Detroit Auto Scene

"FIRST IN THE HEART OF DETROIT"

VOL. 87 NO. 13

Ford has made the SUV a pillar

what Kumar

class.

That

Dearborn.

sumer demand.

was

Galhotra, group vice president

The SUV segment is "hot,"

Galhotra said. Last year, Expedition demand was so high Ford added an additional 20 percent in

production capacity to meet con-

And demand hasn't slowed

down, Galhotra said. This year,

Ford just announced that the

company is adding an additional 20 percent to capacity and will

be hiring 550 more workers to

And the Escape is even more

popular than the Expedition.

Galhotra said. Last year, Ford

sold about 250,000 Escapes, mak-

ing it the second-most popular

model, only behind the F-150

truck. Competition in the small

SUV segment is only going to get

meet new production goals.



2019 Chevrolet Trax

SUVs, Trucks Boost Sales **During Slow First Quarter**

quarter of 2019 are in for the Detroit Three, with trucks and SUVs pulling sales for local automakers.

While all the automakers reported declines for the first quarter of the year – FCA down 3 percent, Ford down 1.6 percent and GM down 7 percent, there were bright spots in the sales reports.

FCA noted that the Ram brand set a new March sales record in 2019. Ford noted that SUV and truck sales numbers were solid, and GM reported that GM's new, light-duty pickups were \$8,040 higher compared to their outgoing models in the first quarter of 2018

Stephanie Brinley, principal analyst for IHS Markit, said that

The sales figures for the first seeing a decline in overall sales shouldn't surprise anyone.

"Where we're at in 2019 sales is where we expected to be," Brinley said. "Many auto experts have predicted that 2019 will be a year of sales contraction. No one likes to see sales go down, but projections currently have sales for the year to be about 16.8 million. That number shows that this is still a market where OEMs can make money.³

The relative strength of SUV and truck sales shouldn't be a surprise, Brinley said. That's a trend that has been around a while and isn't likely to change. And SUVs and trucks tend to be more profitable that sedans, so

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

against cancer, but that's what's

happening on Saturday, April 27. That's the day the Lingenfelter Collection is preparing to host a family-friendly open house to benefit the American Cancer Society, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Guests will have the opportunity to view the Lingenfelter collection, which consists of more than 180 vehicles that make up one of the greatest car collections in the world, said Lingenfelter spokesman Chris Morrisroe.

The American Cancer Society (ACS) funds and conducts research, shares expert information, supports cancer patients,

the open house support the organization by making a monetary donation at the door. Since 2016, the Lingenfelter Collection Open House has raised more than \$100,000 for ACS.

"We are so thankful for our continued partnership with the Lingenfelters and their ongoing support of our mission," said Blythe Moran, executive director of the American Cancer Society in Michigan.

"The donations raised at this event will be put to work to save more lives from cancer, including supporting cancer patients with programs and services, funding

When the Escape was first Escape is a truly innovative small SUV.

> Hau Thai-Tang, Ford's executive vice president, Product Development and Purchasing, said the 2020 Escape is fourthgeneration version, and is the smallest, but most advanced iteration of the vehicle. But Ford has not neglected design, he said.

> "The design is modern, progressive and meant to stand out," Thai-Tang said. "In this world, we fear the 'C' word which stands for commodified. So we went out to make the 2020 Escape a modern, new utility

> > **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**



Lingenfelter Collection Fighting Cancer

launched, there were only six

small SUVs being sold, Galhotra

soon it will be 30," Galhotra said.

"So how do you stand out in such

a crowded market? You design a

distinct vehicle for your cus-

tomer groups. The new Escape

has been designed for the urban

driver. It is slick and still capable

of getting away from it all when

unveil the new Escape at Green-

field Village because the living

museum is a celebration of

American innovation and the

Galhotra said Ford chose to

the driver wants to."

"Today that number is 22, and

said.

lifesaving research and helping prevent cancer in our community and across the nation.'

Several activities are scheduled throughout the 40,000square-foot showroom, including: experiencing two new racing simulators; limited-edition event poster signing by Ken Lingenfelter; startup of the Enzo Ferrari; door prizes; and refreshments and food from vendors, including Tony's Dog.

