Tech Center News

WARREN, MICHIGAN

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Covers the Tech Center and the Immediate Area

OCTOBER 29, 2018

Son of Nobel Winner Goes From France to Tech Center Mourou's Work Combines Science, Art

by Jim Stickford

Julien Mourou was destined to work at the intersection of where art meets science.

His father is physicist Gerard Mourou - winner of the 2018 Nobel Prize in Physics for his chirped pulse amplification technique, used in bladeless LASIK eye surgery - and his mother, Marcelle, is a practioneer of Ikebana (the Japanese art of flower arrangements).

Mourou is a GM Global Innovation Body Lead. He said his work at GM allows him to use both art and science to create body designs meant to evoke passion in today's car buyers.

Mourou, 48, first started working for GM as a contractor in 1994. He is an alumnus of Michigan State University with a degree in Mechanics and Materials Science.

Born in France, Mourou said his family moved around a lot when he was young. His father attended an engineering boarding school that had foundries, drafting boards and all the infrastructure needed to be an engineer. When he graduated, he wanted to continue his studies and research.

Gerard Mourou, in lieu of going into the army for his national service, was able to go to Quebec City to do research.

"My brother Vincent was born there," Mourou said. "Back then my parents had a Plymouth Satellite convertible and during this time they took a driving tour of the United States."

stint in Quebec City, Gerard Mourou wanted to continue in research and discovered that in those days, the best place to do that was in the United States.

During his time in this country, he spent time in San Diego and After completing his research Rochester, N.Y., where he was

contacted by people at the University of Michigan because the school wanted to build a topnotch optics department.

"So my dad and 15 of his assistants and their families moved to Ann Arbor," Mourou said. "Today

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Jake Fisher

Consumer Reports Ranks The Top **Auto Brands**

by Jim Stickford

The Consumer Reports 2018 Reliability Study is in, and the news is mixed.

Jake Fisher, director of Automotive Testing for Consumer Reports, told the Automotive Press Association, "Cars are improving. That's why we've been making modifications in the way we test EVs and pickup trucks.'

At the Oct. 24 event held at the Gem Theater in downtown Detroit, he continued, "Pickups are now as much luxury vehicles as

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

REACHWOOD

The Mourou family will be getting together again in Stockholm to see Gerard Mourou accept the Nobel Prize.

Auto Supplier Honored for Health Program

Inteva Products, a global Tier I automotive supplier of engineered components and systems based in Troy, was awarded as one of Michigan's Best and Brightest in Wellness.

This is the second year in a row that Inteva has been honored for quality and excellence in health awareness. Inteva was the only Tier I auto supplier recognized out of 114 businesses, said Inteva spokeswoman Karen Manardo. Michigan's Best and Brightest In Wellness is an initiative that is designed to recognize and celebrate quality and excellence in health awareness.

The program highlights employers, wellness providers, schools, faith-based groups, and nonprofits that promote a cul-

When many of the Ford Michigan Assembly Plant's 3,000 workers gathered at the plant Oct. 22, they got to celebrate a rebirth in more ways than one.

The festivities marked a renaissance for a plant just outside of Detroit that has experienced the highs and lows of the American auto industry for the past six decades, said Ford spokeswoman Dawn McKenzie.

The occasion also signals the rebirth of Ford Ranger, the midsize pickup that will return to American roads early next year after an eight-year hiatus, fully modernized for today's truck buyer, said McKenzie.

The special celebration to mark the kickoff of Ranger production included leaders from Ford and the United Auto Workers. Plant employees, media and others even had a chance to ride in the Ranger on a custom-built, off-road course in the parking lot of the plant, McKenzie said. "Ford truck fans demanded a midsize pickup that's 'Built Ford Tough,' and we're delivering with our all-new Ranger that's specially designed and engineered for American truck customers," said

"At the same time, we're revihere in the U.S."

Ford has invested \$850 million to build exciting new vehicles at Michigan Assembly Plant, said Hinrichs, including the new Ranger for North America and the highly anticipated new Ford Bronco, scheduled to begin production in 2020.

