Detroit Auto Scene®

"FIRST IN THE HEART OF DETROIT"

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NOVEMBER 12, 2018

Ram, FFA Honor Farmers at Indy Expo

Indianapolis last month for the 91st National FFA Convention & Expo with activities designed to commemorate and celebrate the fifth anniversary of the renowned Ram commercial, "Farmer."

FCA spokeswoman Diane Morgan said Ram's presence at FFC

The Ram Truck brand went to went beyond exhibit space. The nate and recognize those farmers brand featured an exclusive live performance by country recording artist Easton Corbin and the recognition of three finalists of the "The Farmer in All of Us" program, a nationwide social initiative that allowed current FFA members and alumni to nomi-

who have made an impact in their agriculture communities.

"The Ram Truck brand has been an active supporter of the national FFA organization for more than 60 years, but in the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



From left, singer Corbin, winners Pennoyer, Ledoux, Emmick and FFA's Piper Merritt take the stage.



Buick drivers can use Yelp Reservations at thousands of restaurants.

Buick Has No Reservations Connecting with Restaurants

Buick drivers can get a good using connectivity to enhance seat in a restaurant without ever leaving the driver's seat, thanks to a new app.

Drivers of properly equipped Buick vehicles can now make onthe-go reservations at a variety of restaurants with just a few taps on their infotainment touchscreen. Part of a recent update to Buick Marketplace, Yelp Reservations gives drivers access to thousands of restaurants nationwide.

Marketplace, the industry's first in-vehicle commerce platform, is one more way Buick is

vehicles and create new and convenient customer experiences, spokesman Stefan GM Cross.

Within the Marketplace app, Yelp Reservations allows customers to search for restaurants in a 25-mile radius of their vehicle's location and reserve a table for up to 10 people.

This is the first time Yelp Reservations has been embedded in vehicles, Cross said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

UD Mercy Seeks to Shake Up Student Awareness of STEM

as earth-shaking news, the Michigan Science Center is created an exhibit about earthquakes designed by University of Detroit Mercy students.

The entire exhibit is the result of a collaboration between University of Detroit Mercy, Ford Motor Company Fund (Ford Fund), Detroit Cristo Rey High School and the Michigan Science

The exhibit explores the science behind earthquakes through a table exhibit especially designed by Detroit Mercy dual enrollment students from Cristo Rey. Engineering students and faculty worked together with educators tion in the metro Detroit area.

In what can only be described at the Michigan Science Center, which is located in Detroit next to the Detroit Institute of Arts.

> They all got together to develop the concept, said Dave Pemberton, spokesman for University of Detroit Mercy, and later the prototype for this interactive display.

The project was made possible by a grant from the Ford Fund's Ford Community Corp. (FCC).

Through a partnership with Detroit Mercy's Institute for Leadership & Service, FCC aims to support faculty and students who are interested in developing a service-learning project to meet the needs of a nonprofit organization or target popula-

"I'm very thankful Ford Fund gives us the support to do projects like this because it's a great opportunity," said Detroit Mercy graduate Nynke Van Der Goot, who was one of the lead Engineering students on the project. "All the students involved in the project learned a lot. For me, it gave me real-world experience. It's also great that we can make a difference in the community.

Van Der Goot and Detroit Mercy student Jonathon Mittelstaedt created the proposal to develop a project for the Michigan Science Center. Once the proposal was approved, Van Der Goot and



Van Der Goot, left, discusses earthquake machine with Byrd.

Baby's Loss is Cancer Research's Gain

able to help. In summer 2006, Dr. Jim Osborn and his wife Amy Jo welcomed their newborn son, Austin (middle name Hatcher), into the world. Within weeks, their bright, cuddly baby boy began to show signs of an illness, and days later, they would learn he had inoperable brain cancer.

Just two weeks later, young "Hatch" died. Devastated, the couple decided to honor their son by helping other parents of children stricken with cancer and through their loss, the Austin Hatcher Foundation for Pediatric Cancer was born.

