The best way to get through an automobile crash is to avoid it altogether. That was the message being taught to Michigan high school students at a special driving school event sponsored by Ford on May 7.

The event was titled "Ford Driving Skills" and featured driving experts from Michigan law enforcement agencies and those hired by Ford teaching high school students safer driving practices. It was held at Ford's test track in Romeo.

Nolan Katerberg, program manager for the Ford Motor Company Fund, help put together the May 7 event.

"This program has been around in one form or another since 2003," Katerberg said. "It's been 15 years. The whole point is to strive for a safer drive. We will teach more than 200 high

driving. Over the past weekend we had more than 1,000 students here taking the class and driving on the special course we set up.<sup>3</sup>

The students who attended the event on different days were taught by professional driving instructors and police on how to avoid dangerous driving situations, Katerberg said. These students came from 61 high schools in the state and participated in safe driving campaigns during this school year. Ford gave each school group \$1,000 to come up with a campaign.

Some students printed t-shirts, others put up posters, Katerberg said. Some even created YouTube videos.

Ford, along with the safety drivers it hired, worked with people from Michigan law enforcement agencies. Kari Arend.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 8** 

#### View This Week's Edition at http://DetroitAutoScene.com

**Magazine Honors FCA's Efforts at Workplace Diversity** 

#### Detroit Auto Scene ®

31201 Chicago Road South Warren, Michigan 48093

#### 586-939-6800

Contact us: Info@DetroitAutoScene.com

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

William Springer II, publisher Lisa A. Torretta, operations Jim Stickford, news

Detroit Auto Scene is a registered trademark of Springer Publishing Co.

www.DetroitAutoScene.com

#### **Police Looking At** Latest Waymo Car Collision

CHANDLER, Ariz. (AP) - Police in a Phoenix suburb are investigating a crash involving a selfdriving vehicle owned by Waymo. Chandler Police say the incident happened on the afternoon of May 4 when a Honda sedan swerved to avoid hitting another car. The Honda t went into opposing traffic lanes and hit the Wavmo car.

Police say the vehicle was in autonomous mode, but there was an occupant in the driver's seat who suffered minor injuries.

Waymo is Google's self-driving car spinoff.

The company says in a statement that its mission is to make roads safer. It released a video of the moments before the collision. The safety of self-driving technology has come under recent scrutiny.

A pedestrian in the Phoenix suburb of Tempe died in March after she was struck by a self-driving Uber vehicle. It was the first death involving a fully autonomous vehicle.

The editors of *DiversityInc* magazine have named FCA US to the magazine's 2018 list of "Noteworthy Companies for Diversity" and to the list of "Top Companies for Veterans.'

This is the 10th year the company has earned a place among the magazine's top 50 or most noteworthy companies for diversity since the benchmarks were established in 2001, said FCA spokesman Mike Palese. It is the second consecutive year that FCA US earned a position on the magazine's top companies for veterans list, which was established in 2017.

These annual benchmarks recognize the best diversity-management leaders in the U.S. Selected companies excel in such areas as hiring, retaining and promoting women, minorities, people with disabilities, LGBTQ employees and veterans, as well as programs that support supplier diversity, *DiversityInc* editors wrote when naming winning companies.

More than 1,000 companies participated in the 2018 evaluation.

"FCA US has a longstanding, enterprise-wide commitment to diversity and inclusion while promoting a work culture where all employees and business partners are engaged, included and respected," said Barb Pilarski, head of Human Resources. FCA US. "Our pledge to our employees, our dealers, our suppliers and our customers is to ensure that diversity and inclusion is an everyday practice in our workplace. We value the recognition and feedback we receive from influential organizations like DiversityInc.'

Examples of the company's accomplishments include FCA US receiving Silver Status as a Michigan Friendly Employer by the Michigan Veterans Affairs



FCA US Diversity, Talent and Business Resource Group (BRG) leaders at the awards reception in New York.

Agency in recognition of recruitment strategies aimed at Veterans, as well as FCA US achieving a 100 percent rating on Human Rights Campaign's 2018 Corporate Equality Index (CEI), which rates employers on their LGBTQ workplace policies and benefits, Palese said. The company has attained a 100 percent CEI rating 11 times since the benchmark was established in 2002.

FCA US also supports various advance organizations that women's involvement in STEM professions, including Michigan Council of Women in Technology and Society of Women Engineers, Palese said. Internally, the company supports seven business resource groups representing a range of affinity communities, including African-American, Hispanic, Asian, LGBTQ, Veterans, Native Americans and Women.

hickens share

UNION PERFECTATION CATED

VALID ONLY AT:

Sterling Heights • Van Dyke/16 Mile

586-276-0788

Now open 10am-10pm Mon-Sat, 10am-9pm Sun

These employee directed groups are each assigned an executive sponsor, and individually and collectively pursue initiatives that enhance the FCA US work culture by focusing on career development of members, celebrating multicultural differences and bringing value to the company and external communities through volunteer, charitable and strategic activities, Palese said.

The company continues its leadership in promoting and providing opportunities for minority-owned suppliers.

Since 1983, the company has purchased nearly \$62 billion from minority-owned, womenowned and veteran-owned suppliers. FCA US spent \$8.2 billion with diverse suppliers in 2017, representing 18 percent of the company's total annual purchasing, Palese said.

FCA US supplier diversity goals require that up to 8.5 percent of a tier-one supplier's buy be sourced to certified minorityowned businesses and 3 percent sourced with women-owned businesses. The company began tracking veteran-owned business spend in 2018.

In recent years, FCA US was honored with key leadership awards for its supplier diversity programs, including:

- National Minority Supplier Development Council Corporation of the Year, Top Tier II Diversity Program Award, Innovation, Impact Award.
- Michigan Minority Supplier Development Council - Corporation of the Year Award.
- Women's Business Enterprise National Council - Top Corporation for six consecutive years.
- Lakes Women's Great Business Council - Corporation of the Year.
- Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce - Top Corporation.
- Asian Pacific American Chamber of Commerce -Corporation of the Year.
- WBE Great Lakes Excellence in Supplier Diversity Award.

"FCA US has been a leader in supplier diversity for the past 35 years, and was the first automaker to have suppliers follow in our footsteps to promote diverse spend in their own supply bases," said Scott Thiele, Chief Purchasing Officer, FCA. "We will continue to prioritize access and development opportunities for minority-, women- and veteranowned businesses to strengthen our partnership with leaders in our community and industry."