For Michigan Assembly, a building station wagons, the start of Ranger production marks

Beginning in 1966, the plant started a 30-year run of building Bronco, one of the original sport utility vehicles that gained popularity in America after World War II, Hinrichs said. Michigan Assembly gained acclaim as being among the most important and profitable factories in the world



The first new Rangers are now coming off the production line.

when it made Ford Expeditions icans' appetite for pickups and and Lincoln Navigators from 1996 to 2008.

SUVs continues to grow. Ford is transforming its prod-Early this year, Michigan As- uct lineup, building on truck, SUV

Joe Hinrichs, Ford's president of Global Operations.

Ford's Ranger Rides Again, Built at Michigan Assembly

talizing our Michigan Assembly Plant and securing good-paying jobs for our hourly employees

sprawling 369-acre plant in Wayne, which opened in 1957 a new era.

ture of wellness; and those who plan, implement, and evaluate efforts in employee wellness to make their business and the community a healthier place to live and work. Manardo said.

Inteva Products program is designed to help its U.S.-based employees manage their health by offering incentives for participation in wellness programs and personal health goal attainment - not only for the individual employee but also for spouses. The health-related policies are meant to protect and promote employee health and wellness.

At Inteva's World Headquarters & Technical Center in Troy, the company helps employees to reduce stress levels by offering weekly onsite chair massages, onsite yoga classes and walking groups, and providing fresh fruit and healthy options at the employee Marketplace.

sembly ended production of the Focus small car to make way for a massive retooling in preparation for the Ranger launch.

The factory is set to build two high-profile vehicles again in the Ranger and new Bronco as Amerand commercial vehicle strengths. Ranger is one of the first in an onslaught of new vehicles that will see Ford aim to replace more than 75 percent of its

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Gavin Brown

Wanna Connect with Air Force? Go to MAMA

by Jim Stickford

The Air Force is listening. That was the message of the Michigan Aerospace Manufacturing Association (MAMA) Air Force Research Laboratory Day Oct. 23 in Sterling Heights.

The purpose of this event is to inform Michigan manufacturers how they can do business with the U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL)," said Gavin Brown, executive director of MAMA.

"The AFRL is located in Dayton, Ohio, at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. I know there are Michigan business people who are looking to do more business with the Air Force and the Department of Defense. That's where we come in. We provide them with the conduit they need to get that business."

Over the past couple of years, the Air Force has created new programs such as the Other Transaction Authority (OTA), Brown said. This program and

others like it are designed to cut through red tape and make the Air Force procurement process easier to navigate for businesses, especially small businesses.

"But just because the Air Force wants to cut red tape doesn't mean red tape goes away," Brown said.

"The OTA program does make it easy for people at the Air Force to go out and just buy the hammers they need without having

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Library Hosting Halloween Fun

It's no trick.

On Oct. 31, children can stop by Civic Center, Miller Library or Busch Library to make a Halloween craft and choose a treat.

Costumes are welcome, said Warren librarian Jennifer Lund. Hours are: Civic Center Library and Busch Branch Library: 3:00 -4:30 p.m.; Miller Branch Library: 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

No registration is required for this drop-in program. Children of all ages are welcome.



2019 Ram 1500 Longhorn Crew Cab



2019 Mustang Bullitt



2018 Chevrolet Traverse

Detroit OEMs Build Vehicles for Fun and Active Lifestyles 1500 Longhorn Crewcab 4x4 a

Detroit automakers are building some vehicles that really fit the active lifestyle. At least that is what the judges for the Southwest Lifestyle Media group believe. FCA, GM and Ford all had pickups that took top honors in the Truck of the Year category as well as other vehicles that scored well in different categories.

The first annual Southwest Lifestyle Media Drive was held at Bondurant Racing School in Chandler, Ariz., where a panel of 18 automotive journalists evaluated cars, crossovers, SUVs and trucks in four categories. Jurors ranked individual vehicles in categories related to fuel efficiency, performance, comfort, storage

solutions and safety systems, said Becky Antioco, president of the Southwest Lifestyle Media group.

in the Truck of the Year category.

Colorado Z2 that "the more

bumps in the road the better.