"We are once again very happy to be partnering with the American Cancer Society for our Spring Open House," said Ken Lingenfelter, owner, Lingenfelter Collec-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Mitchell talked about collaboration in building a strong defense base.

2020 Ford Escape stronger, he said.

It's not often that viewing clasand spreads the word about cansic cars will help in the fight cer prevention. Guests attending

Soldiers, Defense Suppliers Hold 2019 MDEX Meeting

by Jim Stickford

The military and suppliers cannot to their jobs alone - they need to work together to develop the next generation of ground vehicles.

That was the message delivered at Macomb Community College recently by Maj. Gen. Daniel Mitchell, commanding general at the U.S. Army's Tank Command in Warren.

Maj. Gen. Mitchell spoke at the 2019 Michigan Defense Expo (MDEX) on the south campus of the college saying that the event has two purposes.

"One is to get our message out about what's going on and our needs.

"The second is to collaborate with our partners.'

The conference also provided area military contractors and schools the opportunity to show off what they can do. This was the 10th anniversary of the first MDEX event, said Deanne Mazzola, MDEX chairwoman.

"The Michigan National Defense Industrial Association has been putting this event on for a decade," Mazzola said. "This year, we have had 1,900 people from the government, small businesses and the auto industry reserve space on our showroom floor.

MDEX is meant to bring togeth-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3 The Lingenfelter collection of classic cars will be available for viewing to help the American Cancer Society.

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

SUVs, Trucks Boost Sales During Slow First Quarter

Detroit Auto Scene ®

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sold in 2018.

sales of 214,191.

there is good news for OEMs.

FCA saw the Ram 1500 sell

45,187 in March of 2019 com-

pared with 41,307 in 2018. That

represents a 9 percent increase.

Sales of the Ram 1500 saw a 15

percent increase in the first quar-

ter of 2019. FCA sold 120,026 in

2019, compared with 103,964

Ford reported a 4.1 percent in-

crease in truck sales, with the

company selling 278,898 in the

first quarter of 2019, compared

with 267,860 in last year's first

quarter. The increase was driven

by the new Ranger, which sold

9,421 in the first quarter of the

year. The Ranger wasn't on sale in the first quarter of 2018.

ter were very stable. Ford sold

214,611 in 2019 for a 0.2 percent

increase over 2018's first quarter

Ford reported that its SUV

sales saw a 5 percent increase in

the first quarter of 2019 com-

pared with 2018. The company

solid for Ford," said Mark LaNeve, Ford vice president of

U.S. Marketing, Sales and Service.

our leadership position while

others slugged it out for second

place. We have a close connec-

tion with our customers, allow-

ing us to deliver what they need

in their trucks. It can also be

seen in our record sales of Ford

SUVs as well as Lincoln's signifi-

Expedition sales are up 61.9

"We are adding capacity at our

percent, with 21,773 Expeditions

Kentucky Truck Plant this sum-

mer to keep up with demand.

cant growth."

sold.

"Our winning portfolio continues to deliver. F-Series expanded

"First quarter 2019 sales were

sold 213,086 versus 202,927.

F-Series sales in the first quar-

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586-939-6800

Contact us: Info@DetroitAutoScene.com

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Jim Stickford, editor

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Lingenfelter Collection Fights Cancer

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tion and Lingenfelter Performance Engineering.

"Working with the organization over the years, we have learned so much about their programs and the many people they help. We look forward to seeing some of those people each year, as well as many car enthusiasts and community residents interested in supporting the work of the ACS."

Morrisroe said that those attending will be able to witness the collection's Enzo Ferrari being started at 3:15 p.m.

No tickets or reservations are required, Morrisroe said. Donations will be accepted at the door. One hundred percent of the proceeds will be donated to the American Cancer Society.

The Lingenfelter Collection address is 7819 Lochlin Drive in Brighton, Mich.

To learn more about the event, call 248-782-7359, or go to the lingenfeltercollection.com. for the quarter and in March achieved its highest retail volume month since launch," LaNeve said.

GM's pickup truck sales, on the other hand, saw a slight decline in the first quarter. Silverado sales went from 135,545 to 114,313, representing a 15.7 percent decline. Sierra sales saw a slight decline of 2.2 percent, going from 41,468 to 40,546.