"Events of the past year have demonstrated that decisive ethi-





cal leadership is necessary to guide any organization to success," said Luke Visconti, founder and CEO of DiversityInc. "Successful leaders hold themselves accountable to be culturally competent, a skill that requires constant learning. DiversityInc Top 50 and Noteworthy companies have a metrics-evidenced ability to treat people more fairly than other large companies. They also have a greater-than-average return for their shareholders.



# **Detroit Auto Scene**

"FIRST IN THE HEART OF DETROIT SINCE 1933"

MAY 14, 2018

• ZR1

tial:

package;

Recorder.

safety strobe system; • Performance Data and Video

The Corvette ZR1 Pace Car

can accelerate from 0 to 60 mph

in 2.85 seconds and reach a top

track speed of 212 mph, the fastest Corvette in history.

Chevy has a long history with

the Indianapolis Motor Speed-

way, Farah said. Chevy was

founded in 1911, the year of the

first 500-mile race, and company

cofounder Louis Chevrolet, with

brothers Arthur and Gaston,

competed in early Indy 500

races. Arthur wa in the 1911

race, and Gaston won it in 1920.

of the longest-running and

strongest bonds in motor-

sports," said J. Douglas Boles, In-

dianapolis Motor Speedway

president. "Seeing all of the in-

credible Corvettes that have

paced the Indianapolis 500 on

the track today is an exciting re-

minder of the rich history of this

great relationship."

Chevrolet and IMS enjoy one

2019 Corvette is

Setting Pace at

Indy 500 Race

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

20-inch rear;

# **Cadillac's Saying Goodbye to the ATS Sedan**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ments submitted to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for the 2019 model year, chrome-aluminum wheels. 19-inch front and it appears changes are afoot for both the ATS and CT6. The smallest Cadillac offering, the Standard Performance Trac tion Management and Elec-ATS, is listed as a coupe-only proposition for 2019. Powertronic Limited-Slip Differentrains carry over from the previ-• Unique Indy 500 graphics ous year, but there's no sedan in sight," The Truth About Cars ed-GM Design fully integrated

itors wrote.

In a May 9 article Jonathon Ramsey wrote for the Web site AutoBlog that the move by Cadillac "won't surprise anyone paying attention to statements from Cadillac or ATS sales figures. Brand then-president Johan de Nysschen strongly hinted last summer that three sedans would bite the dust come 2019, and one would be refreshed. We've seen the gussiedup CT6, so that put the XTS, CTS, and ATS in the funeral home. The XTS would die an unavenged death, while the CTS downsized into the properly midsized CT5 and targeted buyers in the \$35,000 to \$45,000 range, overlapping with \$34,595 ATS sedan pricing by doing so. The ATS would go on hiatus, eventually resurrected as a compact luxury offering possibly called CT3 in coupe form and CT4 as a sedan sometime around 2020.

"As for the market situation, ATS sales are up 7.3 percent in

the U.S. through the end of April this year compared to 2017. However, the ATS sold only 13,100 units in the U.S. in 2017, compared to 21,505 units in 2016 and a high of 38,319 in 2013, its first full year on sale.'

Ramsey speculated that Carlisle will keep the ATS Coupe as a way to attract "sporty" car buyers to the Cadillac brand.

The Detroit News called the death of the ATS sedan part of a larger product overhaul by Cadillac. Nordlicht was quoted as saying that ultimately Cadillac will only have three sedans in the brand's lineup, with each sedan covering a different price point for Cadillac.

On the Cadillac Web page, the ATS sedan was described it as being "upgraded with the nextgeneration Cadillac user experience and new convenience features designed to complement the segment's most fun-to-drive car."

The Cadillac ATS had its fans. Kyle Hyatt, writing for CNET's Road/Show Web page said "the Cadillac ATS is a pretty decent car. In ATS-V trim, it's borderline amazing. Unfortunately, though, the ATS sedan is going the way of the buffalo . . .

"The ATS launched in 2012 as the smaller, more fun and affordable alternative to the CTS. Considering Cadillac's previous small-car effort (hint: it zigged), producing a BMW 3 Series (video) competitor was a bold move, but one that was for the most part successful. The ATS sedan was comfortable, well-appointed and handsome and had a solid selection of powertrain options. Over the years, it's only gotten better, but for some reason, people never fully embraced the pint-size Caddy like they did its bigger brother and that's kind of a shame.'

Patrick George, editor of the Web site Jalopnik wrote that the ATS sedan was first introduced

in 2012, making it due for a "modern replacement." He added that it was fun to drive but unfortunately "people want their luxury crossovers and SU-Vs and Cadillac is scrambling to play catch-up with a lineup full of sedans that buyers weren't es-

ing Grand River Assembly plant. The factory will be used for other Cadillac products, Nordlicht said.

pecially keen on." The ATS is made in GM's Lans-



at jkelly2@suburbancollection.com with any questions.

\*Plus \$210 DOC fee, tax, plate and title fees



PAGE 3

HOURS: Mon. 7am-8pm • Tues. 7am-6pm • Wed. 7am-6pm • Thurs. 7am-8pm • Fri. 7am-8pm • Sat. 8am-3pm **OPEN SATURDAY 8AM-3PM • 248-547-6100**  FCA Employees Take Long Way Around USA

#### MAY 14, 2018

### DTE Plant Now Home to a Nest of Eagles

PORT HURON, Mich. (AP) -There were three bald eagle chicks in a nest on DTE Energy's Belle River Power Plant property, but only one of them got a checkup and a leg band May 1.

The other two were just too young and too small to make the trip from the top of the nest tree to the bottom.

Bald eagles are part of the scenery at the power plant. Last year, a pair in the same nest raised three chicks to fledgling status, Brian Corbett, PR manager for DTE Energy, told the Port Huron Times Herald.

The parents recently swooped and hovered anxiously nearby as Rachel Eberious, a master's degree student in environmental science and technology at the University of Maryland, laboriously climbed the nest tree and invaded their privacy.

Eberious was assisted by Shannon Healy, a recent graduate with a degree in biology from the University of Maryland.

Healy said they usually don't have such a crowd when they work. Besides DTE Energy employees, several Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts got the chance to watch. Tyler Bommarito, 14, of St. Clair said it was an honor to see the young birds.

"I'm going to tell everybody in the troop," he said. Tyler belongs to Troop 261.

He said he had never been so close to an eagle.

'We did have conservation presentations where thev brought out animals, but never like this," he said. "It's an amazing experience to see them up so close.

Corbett said the three eaglets were the second clutch hatched at the power plant property.

Talk about a big lap. FCA recently had a vehicle take the 'One Lap of America" challenge.

"The challenge requires spending eight days on the road, covering nearly 4,000 miles and competing in 19 performance-driving events," said Dale Jewett, FCA media writer. "You get only a codriver, one set of tires and face daily drives of 500-700 miles to get to the next stop.'