Featuring segment exclusives

like Multimatic shocks and front

and rear electronic locking differ-

entials, this capable midsize

truck was built for the road less

inum for its 3.0-liter Power Stroke

diesel engine. They were im-

pressed with its officially EPA-es-

timated ratings of 30 mpg high-

way, 22 mpg city and 25 mpg

Judges liked the 2019 GMC

Sierra AT4, saying it "heralds the

arrival of the AT4 sub-brand for

GMC. Much like Denali, the ulti-

mate expression of professional

grade, AT4-equipped vehicles are

made for a distinct customer and

deliver a unique formula of au-

thentic off-road capability, inno-

vative technology paired with premium refinement and a bold

They liked the Ford F-150 Plati-

traveled.'

combined.

Judges said of the 2019 Chevy

new 2019 Ram 1500 is the benchmark for durability, technology, The 2019 Chevy Colorado ZR2, efficiency and convenience with the 2018 Ford F-150 Platinum features never before offered in a Crew Cab x4 Diesel, the 2019 pickup. Overall weight for the GMC Sierra AT4 and the 2019 Ram 1500 has been reduced by Ram 1500 Longhorn Crewcab 4x4 225 pounds. were the vehicles named as tops

As the truck's backbone, the frame uses advanced materials and engineering to eliminate 100 pounds while increasing stiffness and durability for 12,750 pounds of towing capability and 2,300 pounds of payload."

"no-compromise truck, the all-

The 2019 Dodge Challenger SRT Hellcat Redeye took top honors in the Southwest Lifestyle Car of the Year - Performance/Luxury category.

"Dodge Challenger SRT Hellcat Redeye is about as much fun as any vehicle we've driven. You can't help but get a rush from the engine growl, the all-out power, and the superb handling. Yet, it's surprisingly manageable and comfortable enough to be an everyday driver - if you can resist the temptation to push the speed limit," said Becky Antioco, president of the Southwest Lifestyle Media group.

The 2018 Ford Mustang Bullitt car was named a top car in the Performance/Luxury car catego-

Judges wrote that in celebrat-

litt," Ford has introduced "the new cool and powerful 2019 Mustang Bullitt."

The 2018 Chevy Traverse took top honors in the SUV/Crossover of the Year - Best Value category. The 2018 Jeep Wrangler Sahara was third. Judges liked the Traverse because it is a vehicle "for the go-getters, the adventure seekers, the family that's always in motion and anyone else who finds meaning in the everyday drive. And with seven different trim levels, and the ability to seat up to eight passengers, there's a to suit everyone's version needs."

They liked the Wrangler because it "builds on its legendary history with an unmatched combination of off-road capability, authentic Jeep design, open-air freedom, advanced fuel-efficient powertrains, superior on- and off-road dynamics, and a host of innovative safety and advanced technology features.'

And the winner of the Car of the Year - Best Value category is the 2019 Fiat 124 Spider, which impressed judges, Antioco said.

"The Fiat 124 Spider – with iconic Italian styling, segment-exclusive turbo power and some very cool new options that stand out on the road and the track offers the ultimate top-down, funto-drive experience," judges wrote.

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Macomb County Offering New Aerial Maps

The Macomb County Department of Planning and Economic Development (MCPED) has released new aerial maps covering all 27 communities within its boundaries. The maps were last updated in 2015, meaning the new visuals show significant changes in parcel properties, streets, highways, water features, buildings, trees and vegetation.

"Our digital mapping system is one of the foundations of our department," said John Paul Rea, director of MCPED. "With the

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tremendous amount of activity and investment in the county, this resource is available to residents, businesses and stakeholders to explore and examine what is happening around Macomb."

The process of creating the new aerial maps began in May 2018, when an aerial imagery firm captured ortho-photography by flying a group of airplanes over the county in vertical and horizontal patterns with global positioning.

Using highly specialized cameras, the planes captured images in a raw digital format. Afterward, a complex process of ground control and a rectification to Earth's surface were used to stretch the imagery onto the contours of the ground, creating a countywide mosaic.