The Osborns registered the charity the following December with the mission to help raise awareness of pediatric cancer and to provide support for families struggling to cope with its effects and treatment. Leveraging Jim Osborn's experience as an

Sometimes it's just nice to be orthopedic surgeon guided them to a holistic approach to supporting cancer survivors healthy lifestyle education, psycho-oncology and diversionary therapy coupled with industrial

arts as a form of reparative ther-

As longtime motorsports enthusiasts, the Osborns turned to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Ford donated a 2019 Explorer to the Austin Hatcher Foundation.

Volvo to Focus on Design, Technology, Electrification

by Jim Stickford

Volvo is transforming.

Those were the words spoken by Anders Gustaffson, senior vice president of the Americas and president and CEO of Volvo Car USA at the Automotive Press Association gathering Nov. 8.

Speaking at the Gem Theater in Detroit about the future of the Volvo brand in the United States, he said, "We are known for the safety of our vehicles, but we are now focusing on design, technology and electrification.'

He told reporters at the Nov. 8 gathering that the great thing about the United States is that it's not really so much a country as a continent when it comes to Volvo developing a brand



Gustafson

That was important to consider because Volvo used to be a Eu-

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Oakland County Health Warns of Measles Danger

Oakland County Health Division has received confirmation from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services about two measles cases in Oakland County residents.

The cases arrived on a flight at Detroit Metro Airport (DTW) on Oct. 23 at approximately 5 p.m. Oakland County officials advise individuals who were possibly exposed to watch for symptoms for 21 days after the exposure. If symptoms develop, it is crucial to call ahead to the healthcare provider you plan to visit so they can take proper precautions to prevent exposure to other individuals.

"Measles is a highly contagious respiratory infection." said Leigh-Anne Stafford, health officer for Oakland County. "Immunizations are the best way to protect our families and communities from vaccine preventable diseases like measles.

Go to oakgov.com/health for more information about measles, Stafford said.

Ford Helped Students Create Own Earthquake Machine

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mittelstaedt, along with Detroit Mercy Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering Nassif Rayess, taught a class with dual enrollment students from Detroit Cristo Rey, who were tasked with creating an idea for the project. Dual enrollment is a special program at Detroit Mercy, which allows high school students to take classes at the University for college credit.

The students toured the Michigan Science Center and developed several different ideas before settling on the Earthquake Table, Pemberton said. Van Der Goot, Mittelstaedt and Professor Mechanical Engineering Jonathan Weaver built the prototype, which was recently tested at the Michigan Science Center.

"It's amazing," said Van Der

Goot, who graduated in May and now works as a product engineer at The Woodbridge Group. "When we started, it was just an idea, a very vague idea. but I really wanted to see a new exhibit in the Science Center. Now the prototype is here and it's really a feeling of accomplishment."

The Earthquake Table allows Science Center guests to create structures and then test how they would hold up to simulated earthquakes. Guests can learn different techniques used in modern buildings to ensure their structures are sound.

"Users learn is how to build a stable structure so it doesn't shake as much," Van Der Goot "For example, if you use triangles, you can build a more stable structure than just having squares. It gets people interested in earthquakes and maybe the science behind earthquakes.'

The project is in the final stages after being tested by patrons at the Science Center, with plans for it to become a permanent exhibit.

"I think they came up with a really great design," said Cassie Byrd, chief learning officer at the Michigan Science Center. "The nice thing about the exhibit is its simplicity. It's gotten us excited about how we might incorporate more communitybuilt exhibits into our galleries.'

Van Der Goot said the dual enrollment students really enjoyed the class, and she's hopeful it will encourage them to pursue a career as an engi-

"Sometimes high school students think engineering is all

math," Van Der Goot said. "I thought maybe it will be cool for the students to do something that's more real life, then maybe they get more interested in engineering. It can motivate them to think, 'Oh, engineering is fun. There's a lot of cool stuff that goes into engineering.' Because there are not enough engineers in the world right now."

For more information on the Ford Community Corp visit https://www.udmercy.edu/about/ mission-vision/lead-serve/fordcommunity-corps.php.

For more information on Detroit Mercy's engineering program visit https://eng-sci.udmercy.edu/academics/engineering/index.php.