The event is officially known as 2018 Tire Rack One Lap of America Presented by Grassroots Motorsports Magazine, Jewett said.

The big question for FCA was deciding which vehicle would the company would choose for the One Lap of America, Jewett said. Traditional sports cars offer speed, but not a lot of elbow room. David Carr, an FCA US Vehicle Performance Dynamics engineer, and motoring journalist David Hakim believe they have a better solution - a 2018 Dodge Durango SRT.

It has a 475-horsepower 392 Hemi V8, crisp-shifting Torque-Flite eight-speed automatic transmission and full-time all-wheel drive with SRT-engineered drive mode system that equips the Durango SRT for a wide variety of timed track events on the One Lap program, ranging from wet and dry skid pads to private road courses to race tracks, Jewett said.

The SRT team fitted the Durango SRT with Mopar's performance lowering spring kit, dropping the fastest SUV in its class an average of 15 mm (0.6 inches)closer to the pavement, and boltin performance exhaust system, developed in concert with Dodge//SRT engineers and designers, to give the team every possible advantage.

The Durango SRT's 119.8-inch wheelbase and voluminous inte-



This is the route FCA employees drove as a part of the 2018 "One Lap of American" event recently held.

rior let Carr and Hakim stretch and recover during the journey to the next stop – they can even stretch out for a nap if they choose. One Lap of America participants must observe all traffic regulations while traveling between competition stops, Jewett said.

The One Lap of America began on Saturday, May 5 near South Bend, Ind., and concluded there on Saturday, May 12.

In between, the 71 two-person

teams crossed through 12 states, some of them more than once to complete the route set out by event sponsors. Through May 7 at the Hallett

Motor Racing Circuit in Oklahoma, Carr and Hakim ranked 23rd in the field of 71, Jewett said.

"It doesn't hurt that Carr is part of the engineering team that developed the Durango SRT," Jewett said.

When asked what he considers the biggest challenge of the One Lap of America, Carr said the "biggest challenge for most vehicles, including us, will be tire management.

"We can only use the tires that are installed on the car and can only carry a single spare, which

can only be used by approval for an 'abnormal' situation. Tire wear from being too aggressive on a track is not reason enough to get a new tire."

Also, while Carr has an extensive racing background and plenty of time behind the wheel of the Durango SRT, he has no previous experience at any of the tracks on this year's One Lap of America route, Jewett said.

"The challenge about learning these new-to-me tracks is we aren't allowed to drive on them prior to competing," Carr said. "So my prep has been studying videos and visualizing how I will use my three laps to not only conserve my tires, but to set fast lap times.





2018 Pacifica Hybrid

### Pacifca Hybrid Earns Praise Chrysler going green with the

The Pacifica Hybrid earned a

2018 Pacifica Hybrid minivan has not gone unnoticed by the people who keep tracks of such things.

It was just named as the winner of the Best Environmental Performance and Best All-around Performance awards from the Automotive Science Group (ASG) in their 2018 Automotive Performance Index (API) study, said FCA spokeswoman Claire Carroll.

"With 84 MPGe, the Pacifica Hybrid reveals new possibilities for fuel economy gains and emission reductions, earning the Pacifica Hybrid ASG's coveted Best Environmental Performance award," said Colby Self, managing director of ASG. "The Pacifica Hybrid, with its 33-mile all-electric driving range, leverages the increasingly cleaner U.S. power grid as a fuel source to significantly improve the environmental benefits of the PHEV powertrain in 2018, and across future years.'

class-leading environmental performance rating in ASG's Study, outperforming the average vehicle in its segment by 34 percent, thereby producing 34 percent less CO2-e emissions over the first 6.5 years in its life cycle, Carroll said.

When looking at all 823 minivans, crossovers and SUVs assessed in ASG's 2018 Study, the Pacifica Hybrid maintained a 24 percent smaller carbon footprint than the average large vehicle available to North American consumers in 2018

ASG's annual study found the Pacifica Hybrid to offer the best all-around value and performance in its class for the second consecutive year, earning ASG's most privileged distinction as the Best All-around Performance award winner in its class. To this end, the Pacifica Hybrid establishes a new benchmark for performance and value, earning ASG's distinguished honors in 2018, Self said.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

there more than 15,000 injuries and 210 fatalities each year from so-called "backover" accidents. The government agency estimates at least 58 lives may be saved each year with backup camera technology.

Backup camera technology first appeared on FCA US vehicles before 2010, Jewett said. Depending on the vehicle, the backup camera image shows on a 5-, 7- and 8.4-inch display.

Thomas McCarthy, head of Product Safety & Product Analysis for FCA, said the camera system is meant to be a driver assist tool and should not be considered the only one that the driver uses.

And the FCA system shows guide lines on the viewing screen that simulate the width of the vehicle when it is backing up. There are two sets of guide lines, McCarthy said.

The first is the static guide lines. McCarthy said that they are straight and show the path a car could travel if it backs straight out of the parking spot the vehicle is in.

The second set of guide lines are the dynamic lines, McCarthy said, which show the same rear view.

The dynamic lines bend and show a path the vehicle can travel if the vehilce has to turn as it backs out of its parking spot, Mc-Carthy said.

Meeting the regulation presented a challenge to the team creating the new 2018 Jeep Wrangler, which did not want to lose the rear-mounted spare tire – an iconic design signature. The solution: A robust, removable camera that locks on a support in the center hole of the spare wheel.

The launch of the new FCA Jeep Wrangler and the new 2019 Ram 1500 pickup marks the start of FCA US' transition to high-definition screens that show the backup camera image, Jewett said.

Also, the new Ram 1500 pickup truck is available with a large, 12-inch HD screen in the instrument panel.

"What's behind you is just as important as what's ahead," Jewett said. "Backup cameras help make sure you have the full view, but always use caution when reversing and check your entire surroundings."

#### Plan Approved to Keep GM in Korean Market

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) -South Korea says it has reached an agreement with General Motors to inject \$4.35 billion in funding to keep the loss-making Korean unit afloat. The government said May 10 the American automaker also agreed to limit its right to sell shares or assets for 10 years and to establish a new regional headquarters in South Korea. Under the agreement, the state-controlled Korea Development Bank, GM Korea's secondlargest shareholder, will inject \$750 million while General Motors will provide \$3.6 billion in fresh loans. GM's restructuring plans, including a shutdown of one of its four plants in South Korea and reducing its workforce by nearly 3,000, stoked worries that GM Korea, third-largest carmaker in the country, may permanently close.