The end result is a resource that can be used for a wide-range of activities, including land-use planning, archaeology, movie production, environmental studies, power line inspection, surveillance, commercial advertising, conveyancing and artistic projects, Rea said.

Current and historical aerial maps (2000-2018) are accessible to the public free of charge online at the Macomb County GIS Portal (gis.macombgov. org/go/aerials). They are also available as composite property line and aerial photo prints and pdfs for \$12 each at the Macomb County Department of Planning and Economic Development's map store (map.macombgov. org/MAP-MapsForPurchase) and at the Macomb County Department of Planning and Economic Development office (1 South Main, 7th Floor, Mount Clemens, MI). In-person map sale hours are from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

GMC appearance." Judges called the 2019 Ram ing the 50th anniversary of "Bul-

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MSU Sets Food Class

MSU Extension is offering an eight-hour ServSafe Training developed by the National Restaurant Association and designed for food service managers whose certification needs to be renewed

Class will take place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 1 in the Training Room at the Macomb County Family Resource Center, 196 North Rose, Mount Clemens. The cost is \$75. Advance registration is required at msue.anr.msu.edu/events.

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Son of a Nobel Winner Goes From France to Tech Center

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he is still a professor emeritus there and is doing research at the Ecole Polytechnic in France. He is working with fellow scientists in the European Union to build billion-dollar sites to study the fundamentals of laser science at three different facilities in different countries in Europe."

Mourou said he chose to study at MSU because the school has one of the top composite labs in the state, if not in the entire country.

"They have a fantastic composites lab," Mourou said. "And composites for autos and the auto industry really is what I'm interested in."

While at Michigan State, Mourou was able to put together an SAE team to build a car using Computer Assisted Design (CAD) technology as part of a design contest for students.

"Now this was in the early 1990s," Mourou said. "This kind of thing was brand new. We were able to create a system that allowed us to mold carbon fiber body parts using digital means only. We didn't actually see the parts all together in reality until we merged them with the chassis of the vehicle we were working on."

The end result was that Mourou and his team's car was voted best design in the event they were participating in.

"It was for a hybrid EV," Mourou said. "We built it from the ground up, and what I really liked about the project was that I was able to express my affection for the process and create designs that people got excited about. It was really cool to hear kids look at our design and say how much they liked it."

Now Mourou works at the GM Tech Center in Warren with a team. It's their job to work with engineers and designers to create unique vehicles that capture the passion of today's drivers.

"I learned to work with a team at MSU and today I'm a facilitator of the design and engineering process," Mourou said. "It's my job to help my team catch that lightning bolt and create a design that has that passion."

But part of the job of working in body innovation is to facilitate ideas while making sure that the technology used in vehicles to create the bodies of the future is the right technology.

"I also enjoy working with designer groups and user experience groups to make sure the drivers and passengers will have a good user experience while driving the cars they're in," Mourou said.

"We have to remember it's not a matter of putting technology in a vehicle for the sake of technology, but making sure the right technology is used to improve the driving experience for the end user. It's part of my job to make sure that the tech we use to design cars and the tech we put in cars are ready."

Mourou's wife Ewa is a chocolate importer and independent business owner. She was born in Poland and came to the United States when she was two. They have a son, Adrien, who is 13, and a daughter, Natalie, who is 15.

"My wife works with my brother Vincent, who makes chocolate," Mourou said. "*The New York Times* called it the best chocolate no one has ever heard of."

Mourou said he will be going to Stockholm, Sweden, in early December to see his father receive his Nobel Prize.

"It will be nice to see the whole family," Mourou said. "Plus, my dad has students and colleagues who are interesting to talk to." CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

they are work vehicles, and we're raising the bar on how we test them."

Fisher said *Consumer Reports* obtains its reliability data from an Annual Questionnaire that is sent to members of CR.org and *Consumer Reports* magazine. In all, he said they received responses on over 500,000 vehicles in their latest survey, detailing 2000 to 2018 models.

"The *Consumer Reports* National Research Center conducts the survey each year," Fisher said. "In the questionnaire, we ask members to note any problems with their cars that occurred in the past 12 months.