To learn more about the Michigan Science Center visit https://www.mi-sci.org.

Buick Has No Reservations Connecting with Restaurants

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Users can even segment their search by types of cuisine, such as Seafood or Mexican, and view the restaurant's rating and general price range. The app also lets drivers call a restaurant directly.

"Whether drivers want to make a dinner reservation on the go, or get recommendations for restaurants in a new city, the newly added Yelp Reservations brings simple convenience to the car," said Sam Russell, director of Buick Marketing.

"Making new features like this available for vehicles already on the road enhances our vehicles with unexpected new benefits for our customers."

With more than 160 million reviews, Yelp is a trusted resource for connecting consumers with great local businesses, Cross said. With the availability of Yelp Reservations. Buick drivers can learn about the best restaurants nearby and easily book a table at participating restaurants.

In beta testing, drivers using Reservations most frequently searched for restaurants within the American/Burgers cuisine category, closely followed by Asian/Vegetarian and Mexican cuisines.

"Getting a table at an amazing

we're excited to be making that possible by bringing Yelp Reservations directly into vehicles across the country," said Natarajan Subbiah, vice president of Products, Marketplaces at Yelp.

"By embedding the Yelp Reservations booking experience into Buick vehicles, drivers have a fun, easy way to discover and secure a table at the best restaurants in their area."

Buick Marketplace is available

restaurant should be easy, and on all 2017 and newer models in the U.S., depending on vehicle trim level orderd by the customer, Cross said.

In addition to Yelp Reservations, Marketplace also allows Buick drivers to place mobile food and drink orders, pay for fuel at gas stations and find dealer offers for vehicle service and the latest vehicle accessories, all from the convenience, safety and security of their vehicle's touchscreen, Cross said.

GM Expert to Share His Knowledge at LTU

Michael Arena, chief talent officer at General Motors Corp., will speak on how large organizations can become more nimble in an era of constant change as the next presenter in Lawrence Technological University's "Exec-

The event will be held Tues-

day, Nov. 13, beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the Mary E. Marburger Science and Engineering Auditorium, Room S100 of Lawrence Tech's Science Building.

In his speech, "Adaptive space: How companies are transforming into agile organizations," Arena will offer ideas on leveraging a network to get things done, understanding social capital inside and outside organizations, and disruption in the not-for-profit world and how to succeed in a world of change.

At GM, Arena has used concepts such as predictive analytics and network analysis to

utive to Executive" lecture se- launch GM2020, a grassroots initiative designed to enable employees to disrupt the way they work in a positive way, a move that was highlighted in magazines such as Fast Company and Fortune.

These experiences in creating a more nimble company are highlighted in Arena's book, "Adaptive Space: How GM and Other Companies are Positively Disrupting Themselves and Transforming into Agile Organizations."

The Executive to Executive speaker series is sponsored by Lawrence Tech's College of Business and Information Technology and the accounting and business advisory firm Plante Moran.

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"Achievement badges will be

added to your Dodge Garage pro-

file, can be shared on social me-

dia and will be available for pur-

chase as decals to be displayed

The Dodge brand does not en-

dorse any form of street racing,

Beahm said. All submissions must

be from a race conducted at a

from across hundreds of websites

and forums, in addition to the

Dodge brand's digital and social

channels, including YouTube,

Facebook, Twitter and Instagram,

to deliver the latest muscle car

and racing news to enthusiasts,

Morgan said. Once inside the

Dodge Garage, enthusiasts will

find toolboxes full of daily up-

dates, curating muscle car and

racing enthusiast content from

across the automotive spectrum.

Dodge Garage curates content

sanctioned race facility.

on your vehicle.'

Dodge R/T Scat Pack 1320 Has the Muscle

Drag race enthusiasts can get a taste of drag racing on real strips easier than ever thanks to Dodge.

The brand is accelerating its efforts to champion the achievements of enthusiasts competing in sanctioned quarter-mile drag races with the launch of the new 1320 Club, said FCA spokeswoman Diane Morgan.