South Korea said the latest measures should ensure Gneral Motor's long-term stay in South Korea.



**BENEFITING:** RISING STARS ACADEMY & SANDUSKY KIWANIS

### **Musk Behavior Raises Doubts About Tesla**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

gry company," Morgan Stanley analyst Adam Jonas wrote in a note to investors.

The conference call behavior was labeled bizarre by some investors. It also followed some recent wild tweets by Musk about building a cyborg dragon, how his eyebrows can grab things and an April 1 post in which he wrote, "Despite intense efforts to raise money, including a lastditch mass sale of Easter Eggs, we are sad to report that Tesla has gone completely and totally bankrupt. So bankrupt, you can't believe it."

To be sure, Musk has joked in the past and poked fun at critics. He often posts updates to his 21.5 million Twitter followers about his companies, retweets posts from happy customers and warns about artificial intelligence.

A Tesla spokesman wouldn't comment on Musk. But the stock slide showed that Wall Street's seemingly endless patience with Musk - who is also a rocket scientist and tunnel company chief – may be growing thin.

Tesla has fallen far short of Musk's promises to ramp up Model 3 production, which the company has said is key to turning a profit. Tesla has more than 450,000 waiting orders, but it can't monetize them unless the cars can be assembled en masse. Without additional cash, some analysts have predicted that Musk faces a reckoning if he needs more money from investors to fund operations, capital spending and debt payments that are due early next year.

Musk, who has tweeted about sleeping at the Tesla factory, said they've overcome automation failures like a "fluffer bot" that couldn't install fluffy Fiberglas mats

atop battery packs. The firstquarter loss hit nearly \$710 million with a cash burn of \$745 million. Free cash flow, which is cash generated minus capital spending, was a negative \$1 billion.

Musk promised restructuring, more Model 3 output and capital spending cuts to ease cash strain. A net profit is likely by the third quarter, he said.

But the growing cash burn, slow Model 3 production nearly a year after it began, and rising fixed costs have caused investor concerns to mount.

"This is what puts companies out of business," said Gartner analyst Michael Ramsey. "In this case the demand seems fine, but you can't actually produce those vehicles. The amount of cash required may become so large that they can't find their way out of it through share offerings anymore.

Investors have consistently given Musk a pass for frequent misses of lofty production targets in the past, and Ramsey said that probably won't change. Investors see the targets as shooting for the stars, and they applaud if Tesla makes it only halfway there, he said. If Tesla does run short of cash, big institutional investors such as Fidelity likely will come to the rescue, but that may cause a change at the top, Ramsey said.

In Detroit where auto executives marvel at Tesla's stock price rise despite its losses and production problems, quiet cheers over the company's troubles were almost a certainty. Bob Lutz, a retired General Motors vice chairman and chief spokesman for Detroit's Tesla disdain, said the odd conference call and first-quarter numbers show the reckoning is near.

"It's classic Musk - he doesn't want to talk reality, as reflected by disastrous numbers. He wants to deflect, and mesmerize the crowd with science-fiction tales: Mars, Hyperloop, Semis, Tunnels ... why change? It's worked so far," Lutz said. "He is doomed."

After the conference call cutoffs, Musk, as he has in the past, showed humility and introspection. He talked about building a new factory for a second SUV and hitting 2,000 orders for a proposed Tesla semi. But he said the 15-year-old Tesla right now is focused on getting Model 3 output to more than 5,000 per week, with a good profit margin per car.

"We need to become a profitable company," he said. "It is high time we became profitable. And the truth is, you're not a real company until you are, frankly.'

#### **Thieves Hit FCA Truck Plant** In Warren

WARREN, Mich. (AP) - Police say a group of thieves drove off with as many as 10 new Dodge Ram pickup trucks during a predawn raid of an auto plant's storage lot north of Detroit.

Warren police say a security employee at Fiat Chrysler's Warren Truck Assembly Plant saw someone drive one of the trucks through a lot gate about 4 a.m. May 3 and be followed by eight or nine more trucks. Warren Police Commissioner Bill Dwyer described it as "a convoy."

He says investigators believe the thieves rode to the factory in a stolen truck found nearby and then cut through the storage lot's fence to get inside.

# S How To **Maximize** Your Retirement Readiness



Learn How To Get The Most From Your Retirement Savings

#### COMPLIMENTARY

### FCA Finances Look Good

FCA recently held its Annual Meeting of Shareholders in London. Several topics were talked about, including how the company has adopted a "green" approach to manufacturing.

CEO Sergio Marchionne said that n 2017, FCA continued to transform the company's sustainability commitments into concrete actions that aim to create long-term value responsibly.

"We recognize that our environmental and social activities affect not only our aspiration to grow the business but also our determination to positively affect our world," Marchionne said.

The 2017 FCA Sustainability Report, released on April 13 at the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders, was meant to communicate to stakeholders the most relevant social, economic and environmental achievements and long-term targets addressed by the company, said FCA spokes-



#### Sergio Marchionne

reduce vehicle CO2 emissions included the launch of the eTorque Assist mild hybrid technology on the all-new Jeep Wrangler."

FCA strengthened its collaboration with Waymo, Google's self-



Visit KaydanWealthPresents.com to download your Retirement Kit today!



#### 329 W. Silver Lake Road, Fenton MI 48430 | 810-593-1624 | KaydanWealthManagement.com

Kaydan Wealth Management, Inc. is not a registered broker/dealer, and is independent of Raymond James Financial Services. Securities are offered through Raymond James Financial Services, Inc. Member FINRA/ SIPC. Investment Advisory Services are offered through Raymond James Financial Services Advisors, Inc. and Kaydan Wealth Management, Inc.

woman Mary Gauthier.

In 2017, FCA shipped 4.7 million vehicles to customers around the world, while continuing to reduce the environmental footprint of its operations. Marchionne said. Over the past seven years, we decreased CO2 emissions by 3 percent, water used by 37 percent and waste generated by 58 percent per vehicle produced in FCA's mass market assembly and stamping plants.

"We engaged our workforce in our activities, and in 2017 collected more than 2.8 million suggestions from employees on potential improvements to products and processes. Work-related injuries at plants worldwide decreased for the 11th consecutive year, Marchionne said.

"We continued our efforts to develop vehicles responsibly through dedication to efficient powertrains, improved aerodynamics, weight reduction, safety and quality. Our actions to improve vehicle fuel efficiency and

driving car company, to integrate self-driving technology into Chrysler Pacifica Hybrid minivans and support the launch of the world's first driverless ridehailing service, Marchionne said. FCA is exploring other ways through which the company can provide autonomous vehicle services to its customers.