"They are asked to identify problems that they considered serious (because of cost, failure, safety, or downtime). We ask them to include problems covered by warranty, but not the ones resulting from accident damage or due solely to recall.

Respondents check off problems from a list of trouble areas, ranging from the engine and transmission to climate system, brakes, electrical system, and power accessories. They also tell us specifically what their experiences were to help us understand precisely what problems they're having."

And *Consumer Reports*' prediction of new-car reliability is a key element of CR's Overall Score, Fisher said. This also includes road-test performance, owner satisfaction survey results, whether a vehicle comes with key safety systems, and results from car safety tests.

Fisher said what they've discovered is that what people are looking for in new vehicles are reliability, safety, price and performance.

"What we've learned is people want safe, reliable and pricedright cars," Fisher said. "What we talk about in our report is what car owners are telling us."



The 2019 Cadillac XTS earned praise from Consumer Reports.

The top 10 brands are Lexus, Toyota, Mazda, Subaru, Kia, Infiniti, Audi, BMW, Mini and Hyundai, Fisher said. The bottom 10 are Lincoln, Dodge, Jeep, Chevrolet, Chrysler, GMC, Ram, Tesla, Cadillac and, at the bottom, Volvo.

Consumer Reports Talks Brand Reliability

But the news wasn't always bad for Detroit automakers. Fisher named these vehicles that made "Newly Recommended Models with Improved Reliability" category: Cadillac XTS, Chevy Cruze, Chevrolet Suburban, Chrysler 300, Dodge Charger and Lincoln Continental.

And the news wasn't always good for imports, Fisher said. Several imports made *Consumer Reports'* "No Longer Recommended Models with Declining Reliability" category including the BMW X1, the BMW X3, the Genesis G90, the Honda Clarity, the Honda Odyssey, the Kia Cadenza, the Mazda CX-3, and the Mercedes E Class. The category included the Tesla Model S.

"These are mixed results,"

Fisher said. "Even the top brands had vehicles rated poorly."

When asked why some brands and vehicles did better than others, Fisher said that complexity to vehicles affect reliability.

He said Cadillac vehicles "have a lot of stuff" and that stuff is complex.

One thing *Consumer Reports* noticed is that brands adding new technology like nine-speed transmissions in the last year did less well.

"With this added complexity," Fisher said, "it's not surprising to see some brands struggling to get them right, particularly the ones that don't have a long history of producing turbos."

And the better-rated vehicles such as the Ford Taurus, which made the "Much Better Than Average" category have been around a while. The Taurus is Ford's oldest sedan.

"Basically, when a brand has gone a few years since redesign, companies have the time to work the bugs out," Fisher said.





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Ford Rangers In Production Again in Michigan

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current North American portfolio by 2020.

"UAW-Ford members take pride in relaunching the all-new Ranger right here in Michigan," said UAW-Ford Vice President Rory Gamble.

"Our UAW brothers and sisters take great care in the quality and craftsmanship customers will discover when they experience the relaunch of this iconic nameplate."

Ranger, said McKenzie, is designed for today's midsize truck buyer who blends city living with off-the-grid adventure. The midsize pickup will deliver utility, capability and technology those customers want and need.

Powered by a 2.3-liter Eco-Boost engine and class-exclusive 10-speed automatic transmission, Ranger will deliver driverassist technologies and connectivity features as well as best-inclass payload, gas towing and gas torque, Hinrichs said.

"We have been waiting for this day for a long time," said Michigan Assembly Plant Manager Erik Williams.

"The Ranger is back home in the U.S., and our employees at Michigan Assembly Plant are thrilled to be able to build it for our customers." Getting a self-driving car up and running is more than a matter of engineering.

Just like guiding a bill through Congress, establishing a selfdriving vehicle business requires a lot of coordination, said Sherif Marakby, CEO of Ford Autonomous Vehicles.

"Not only do self-driving vehicles need to operate safely and reliably," he said, "but they also need to work in concert with the businesses, people and cities they serve. On top of all this, they must operate within an ecosystem that supports their operation and maintenance.