Members of the 1320 Club will have the opportunity to show off their official drag strip accomplishments with pride, and challenge themselves and fellow racers to best their times to earn a top spot on either the Stock or Modified 1320 Club Leaderboard.

The 1320 Club lives on Dodge Garage, the brand's web site for racing and car enthusiasts, Morgan said.

"The 1320 Club provides our Dodge brand enthusiasts with an exclusive online destination to record and share their official quarter-mile achievements within the drag racing community," said Steve Beahm, head of Passenger Car Brands - Dodge, SRT, Chrysler and FIAT, FCA - North America.

With more Dodge brand enthusiasts than ever wanting to be part of our 'brotherhood of muscle,' the addition of the 1320 Club to the Dodge Garage further expands the ultimate digital content hub where muscle car and race enthusiasts can find the latest on all things Dodge, SRT and Mopar."

The 1320 Club is currently open exclusively to U.S. and Canadian owners of late model Dodge Challengers (2008 – current) and Chargers (2006 – current). All 1320 Club members will have the ability to create a public profile displaying their rides, take the entries, submit time slips for review and approval, find the next achievement," Beahm said.



The 2019 Challenger R/T Scat Pack 1320 is a drag-oriented muscle car.

drag strip to conquer, view the most recent racing news articles and earn digital achievement badges.

Decals of driver's earned achievement badges will be available to purchase to display on their vehicles, Beahm said. Achievement badges and decals will be available in gray for Stock or red for Modified. Stock or Modified badges that can be earned are the following:

- 1/4 mile ET // Ranging from 8.0 to 13.9.
- 0-60 ft. time // Ranging from 1.4 to 2.0.
- Top speed // Ranging from 105 to 170.

Once a 1320 Club decal is purchased, members will also receive an exclusive 1320 Club hat. #SaveYourSlips and upload them to join the leaderboard ranks for ultimate bragging rights.

Submissions will be reviewed and verified by Dodge Garage administrators.

When submissions are apsafe racing pledge, comment on proved, you'll receive an email confirming your next level of

Telsa Appoints New Head of Board

replacing Elon Musk will be a shareholder value," technology and automotive industry veteran, Robyn Denhol.

The appointment to the fulltime position takes effect immediately though Denholm will leave Telstra, Australia's biggest telecoms company, after a sixmonth notice period, Tesla said.

An Australian, Denholm is Telstra's chief financial officer and head of strategy and already has served on Tesla's board as an independent director.

"I believe in this company. I believe in its mission and I look forward to helping Elon and the Tes-

BANGKOK (AP) - Tesla said la team achieve sustainable prof-Nov. 8 that its new board chair itability and drive long-term Denholm said in a statement.





Ram Helps Celebrate **Future of USA's Farmers**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.

last five years since the premier of 'Farmer,' the connection with the FFA and farming communities across the nation has grown even stronger," said Reid Bigland, head of Ram Brand. "It is a great pleasure to be among thousands of FFA members, celebrating and honoring deserving individuals for their commitment to agriculture, work ethic, integrity and tenacity."

Attended by current and future farmers, national FFA organization members were treated to a live performance by country music recording artist and FFA alumnus Easton Corbin.

Corbin took the stage to perform, "Farmer in All of Us," developed with Universal Music Group Publishing in Nashville in collaboration with the Ram brand, Morgan said. The song is inspired by the powerful stirring "So God Made a Farmer" tribute delivered by radio broadcaster Paul Harvey. The video for "Farmer in All of Us" can be found on the Ram Truck brand's official YouTube channel.

In addition, the Ram Truck brand and the national FFA organization recognized three finalists of the "The Farmer in All of Us" program, honoring individuals who have made a significant agricultural impact in their communities and who embody the immortal words of Paul Harvey's iconic "So God Made a Farmer" speech, which Harvey delivered during the National FFA Convention 40 years ago.

The three finalists, who attended the FFA convention courtesy of the Ram brand and the FFA, were Grayce Emmick - Lewisport, Ky.; Jake Ledoux - Castorland. N.Y. and Arnold Pennoyer -Thermopolis, Wyo.