"FCA supported the communities where we live and work by committing more than 25 million eros around the world in 2017," Marchionne said. "Our employees volunteered more than 240,000 hours to nonprofit activities during work time. FCA is conscious of the effect that our activities and products have on society and the environment, and of our role in developing solutions to reduce our environmental footprint. Our global activities support the transition toward a circular economy and contribute to achieving the aims of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).'

## Cadillac Racing Teams Did Well at Mid-Ohio Challenge

Cadillac V-Performance Racing team Mustang Sampling Cadillac finished fourth May 6 at the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship Acura Sports Car Challenge at Mid-Ohio. The No. 10 Konica Minolta Cadillac DPi-V.R finished fifth and the No. 31 Whelen Engineering Cadillac DPi-V.R came home in eighth.

The racing conditions were near perfect with sunny skies and 75 degrees as the 34 car field took the green flag at 1:05 p.m. ET. The Cadillac DPi-V.R teams all had ground to make up following qualifying. With varying strategies, including the hopes of full course caution periods which never came to fruition, the speed of the winning Acura prototype could not be matched after a further reduction of horsepower by IMSA for the Cadillac teams.

Joao Barbosa and Filipe Albuquerque in the No. 5 Mustang Sampling Cadillac DPi-V.R drove hard all race to finish in fourth position. The duo, drove a near perfect race, with strong team pit stops, but just could not match the pace of the front runners.

"It was an interesting race with no yellows, I wasn't expecting that certainly not at Mid-Ohio since it's a very narrow track with a lot of traffic," Barbosa said. "Everyone behaved, which is really good. Our race was the best it could be. The team did a great job and we were able to make up a few positions. We didn't have the outright pace, but we had a consistent car, great pit stops, and great strategy. That's all we had today, so we move on to Detroit and hopefully we can be stronger there.

"The track itself is pretty interesting, but we didn't have the grip that I wish we did," Albuquerque said. "Overall the winning car was in a different category than everyone else. But it was a clean race with no adventures with the safety car, which could have played a little better for us. We did win our brand race being the best Cadillac. It was a smart race because we gained points towards the championship. In my opinion, the team

won the race, they did a brilliant job with strategy, with our stops and made the most of whatever we had."

The Wayne Taylor led Konica Minolta Cadillac team with drivers Renger Van Der Zande and Jordan Taylor also had a strong day coming to the checkered flag in fifth.

"I think we were kind of in our own race today," Taylor said. "We couldn't really race with the lead pack, which was the top four cars. So basically, we were racing for fifth and sixth for most of the race and, once someone else fell out, we were battling for fourth and fifth. We thought we had the right strategy. I'm not sure what went wrong, how we got jumped, but I still think it was the right strategy. But considering what we have, I think we can be happy with a fifth-place finish. Looking at the championship, it's good to be consistent, especially when you have so many good cars in the field, now. You can't risk a bad finish. So, considering how we didn't have the fastest car, I think coming away with good points is pretty good."

"We were racing the No. 5 today," Van Der Zande said. "Everyone in front us was at a different level of speed. I drove very hard. I drove very fast. I though my stint was flawless, basically. Somehow, the No. 5 beat us, which we have to find out why. At the same time, Jordan did a great job, the team did a great job. I love this track. Apart from the fact you can't overtake cars in your own class, I really enjoyed the track itself. It's an intense place. To get the lap time you want, you really have to nail it, which makes it quite special.."

Felipe Nasr and Eric Curran were able to battle up to eighth in their No. 31 Whelen Engineering Cadillac DPi-V.R.

"It's fun to come back to Mid-Ohio and run our Whelen Cadillac around here," Curran said. "We got a little off on the initial set-up of the car, it was really loose. We made some adjustments to make up for it later in our run."

### MCC Has Motorcycle Safety Program

Macomb Community College has expanded its motorcycle safety program and is adding four new basic rider courses, which will be held for the firsttime at the college's Center Campus in Clinton Township.

These classes are intended for the inexperienced or beginner rider, said Sean Patrick, manager of Media Relations at MCC. The first weekend course begins June 8 with additional courses scheduled throughout the summer.

Taught by Motorcycle Safety

Designed for someone with minimal experience operating a motorcycle, the course focuses on basic riding skills including clutch and throttle coordination, braking, turning and shifting.

Successful completion of the course will result in a waiver by the Michigan Secretary of State Office of its riding and written test.

All class participants are required to supply their own equipment including a Department of Transportation-approved helmet, long-sleeved jacket or shirt, heavy-duty long pants, eye protection, gloves and boots.



### Van Dyke Across From GM Tech Center











### LUXURY HAS A NEW HOME PRESTIGE CADILLAC GM Employees and Eligible Family Members Enjoy These Exceptional Lease Offers







UITRA-LOW MILEAGE LEASE FOR WELL QUALIFIED CURRENT GM OWNERS/LESSEES \$339 / 39 / ZER

PER MONTH MONTHS DOWN Tax, title, and license extra. No security deposit required. Mileage charge of \$.25 per mile over 32,500 miles.





Foundation certified instructors, the basic rider web-enhanced course consists of three hours of online preparation, five hours of classroom instruction and 10 hours of hands-on training, Patrick said.

FIRST

CHOICE

For more information or to register for these classes, email motorcycle@macomb.edu.

**MUFFLER & BRAKE SERVICE** 

**23252 VAN DYKE** 

3 Blocks North of 9 Mile HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 7:30am-5pm; Sat.-Closed

### \$4/3/39/ZERO

PER MONTH MONTHS DOWN

Tax, title, and license extra. No security deposit required. Mileage charge of \$.25 per mile over 32,500 miles, current mileage is 5,581.

Payments based on 39 month 32,500 total mile lease through GM Financial with top tier credit approval. Models quoted are Luxury XT5 MSRP of \$47,945, CTS Sedan Luxury Model AWD with MSRP of \$54,185 & Luxury Model CT6 AWD with MSRP of \$64,870. Mileage charge of \$.25 for anything over the miles allowed. Additional costs due at signing include typical startup costs of taxes, license, registration, electronic filing fee, first month's payment, acquisition and dealer fees. Must take delivery out of dealer stock by 5/31/18. Lessee pays for excess wear, over mileage and disposition fee of \$595 at end of lease. Must take delivery out of required to terminate current lease or trade vehicle. Loyalty offer is transferable to members of the same household, not required to terminate lease. XT5 and CTS qualify for Select Model Bonus of \$2000 and CT6 is a retired CTA (Courtesy Transportation) vehicle with approximately 4500 miles. Resident restrictions apply. All quotes using GMS pricing, others slightly higher. See dealer for details. ©2018 General Motors. Cadillac<sup>®</sup> XT5<sup>®</sup> CTS<sup>®</sup> CT6<sup>®</sup>