"As Ford's work in all those areas continues in Detroit, Pittsburgh and Miami, we are expanding to become the first company to test autonomous vehicles in Washington, D.C. – according to the district – by establishing a self-driving vehicle business, a business that will be responsive to the needs of the city and its residents.

"Both Ford and district officials are committed to exploring how self-driving vehicles can be deployed in an equitable way across the various neighborhoods that make up Washington, D.C., and in a way that promotes job creation."

The advent of self-driving vehicles promises a chance to make it more affordable and easier for people to get to jobs by filling gaps in access to public transportation, new ways to deliver food and other products, and more. It also means change – and how the public and automakers prepare for that change will greatly impact people and their communities, Marakby said.

"That's why we'll be working with local officials in Washington, D.C.," he said, "to ensure that we test our self-driving vehicles in all eight of the district's wards – and eventually operate business pilot programs in all eight wards as well – as we work toward deployment of a commercial service in 2021.

"We believe that ensuring widespread access to mobility services enabled by self-driving vehicles is vital, a sentiment that was underscored in a report by Securing America's Future Energy (SAFE), which found that autonomous technology could improve people's access to jobs as well as retail markets."

Ford's partners at Argo AI, who are leading development of the self-driving system, already have vehicles on district streets, mapping roads in the first step toward testing in autonomous mode.

Over the next year, the fleet will grow as we expand testing areas, including within the city's downtown core.

"Meanwhile," said Marakby, "we're also collaborating with the D.C. Infrastructure Academy in Ward 8, a workforce training center launched by Mayor Muriel Bowser earlier this year that pre-



Ford is testing autonomous vehicles in and around Washington, D.C.

pares residents for a number of jobs.

"We're looking to train a roster of vehicle operators, who will be responsible for safely operating and monitoring our test vehicles on public roads and on closed courses throughout the development process."

Additionally, Ford will work to train residents for auto technician careers that could involve self-driving vehicles in the future. This training will be through courses developed by Excel Automotive in Ward 7 and Ford's Automotive Career Exploration program with support from local dealers Chesapeake Ford Truck, DARCARS and Sheehy Ford of Marlow Heights, Md.

With new technology comes new opportunities, after all, and self-driving vehicles won't be an exception, Marakby said. According to the same SAFE report, a strong workforce development infrastructure can smooth over employment disruptions and "speed the evolution of worker skill requirements that will con-

tribute to full employment and economic growth."

Acting now in preparation for the future "is necessary," Marakby said, "so that we aren't caught flat-footed as autonomous technology gains mainstream adoption. Part of that means making sure all residents have the chance to learn new skills, and we are committed to helping identify new jobs for communities as self-driving vehicles take to the streets.

"As we move forward with these initiatives, we're fortunate to be working with Mayor Bowser," Marakby said. "She and her administration have been strong supporters of new mobility initiatives, with a track record of leadership on autonomous technology. Washington, D.C., part of the Bloomberg Aspen Initiative on Cities and Autonomous Vehicles, is the first city to conduct pilots with food delivery bots, and its long-term planning calls for the District to become a test bed for self-driving vehicles and connected technology."

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Local Firms Gets Schooled by MAMA On Doing Business With Air Force

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to create a two-year process that ends up costing more.

"These programs have been around for a few years, but they haven't been publicized a lot. There are a lot of businesses that don't know about them and might be afraid to try and go through the normal procurement processes, so they don't look for Air Force contracts."

So MAMA got together with representatives of the AFRL to talk to MAMA members and other interested parties about how these new procurement processes work.

Among the speakers was Lenell Kern, a management analyst with AFRL's Materials State Awareness and Supporting Branch.

Kern said that the Air Force is aware of the difficulties business-

grams designed to make procurement easier, getting through the system can be daunting, Yoder said.

By working with MAMA, local businesses can get the help they need and get pointed in the right direction.

"That's why we do this," Brown said. "For those who couldn't attend our gathering, they can learn more by going to our Web site at www.michman.org."