The Ram brand's commitment to agriculture continues to grow with several opportunities and initiatives to support the efforts of the nation's farmers, Bigland

From the launch of dedicated Harvest Edition trucks, to the offering of unique dealer incentives for farm-owning customers of the Ram Truck lineup, and through Ram's relationships with many diverse agriculture brands, customers can take advantage of additional incentives and discounts on purchases, worth thousands of dollars, of farm and ranch equipment and management tools.

The national FFA organization is a national youth organization of about 670,000 student members as part of 8,630 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The organization is supported by 513,890 alumni members in 2,290 local FFA Alumni chapters throughout the U.S.



Loss of Baby is Gain for Cancer Research

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to their friends at SEMA and the racing community to help them create the Hatcher Foundation's Education Advancement Center. The group includes professional therapists, arts and crafts programs, and an automotive program, where kids can take part in building custom show cars.

This past summer Ford donated a brand-new 2019 Ford Explorer Sport to the Austin Hatcher Foundation for the kids to customize into an eye-catching show vehicle, Sherwood said. The high-performance Explorer was part of the Ford display at this year's SEMA show in Las Vegas.

merged motorsports with therapy in an effort to make recovery fun and not sterile," said Jim. "There's a lot of science and amazing technology in both the recovery therapy and motorsports industries, so with a little adaptation, they work very well together to improve recovery and long-term quality of life.

"Some kids got to work on the upholstery, some on the racks and some on the lights," said Johnathan Myren, Austin Hatcher Foundation's Industrial Arts Director. "It serves as a diversion from the things they're going through, and we see progress in terms of their cognitive function and fine motor skills."



Ford donated a 2019 Explorer to the Austin Hatcher Foundation.

"One of the things that happens to kids undergoing chemo or radiation therapy is they lose dexterity, so they need occupational therapy to help restructure their sensing," said Jim. "Diversionary therapy is exactly what it sounds like. It gives you something fun to distract you from the things going on."

A number of aftermarket suppliers donated parts and services for the build, including BF-Goodrich, Yakima, RIGID lights, Paragon Wheels, Borla Exhaust, Hypertech, Traxda and Wizards Products, Sherwood said. Wastegate Technologies and Wrap Artists created and installed the custom wrap, with Top Notch Customs LLC and Fully Loaded Interiors providing powder coating and custom leather interior.

"I have to thank Ford Motor Company for allowing us to participate in this project," said Jim. "It's been awesome to see the kids working on this, and to hear the excitement in their voices when they finally got to see the finished product.

After SEMA, the Hatcher Foundation plans to use the Explorer to support its Healthy Lifestyles program and later will auction it off to help fund survivor support programs.

Volvo to Focus on Design, Technology, Electrification

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ropean automaker but is now owned by the Chinese, run by Swedes and has just completed a large manufacturing plant just outside of Charleston, S.C.

Volvo had previously announced that the company will have electric powertrains for all of its vehicles by the year 2020. While the internal combustion engine will not totally disappear, the company is focusing its efforts on EVs.

And for that to work, Volvo must pay attention to the residual values of EVs, Gustaffson

These types of vehicles haven't done well on the usedcar side of the equation.

It's vitally important that Volvo's new vehicles, especially the ones that are EVs, keep their residual value.

The company is growing in the U.S. The recently-reported October sales showed that 2018 numbers were 26 percent up from 2017. But Volvo still has only about 1 percent of the U.S. mar-

Gustaffson said Volvo's success in the auto industry is determined by residual values and that "you can't pay the bills" just by trying to grow market share, but rather by coming up with new ways for consumers to use Volvo vehicles.

That's why the brand has launched its "Care by Volvo" subscription service, Gustaffson said. Now people interested in Volvos can buy a car, lease one or use Care by Volvo's subscription service.

Care by Volvo differs from leasing in that customers don't have to negotiate a price.

Subscription prices are the same across the country, and thanks to Volvo's concierge service, consumers don't have to make a down payment. They just pay one monthly fee - that includes premium insurance no matter where a person lives maintenance and excess wear coverage.

They can upgrade to a new Volvo in as little as 12 months and they have a 15,000-mile allowance per year.