 LOCATION
 SALES - 888.548.8939

 29900 VanDyke Ave.
 Mon & Thur 8:30am-8pm

 Warren, MI
 Tues, Wed & Fri 8:30am-6pm

 48093
 Sat 10am-4pm

SERVICE 888.548.8939

m Mon - Fri 7:30am-6pm Sat 8am-3pm

DELUXE OIL CHANGE SPECIAL UP TO 5 Ots. Of oil Lube & Filter No Disposal Fee \$2336 Valvoline Includes topping off fluids 5-31-18 RADIATOR POWER FLUSH & FILL COOLANT SYSTEM \$7995 5-31-18 BRAKE SPECIAL \$22995 \* Front Premium Disc Brake Pads \* 2 New Front Rotors \*

WARREN • 586-757-7203

PrestigeCadillac.com

©2018 General Motors. All Rights Reserved Cadillac

### Ford, Michigan Police Create Program to Help Teens Learn Safe Driving

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

communications strategist for the Michigan State Police's Office of Highway Safety Planning, was also at the May 7 event. She said that they have a long way to go when it comes to everyone practicing safe driving.

"Look at buckling up with a seat belt," Arend said. "We've gotten pretty good at buckling up when we're in the front seat. But too many people don't do it when they are passengers in the back seat. That's why we're trying to educate teens and preteens. So that when they get older they are in the habit of buckling up.

Katerberg said the Ford education course is concentrated on four areas of study.

The first is vehicle handling, there they study speed manage-

ment and then space management. The final topic is hazard recognition. That's learning how to avoid it when someone or something suddenly appears in front of a vehicle when the vehicle is in motion, Katerberg said.

So with the help of Ford and police, four special courses were set up in Romeo for students to drive, said Mike Speck, lead facilitator for the Ford Driving Skills4Life program. All the students got to drive the vehicles provided by Ford. For example, a couple of Mustangs were altered so that they easily went into oversteer mode. The students were taught how to handle that.

In other cases, students were allowed to drive around a course defined by traffic cones as fast as

ing it while texting. Every time, cones were knocked over. In another course, students

wore special goggles that distorted their eyesight, replicating the effects of drinking. This was meant to demonstrate the dangers of drinking and driving, Speck said.

'The biggest thing we're trying to teach is a safe driving thought process," Speck said. "We're trying to educate these students about how they choose to drive. We appeal to their common sense. A big issues with teens, in general, is that they're not great at assessing risk. We can't appeal to their sense of fear because teenagers really don't think like that. So we try to teach with an element of fun and show them the common sense of safe driving.

'And that includes teaching them how to avoid trouble in the first place and some physical aspects of driving, so if they do get in a situation, they know how to handle themselves.

Sgt. Mike Shorkey of the Macomb County Sheriff's Department was one of the law enforce-

Michigan Exclusive Since 1876

**INSURANCE SHOPPERS AGENCY** 

Phone: 810.388.9200 | Fax: 810.400.6100

Email: knewsome@marysvilleisa.com

ment instructors on hand May 7, who helped students throught the different obstacle courses set up.

He said the students get a kick out of the drunk goggles, but more importantly, they learn just how hard it is to drive while impaired because of consumption of alcohol.

"The kids drive one lap normally and then drive the same lap with the drunk goggles," Shorkey said. "They usually hit a lot of cones on the second lap and find it much harder to avoid obstacles. The biggest comment I hear is 'I can't believe how hard it is to drive and how vision is affected.' They ask me if driving while drunk is really like it is with the goggles. I say yes. I've seen drunk drivers who have driven their vehicles into house, trees and into ditches. I've asked them if they know where they were, and heard answers that were off by dozens of miles.'

Shorkey said that students are surprised when he shares that information with them, but that is to be expected because they are young and haven't had a lot of

experience with situations that he has encountered his more than 21 years in the Macomb County Sheriff's Department.

One of the people who took the training was Cheyenne Scott, a student volunteer who helped put the show on.

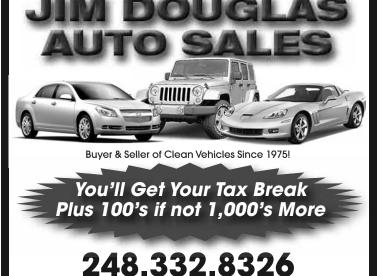
"I really enjoyed doing the oversteer course in the 2017 Mustang GT," Scott said. "My teacher, Rob Knipe, showed me what to do and how to compensate. I feel much more confident, so that if I ever get in a similar situation in real life, I'll know what to do.

"This is the first time I've done drifting and I now know firsthand how to act. It's very impressive, and not just the oversteer course. Learning how to handle and avoid difficult driving situations has been fun and important. I'm glad to be involved in this event.'

Katerberg said that the Romeo event was just one of many stops across the country that the Ford program will make this year. Teaching safe driving is something Ford believes in and will continue to support in the future.

#### they liked, Speck said. They then had to repeat the same course at the same speed, but this time do-

WE DO HOUSE CALLS OR COME SEE US...



1153 Baldwin Rd • Pontiac • www.jimdouglasautosales.com



# Before You Trade-In or Sell Your Car



Kristin Newsome, Agent.

#### INSURANCE MADE EASY!

# **Receive** a **'REE** \$10 Gift Card ... Just For Letting Us Quote Your Home & Auto Insurance

**Fremont Insurance** 

# We have Discounts for: Engineering, Accounting, **Medical/Dental Employees**



This Corvette is one of the vehicles that has been at past "Cars & Coffee" events held by Lingenfelter.

### Enjoy Cars and Coffee at Lingenfelter's

From June 2 to Aug. 25, car en- community and around the counthusiasts are invited to start each summer weekend enjoying auto "show and tell" at Lingenfelter Cars & Coffee. Each Saturday morning event will open from 8 -10 a.m., rain or shine, said Lingenfelter spokesman Chris Morrisroe.

There is no fee to participate in any of the friendly meetings, but guests are asked to donate to Gleaners Community Food Bank as a way of helping out the greater community at large, Morrisroe said.

Nonperishable food items and monetary donations will be accepted on-site during the summer =, Morrisroe said.

Attendees will have the opportunity to enjoy refreshments, browse the indoor showroom, display their personalized cars, and meet other car buffs from the

try.

Morrisroe said the gathering will be held at Lingenfelter Performance Engineering, North Engine Build Facility, 47451 Avante Drive, Wixom. For those unfamiliar with the area it is near I-96 and Beck Road.