Mid-Michigan SAE Hosting November Meet

The Mid-Michigan Section of the Society of Automotive Engineers, SAE International, will hold its November dinner and program meeting on Monday evening, Nov. 12, at the Holiday Inn - Gateway Center, US23 at Hill Road, Flint Township. The speaker for the evening will be Laura Klauser, Cadillac Racing Program manager, said Mid-Michigan SAE spokesman Patrick D. Bisson. Her topic will be the inside story of Cadillac racing and will cover a historical overview of Cadillac's racing ventures. Cadillac's current racing successes will be discussed with an emphasis on the technology being used to produce a winning image for Cadillac, on the track as well as in the sales showroom. Social hour is at 6 p.m. and dinner is at 7 p.m. The program begins at 8 p.m. Dinner cost for SAE and SVEC members is \$35, retired SAE member cost is \$30, and student cost is \$20. Nonmember cost is \$40. This event is open to the public. For more information and dinner reservations, contact Bernard Santavy at 810-635-7948.

evan.lian@raymondjames.com.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 7, 2018

Meeting 1: 7:00 - 7:50 a.m. (breakfast included) Meeting 2: 11:30 a.m. - 12:20 p.m. (lunch included)

Location: Courtyard by Marriott Detroit Warren (30190 Van Dyke Ave., Warren, MI 48093)

TUESDAY, NOV. 13, 2018

Meeting 1: 7:00 - 7:50 a.m. (breakfast included) Meeting 2: 11:30 a.m. - 12:20 p.m. (lunch included)

Location: Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center (400 Renaissance Dr., Detroit, MI 48243)

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es have in the procurement process, which is why OTA programs were created.

"When I go around the country talking about this, I ask people if they've heard of OTAs," Kern said. "The responses are usually in the negative.

"I'm here because I was invited and because I want you people to be able to get through the procurement walls at Wright-Patterson."

Kern was joined by her colleague, Kimberly Yoder, deputy director of Research and Development Contracting at Wright-Patterson.

Yoder said the Air Force is looking for new kinds of business partnerships and she's aware that in the past businesses have gone bankrupt because it took the government nine months to pay them.

That's why working with groups like MAMA is so important. Even using the latest technology and looking at pro-

Vacuum Firm Dyson Wants to Make EVs

British company best known for vacuum cleaners and prized hair dryers, said Oct. 23 it will build its new electric car in Singapore as it joins the increasingly crowded race to create the next generation of clean vehicles.

The bespoke manufacturing facility is due for completion in 2020 and is part of a \$3.2 billion investment in new tech globally.

Dyson did not say what kind of a car it hoped to produce, or how many a year. But it is set to at least try to get a foothold in the EVar industry, where visionaries like Elon Musk at Tesla struggle to translate ideas into profits.

Other carmakers also are ramping up their investments in electric cars, but there's no clear front-runner in the field, said David Bailey, a professor of industrial strategy at Aston Business School.

Bailey guessed that Dyson would shoot for a premium product - aiming at Tesla, BMW or Jaguar. Given Tesla's challenges, it is likely to not be simple, particularly since Dyson doesn't have the infrastructure other carmakers do, he said.

"I do think they underestimate the scale of the challenge," he said.

The location in Singapore would put Dyson close to the big and growing Chinese market, where carmakers are increasingly focusing sales. The country is preparing a big shift to electric cars to fight its heavy levels of pollution and to modernize the economy.

But tapping the Chinese market can be difficult. Tesla signed an agreement to secure land in Shanghai for its first factory outside the United States only last week. BMW took a majority stake in its China joint venture earlier this month. General Motors Co.,

LONDON (AP) - Dyson, the Volkswagen AG and Nissan Motor Corp. are also pouring billions into making electric vehicles in China

"Dvson is one of the new players in a profoundly changed market," Bailey said. "The race is on.

The choice of Singapore, meanwhile, will raise eyebrows in Britain, which was hoping Dyson would invest more as the country prepares to exit the European Union.

"The decision of where to make our car is complex, based on supply chains, access to markets, and the availability of the expertise that will help us achieve our ambitions ... ," Dyson CEO Jim Rowan said in writing to the company's staff.

"Our existing footprint and team in Singapore, combined with the nation's significant ad-

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vanced manufacturing expertise, made it a frontrunner.