The service can be signed up via a smart phone app.

This program helps Volvo because cars that come back at the end of their subscription contracts can go through the company's resale infrastructure. This helps with residual prices and makes sure there's a market for Volvo EVs.

"Subscription service is about loyalty," Gustaffson said. "Our dream is that 'Care for Volvo' is launched for the used-car side of retail sales as well as for the newcar side. So when a car is returned, it can be used again. That helps with residual prices and makes Volvos more valuable.

When asked about the effect tariffs might have on Volvo, and how a new Congress would affect the company, he said that the company will "do what it has to do" but that given its worldwide reach, and the fact that they will be making cars in South Carolina, he wasn't too worried.

"We can handle tariffs," Gustaffson said. "But all OEMs, including those here in your lovely city and in Europe and Asia, will be affected. I think that things will be handled using common sense.

"As to the new Congress, I can only run the company based on what I know today. So it's too early to tell how a new Congress will affect things."

Gustaffson said it was important that Volvo hire the best workers (for the Charleston plant) it can find and that the company's inclusive work culture would be very attractive to prospective employees.

He said that Volvo has set a "university" where Volvo retailers and prospective employees can be educated in the corporate culture and obtain the skills they need to make Volvo a vibrant brand in the U.S.

Gustaffson said Volvo has always been a safety leader and being number one means that others try to surpass you.

But that competition has always fueled Volvo's efforts and that all new technology, he said, whether AV or EV will be created around the concept of safety being built into every design.



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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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Brand of Detroit's **Auto Industry**

FCA Foundation **Donations Help** Hurricane Victims

When the call for help went out, the FCA Foundation responded.

The FCA Foundation, the charitable arm of North American automaker FCA US, on Nov. 8 awarded \$200,000 in grants to three organizations that are currently providing support to residents and communities affected by Hurricanes Florence and Michael, said FCA spokesman Kevin Frazier.

The FCA Foundation has provided grants to support the ongoing efforts of the following organizations:

\$50,000 - Americares saves lives and improves health for people affected by poverty or disaster. The FCA Foundation is an Americares Emergency Response Partner, providing key resources that allow the organization to maintain a constant state of readiness for emergencies and to support its disaster preparedness, response and recovery efforts in the U.S. and around the world

\$75,000 - First Response Team of America provides postdisaster services for emergency (search and rescue) and recovery operations for communities and individuals.

\$75,000 - Team Rubicon unites the skills and experiences of military veterans with first responders to rapidly deploy emergency response teams across the United States and around the world, providing immediate relief to those impacted by disasters and humanitarian crises.

"We know that the recent storms have had a tremendous impact across the country, disrupting lives and, in some cases, entire communities," said Shane Karr, head of External Affairs, FCA - North America and President, FCA Foundation.

"It is our hope that through our partnership with Americares, First Response Team of America and Team Rubicon, we can help our neighbors recover quickly and get their feet back on solid ground."

Ram 1500 Drives FCA Canada Sales in October

FCA Canada reported October 2018 sales of 14,669 vehicles.

Jeep brand reported sales of 4,491 in October, said FCA spokeswoman LouAnn Gosselin. Jeep Grand Cherokee led the way with 1,103 sales, an increase of 39 per cent over last year, followed by Jeep Cherokee and Jeep Compass with sales rising 3 per cent and 2 per cent, respectively. For the year, Jeep brand sales are up 7 per cent from this time in 2017.

Chrysler brand reported sales of 400 vehicles for the month, while Dodge brand reported sales of 2,964 vehicles for the same period. Dodge Durango sales of 444 vehicles were up 113 per cent, followed by 351 Dodge Charger sales, up 144 per cent from the prior year.

Ram truck brand reported sales of 6,677 vehicles for the month, an increase of 10 per cent compared with the previous year.

The light-duty Ram 1500 was the driver with 5,329 sales, up 10 per cent. Ram pickup trucks, Ram ProMaster van and Ram ProMaster City saw increases of 9 percent, 13 per cent and 218 per cent, respectively, when compared with results from this time last year, Gosselin said.