Updates on weekend special activities and featured cars from the Lingenfelter Collection will be posted on Lingenfelter Cars & Coffee Facebook page and website: www.lingenfelter.com.

Each weekend will have a particular theme, Morrisroe said. On June 2, the theme is pretty simple. It's "kicking off the summer."

The other themes are as follows:

• June 9th – Matick Coverlet Corvette Day - Cruise in from Matick Chevrolet. Gather at Matick Chevrolet in Redford

- at 7 am for a cruise to Lingen felter at 7:30am • June 16 – Camaro Day;
- June 23 Cadillac V Day; • June 30 – Show and Shine Adam's Polishes;
- July 7 Trucks, Trail Blazers & Typhoons Day;
- July 14 & 15th Lansing Cars & Coffee Weekend, "East Meets West";
- July 21 GTO/SS/G8/Holden Day - Gleaner's Fill-A-Trunk;
- July 28 Concours d'Ele= gance of America and Cruise w/Lingenfelter to Inn of St. Johns in Plymouth;
- Aug. 4 Chevy Day;
- Aug. 11 Ford Day;
- Aug. 18 American Muscle Car Day Woodward Dream Cruise;
- Aug. 25 "Battle of the Brands" Last Cars & Coffee of the Season.

### **Toyota Sees Profits Surge**

Corp. reported May 9 that its quarterly profit rose 21 percent as cost cuts and booming sales in some markets offset the toll from higher U.S. incentives.

January-March profit at Toyota, which makes the Camry sedan, Prius hybrid and Lexus luxury models, totaled 480.8 billion yen (\$4.4 billion), up from 398 billion yen the same quarter the previous year. Quarterly sales rose nearly 2 percent to 7.58 trillion yen (\$69 billion).

The absence of past costs related to the massive Takata airbag inflator recall, which has slammed automakers around the world, also helped results, said Koji Kobayashi, Toyota's executive vice president and chief financial officer.

TOKYO (AP) - Toyota Motor Toyota person," he told reporters.

Toyota will pursue growth with a strategy of seeing itself as a "mobility company," not just an automaker, spending aggressively on research. It is banking on artificial intelligence and networking technology, as in connected and self-driving vehicles, to woo consumers. All top automakers and many technology companies are working on similar products and services.

Ecological vehicles are another area where competition is heating up. Toyota leads the world in selling gas-electric hybrid vehicles, but has lagged in electric vehicles. It has been working hard to catch up in recent years.

Toyoda called his new manage-Toyota reported a 2.49 trillion ment team "the seven samurai," yen (\$23 billion) profit for the fis- after the Akira Kurosawa film classic. He said he hopes to turn the major changes happening in the auto industry into a big opportunity for the company. Being a "mobility company" means more than pushing ahead with more of the same, but pursuing "a future that we forge ourselves," he added. Just like his grandfather Kiichiro Toyoda turned a loom company into an automaker. he must also take up new challenges, Akio Toyoda said.





Please call with the vehicle you desire and you will be delighted with the payment. CALL CELL # 1-586-405-5175 **BRUCE LITVIN** 24/7 & 365 blitvin@lunghamer.com OVER 40 YEARS OF QUALITY SERVIC 1-888-665-5438 Lung WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE #42333 475 SUMMIT DRIVE • 248-292-2502 • 5825 HIGHLAND RD. (M59) • WATERFORD

cal year, up 36 percent on-year, on 29.38 trillion yen (\$268 billion) sales, up 6 percent.

Toyota released results before the Tokyo markets closed, which was surprising. Many big Japanese companies wait until after trading ends to announce earnings – a practice that has been standard for decades.

Kobayashi, tapped by President and Chief Executive Akio Toyoda to help guide Japan's top automaker, said the company hopes to grow leaner, staying true to its practice of valuing grassroots input from its workers – a trademark Toyota work style that has inspired manufacturers around the world.

Much waste still could be eliminated, he said, pointing to the custom of "nemawashi," the traditional Japanese effort to form a consensus before making a decision. The company also creates internal reference materials that no one really looks at, he said.

"All workers must think like a

"We will do more than just survive. We will build toward the future," he said.

In the fiscal year through March, Toyota sold 10.44 million vehicles around the world, up from 10.25 million vehicles the previous fiscal year.

It expects to sell 10.5 million vehicles for the year through March 2019, with sales growing in regions other than its main U.S., Japanese and European markets, such as South America and Africa.

#### COURTESY VEHICLE WITH APPROX. 2,500 MILES WITH GM LEASE LOYALTY • NO SECURITY DEPOSIT REQUIRED

Equiped with Power Locks, Power Windows, Power Mirrors, Keyless Entr Touch Screen Radio, Bluetooth, OnStar & More...





#### 2018 CHEVY EQUINOX LT



WITH GM LEASE LOYALTY • NO SECURITY DEPOSIT REQUIRED Equiped with 1.5L Turbo Engine, 7" touch screen radio, Onstar, Blu Back Up Camera, Alum. Wheels, Deep Tinted Glass & More...



\*See dealer for details. All Rebates/Incentives have been deducted from sale price/payment and are subject to change by CHEVROLET CONTROLLET CONTROL CON



2019 Ford Ranger

### **Fire Stalls Several OEMs**

DETROIT (AP) - A fire that history of working around parts damaged a Michigan auto parts supply factory is causing production problems at Ford, Fiat Chrysler and General Motors, but it's too soon to tell yet whether dealers will run short of vehicles

PAGE 10

So far Ford has been hit hardest by parts shortages. The company has had to temporarily lay off 7,600 workers as it cuts production of the F-Series.

But General Motors has been forced to stop producing full-size vans at a factory in Missouri, and production of Fiat Chrysler's Pacifica minivan has been curtailed in Windsor, Ontario.

It's all because of a May 2 fire that severely damaged the main plant at the Meridian Magnesium Products of America factory in Eaton Rapids near Lansing that makes structural parts, about one-third of which goes to Ford.

Multiple automakers have turned to Meridian to produce parts made of the lightweight metal as they try to shed pounds to meet government fuel efficiencv standards.

While the auto industry has a

shortages from natural disasters and fires, it may be more difficult this time because there are few companies that produce magnesium parts, said Kristen Dziczek, vice president of the Center for Automotive Research's Industry, Labor & Economics Group.

There's a lot of demand for these light-weighting materials,' she said. ``Everybody needs it. Everybody wants it, and the supply chain isn't mature yet for this kind of volume.'

Equipment that wasn't damaged will have to be relocated and automakers will have to find another place to get magnesium castings, Dziczek said, Meridian has other buildings in Eaton Rapids and another magnesium plant in Ontario, but it's unclear how much volume they can pick up, she said.