Billionaire founder James Dyson has been a prominent advocate of Britain's departure from the EU. His critics immediately suggested the company's decision was hypocritical, given that the U.K. is destined to leave the 28-nation bloc and market of 500 million in the coming year.

"It's hardly a vote of confidence in global Britain," said Ian Murray, a Labour Party lawmaker and supporter of an organization fighting to keep Britain in the EU. "When even someone who claims there will be a resurgence in British manufacturing after Brexit isn't prepared to put his money where his mouth is, it raises serious questions about the future of our economy and the impact on jobs and livelihoods as a result of Brexit."

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VW Getting Its Diesels Off the Road

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP) -German automaker Volkswagen says it is offering more incentives to trade in older diesel models in an effort to improve air quality.

The company said Oct. 18 it would offer trade-in incentives for people who want to replace old diesels that met formerly looser emissions standards, and

additional premiums for people who want to offload more recent diesels in 14 German cities with high pollution levels.

The German auto industry is under pressure to address higher levels of pollution from diesels after VW's 2015 scandal over cheating on emissions tests. An earlier VW program took 210,000 older diesels off the road.







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Chevy Plays Ball and Honors Youth Coach

The World Series is the perfect place to honor youth baseball, and that's just what Chevrolet did.

Chevrolet presented the inaugural Chevy Cares Award to longtime youth baseball coach Mike Van Cleave, to shine a spotlight on those who dedicate their lives to train, mentor and invest in youth baseball players in their hometowns in a special on-field ceremony before Game Two of the World Series at Fenway Park in Boston on Oct. 24.

Van Cleave received the award from Chevrolet Experiential Marketing Senior Manager Steve Haener, and in addition to the award, Van Cleave was given a 2019 Chevrolet Traverse to support his continued efforts in service of his community, said GM spokeswoman Afaf Farah.

Van Cleave has been involved with the Clairemont Hilltoppers in San Diego for 50 years. Since joining the Hilltoppers as an eight-year-old player, Van Cleave has served as a coach, umpire and board member. Farah said. He has coached hundreds of Clairemont kids over the past 45 years. Today, Van Cleave is in charge of uniforms and equipment, mows and maintains the fields, attends board meetings, works on schedules and participates in fundraisers in addition to his role as coach.

"Mike goes above and beyond in his selfless dedication to youth baseball and the children on his team and in his community - the commitment and values that he demonstrates through his work are the same that drive all of us at Chevrolet every day to put our customers first and contribute in a meaningful way to the communities where we live and work," said Paul Edwards, U.S. vice president,



Haener honored Van Cleave at Fenway Park during the World Series.

Chevrolet Marketing. "We're proud to honor Mike with the first Chevy Cares Award and a 2019 Chevrolet Traverse - a family vehicle perfect for hauling both equipment and team members to every game."

Van Cleave was nominated by the Jimmie Johnson's Kearny Mesa Chevrolet in San Diego for his work with the Chevy Youth Baseball program.

Chevrolet is the Official Vehicle of Major League Baseball and the Official Automotive Sponsor of the PLAY BALL initiative to support America's national pastime. PLAY BALL is a collective effort to encourage young people and communities to participate in baseball- or softball-related activities, including formal leagues, events and casual forms of play, Farah said.

Since 2006, more than 7.3 million kids have been empowered to play baseball and softball through the Chevy Youth Baseball program. The program sponsors equipment and uniform donations, instructional clinics and field refurbishment.

Penske's Third Quarter Earnings

BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Mich. lysts had for the Penske Automo-(AP) – Penske Automotive Group Inc. (PAG) on Oct. 25 reported third-quarter earnings of \$130.2 million.

The Bloomfield Hills, Michiganbased company said it had net income of \$1.53 per share.

Earnings, adjusted for pretax gains and to account for discontinued operations, were \$1.40 per share.

The reported results exceeded the expections Wall Street ana-

tive Group.

The average estimate of four analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research was for earnings of \$1.38 per share.

The auto dealership chain posted revenue of \$5.66 billion in the period.

Penske shares have fallen roughly 4 percent since the beginning of the year. The stock has climbed slightly in the last 12 months.







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