Fiat brand reported sales of 48 vehicles for the month, while Alfa Romeo brand reported sales of 89 vehicles for the month.







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Historic Electric Car Staying in Lansing

LANSING, Mich. (AP) – Debbie Stephens remembers raising her hand in her East Lansing Junior High School class to correct a teacher who told the students that Henry Ford invented the auto assembly line.

"My great-grandfather did that before he did," Stephens recalls saying.

Ford's claim to fame was the mechanized assembly line, but it was Stephens' ancestor Ransom Eli Olds who came up with the idea for mass production. Workers in his factory would roll chassis on carts to allow parts to be added to them.

More than a half-century later, Stephens, who is now 66 and lives in Dublin, Ohio, is still fighting to preserve her great-grandfather's legacy, which is deeply rooted in Lansing.

Debbie Stephens, her husband Peter Stephens, and a group of more than a dozen auto historians, companies and electric worker unions have scored a major victory in their efforts to keep that history alive in Lansing.

They spent three years raising money - they won't say how much - to buy the only known surviving 1899 Olds electric car.

The 119-year-old four-seater has been on loan to the R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, but it was in danger of going into the hands of a private collector.

"It's so much a part of R.E. Olds and the history of this museum it couldn't go anywhere but here," Bill Adcock, executive director of the museum, told the Lansing State Journal.

It cements Olds' legacy as the only auto pioneer who experimented with four types of power on early cars: steam, gas, electric and diesel.

While electric cars seem like a recent development, early auto pioneers experimented with them. Though they were considered reliable, they were also very expensive.

Olds built his first vehicle in 1887, a three-wheel steam-powered car with a gas boiler. By 1899, he had developed several different types of motorized vehicles. That's the year the Olds Motor Vehicle Co. and Olds Gasoline Engine Works were combined to form Olds Motor Works. Manufacturing was moved to Detroit.

Around that time, he was experimenting with electric cars and offered them for sale, though it's unclear if any were ever sold. Olds electric was priced at \$1,600, which is \$48,000 in today's prices. Other companies sold 8,000 electric cars by 1900, according to a history supplied by the museum.

A disastrous 1901 factory fire is believed to have destroyed 15 Olds electric cars. The surviving electric Olds was likely off site at the time of the fire.

After the fire, Olds moved back to Lansing and dropped the electric vehicles to concentrate on the gas-powered Curved Dash, Debbie Stephens said.

"The gasoline cars were cheaper to produce. His goal was to make cars for what became the middle class," she said.

But even if Olds continued to produce electric vehicles, he likely would have "hit the same wall" as other electric car manufacturers, said Peter Crisitello, a New Jersey auto history buff and expert on electric cars. Advancements in internal combustion engines made them the favored type of car, and gasoline power became the accepted technology over electric and steam for the rest of the 20th century.

With electric vehicles in the rear-view mirror and all but forgotten, the rare 1899 Olds electric was uncovered in a Lansing garage in 1959. Two brothers, Don and Ken McDowell, purchased the car and stored it for years. In 1996, they loaned it to the R.E. Olds Transportation Museum.

The brothers have since died. After their deaths, the descendants started getting inquiries from car collectors to purchase

Stephens and others feared that the car might be sold to a collector in Europe or Asia, never to be seen in Lansing again.

The three-year fundraising effort was led by Lansing attorney Jim Neal, a volunteer at the

FCA Executives, **UAW Officials** Get Prison Time

DETROIT (AP) - Two former Fiat Chrysler executives and a union official have been sentenced to prison in a corruption scandal at a labor training cen-

Jerome Durden, who controlled the finances at the UAW-Chrysler National Training Center, was sentenced Nov. 7 to 15 months in prison. Michael Brown, who helped run the center, was sentenced to a year in prison. United Auto Workers official Keith Mickens got a similar sentence.

Seven people have pleaded guilty in the federal probe, including Fiat Chrysler's former senior labor negotiator. The indictment alleged there was a conspiracy between some company officials and senior members of the union to use money from a training center for travel, clothes, booze and other luxuries. The union's FCA negotiator. General Holiefield, died in 2015.

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