FCA confirmed that Pacifica production had been affected but said no workers had been laid off.

Instead, they'll switch to making an older minivan as the company works with Meridian to get more parts.

## The Ranger Being Tested For 2018 Debut

The 2019 Ford Ranger midsize pickup truck is coming soon, and Ford wants to make sure that it is ready for kind of driving Ranger owners love to do.

So from grueling lab tests to robotic testing too harsh for humans to endure, from jagged trails in the Australian Outback to the Arizona desert, Ford is torturing its 2019 Ranger to make sure the new truck is up to Built Ford Tough durability standards and ready for adventure, said Rick Bolt, Ford Ranger chief engineer. Ranger testing is based on the same proven standards of the legendary Ford F-150. 'We torture every component

- from its high-strength steel frame to its EcoBoost engine to its cloth and leather-trimmed seats - to ensure Ranger is ready for any season and nearly any terrain," said Bolt.

Ford's rigorous approach to ensuring Ranger quality and capability starts in the lab, progresses to the proving grounds then is confirmed through intense real-world challenges in locations near and far. said Ford spokeswoman Dawn McKenzie.

At Ford's Michigan Proving Grounds, a fully loaded Ranger hits the brutal Silver Creek track with impacts so severe robotic drivers are used so humans don't get injured, McKenzie said. In the lab, a four-post shaker table abuses Ranger for days to check against squeaks and rattles.

In the real world, Ranger towing capability is tested in high temperatures on the unforgiving long steep grades of Davis Dam in Arizona, while the Australian Outback treats the truck to more heat and choking dust over harsh off-road terrain, McKenzie said.

The 2019 Ranger will offer purpose-built features like a Terrain

Management System, Trail Control and blind spot monitoring with trailer support, plus a host of available adventure-ready features, the new Built Ford Tough Ranger makes its exciting return to the United States in early 2019. Bolt said.

Even its design is tough, Bolt said. Ranger's body features a high beltline that emphasizes strength, while a raked grille and windshield provide an athletic appearance - designed to aid in aerodynamics and reduce wind noise. Short overhangs are functional off-road for clearing obstacles.

From the rear, the Ranger nameplate stamped in the tailgate with a design meant to convey strength, and the tailgate itself is designed to handle people and cargo, McKenzie said.

"A rugged steel bumper with an available integrated trailer hitch receiver helps make towing campers, ATVs or watercraft a breeze," Bolt said.

Ranger's twin-power dome hood houses its 2.3-liter Eco-Boost engine designed for efficiency and capability thanks to direct fuel injection, a twin-scroll turbocharger and 16-valve design, Bolt said. For added durability, the engine features a forged-steel crankshaft and connecting rods, and chain-driven dual overhead cams.



Production of the Ford F-150 pickup truck in Dearborn was halted.

### Fire at Auto Supplier Site Shuts Down F-150 Work

#### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

can to limit the impact on our production," said Joe Hinrichs, executive vice president and president of Global Operations. "It's a full team effort and we're confident that any impacts will be short term.

The good news is we have strong inventories of our bestselling F-Series pickups and other vehicles, and customers won't have a problem finding the model they want."

Current impacts from the supply shortage, included:

- F-150 production is suspended at Kansas City (Mo.) Assembly Plant and will also be suspended at the Dearborn (Mich) Truck Plant at the end of the afternoon shift the evening of May 9.
- Ford F-Series Super Duty production is down at Ken-Truck Plant in tucky Louisville. Ford expects Super Duty production to continue at Ohio Assembly Plant in Avon Lake.

The production difficulties followed a fire at the Eaton Rapids plant of Meridian Magnesium Products. The facility is owned firm Wangfeng roup, which ac-/adhavkar, who eridian Magnering in Septems senior managstructures and supplier techniin purchasing North America, was quoted in the Detroit Free Press as saving "Ford has 100 percent of its truck radiator supports in North America coming out of the Eaton Rapids facility. 'You don't have multiple suppliers for a complicated part like this one. You have specialty manufacturers because it's more efficient. And you can't just take molds for the casting and ship them to another plant or supplier overseas " Eaton Rapids Fire Chief Roger McNutt said in a statement to the media that about three-quarters of the facility appeared to have been seriously affected by the

fire and that it might take a couple of weeks to get the facility back up and running.

Ford officials confirmed that Meridian produces the "front bolster," which structurally reinforces the engine where the radiator is attached, for the F-150, Super Duty trucks, Expedition and Navigator.

The supplier also makes a third-row seat cushion pan for the Ford Explorer, Ford Flex and the Lincoln MKT, and a lift gate for the MKT.

The Detroit News reported that FCA. General Motors Co., BMW and Mercedes-Benz also have halted or adjusted production on some vehicles in the U.S. and Canada as a result of the May 2 explosion and fire at Meridian Magnesium Products in Eaton Rapids.

#### **Ford Executive** Named As the **Person to Help United Way Drive**

Ford's Joe Hinrichs, executive vice president and president of Global Operations, will lead the United Way for Southeastern Michigan Community Giving Campaign from 2018 through 2020. Hinrichs begins his two-year commitment as campaign chair in July and will become the face of United Way's annual giving campaign, said Ford spokesman Eric Mitchell. "Ford's mission to make people's lives better is advanced and bolstered by our long-term relationship with United Way," said Hinrichs. "It is my privilege to serve in this leadership capacity and I look forward to working closely with the people of Metro Detroit to raise the quality of life for all people facing challenges in our community." Since 1949, Ford Motor Company Fund, the philanthropic arm of Ford Motor Company, has been a proud supporter of United Way for Southeastern Michigan and its predecessor United Foundation of Detroit, Mitchell said.



DECEMBER 8, 2014

Information Page

Since 1933 - originating as the New Center News

contact News Dept

Detroit Auto Scene.

Open This Week's Edition or click on image at right > > >

News of the Automotive, Technology and Supplier Community

CLICK TO PRINTABLE PDF         Advertising Rates         con           for examples of small ads         in actual size with prices         Advertising Rates         con	by the Chinese Auto Holdings G quired it in 2013. Abhay (Abe) worked with M sium before reti
return to TOP OF PAGE	ber 2017 as Ford
THIS SITE IS UPDATED ON THE WEEKEND FOR IN TIME FOR THE CURRENT BUSINESS WE	

### **Our classic tabloid format fits most** of today's mobile device screen resolutions. The scrollable pdf is viewable on tablet or smartphone.

# DetroitAutoScene.com

DETROIT AUTO SCENE

PAGE 11



DETROIT AUTO SCENE



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