Not all GM truck sales saw a drop. Sales for the Chevy Colorado saw a healthy 16.1 percent increase, going from 28,859 in the first quarter of 2018 to 33,494.

On the other hand, GM saw SUV sales for Chevy Equinox go from 82,398 in the first quarter of 2018 to 88,500 in the first quarter of 2019, for a 7.4 percent increase.

Sales of the Buick Enclave went from 9,869 in 2018 to 12,580 in 2019 for a 27.5 percent firstquarter increase.

The Chevrolet Trax, Equinox and Colorado all set GM firstquarter sales records and the GMC Acadia posted its best quarter ever. The new Cadillac XT4 was the best-selling vehicle in its segment and the Buick Enclave was up 28 percent from 2018.

The new full-size pickups from Chevrolet and GMC are also off to a very strong start, said Kurt McNeil, U.S. vice president, Sales Operations.

"Our production launch was very smooth and crew cab sales are brisk, especially those with premium trims," said McNeil. "We look forward to improving availability of . . . cabs, trim series and powertrains."

GM will begin the next phase of its full-size pickup truck launch in the second half of the year with the 2020 Chevrolet Silverado HD and GMC Sierra HD.

FCA saw Jeep Grand Cherokee sales go up 26 percent in March



2019 Jeep Grand Cherokee



2019 Ford Ranger

of 2019. The brand sold 24,665 compared with 19,616 in 2018. But, overall, the Jeep brand sales declined by 7 percent in the first quarter of 2019, going from 228,105 to 212,804.

"The industry had a tough first quarter, but with spring finally starting to show its face and continued strong economic indicators, such as a boost in housing sales, lower lending rates and a strong labor market, we are confident that new vehicle sales demand will strengthen going forward," Reid Bigland, head of U.S. Sales, said.

"Meanwhile, our Ram brand sales and average transaction prices continue to be strong and our much anticipated, gamechanging Jeep Gladiator pickup is on track for its in-market debut this month."



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APRIL 8, 2019

"FIRST IN THE HEART OF DETROIT SINCE 1933"

MDEX Gathers Military, Suppliers Together

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

er people from southeast Michigan to take advantage of the engineering and manufacturing resources that are here, Mazzola said. By getting together in one place, collaboration becomes much easier.

Maj. Gen. Mitchell talked about the Army's needs in a changing international environment.

"Eastern Michigan has been a Mecca for ground vehicles and the automobile industry since before WWII. That's why the Detroit Arsenal is here and why we have TARDEC and our Ground Systems Center here.

"None of us – the military and suppliers – can do our jobs alone. We are inter-dependent, and now, because of the synergy generated in this area, we will have teams in place to develop the next generation of Army ground vehicles."

The Army is in the midst of developing the criteria for the new ground vehicles, and suppliers and engineers of southeast Michigan will have a major role in that development, Mitchell said.

Over the past several years, the U.S. military has been spending money on fighting two wars around the globe. That has meant that new vehicle development has been put aside while money has been going to buy spare parts and keep its current vehicles running.

But now the Department of Defense is concentrating its efforts on developing the next generation of weapons and equipment.

"We face an international security environment that is complex and volatile," Mitchell said. "Now our major competition is not terrorists, so we are making a shift to be ready for high intensity conflicts with near-peer competitors like Russia and China."

The Fiscal Year 2020 budget will allow the Army to regain some of the competitive advantage it lost during the recent

Pryor Becomes Executive VP At BorgWarner

BorgWarner has appointed Felecia Pryor to the position of executive vice president and chief human resources officer (CHRO), effective April 1, 2019.

Pryor, 44, joined BorgWarner



From left, Eveland, Johnson, Cahilig and Dixon show off their robot Botiana at the recent 2019 Military Expo.

wars, Mitchell said. Right now, the Army is focusing on six elements – large-range precision firing technology, next-generation combat vehicles, future lift platforms that can transport troops and deliver weapons fire, Army technology networks that can operate in non-technical environments, air missile defense and soldier lethality.

"It's important that you suppliers help us meet these new demands," Mitchell said. "Now that we have the resources to reload and rebuild our next generation of equipment, we have to work with our enterprising partners to make the acquisition process more user-friendly and more streamlined. We are interdependent and share the common goal of making America safer by having an Army that is ready when called to duty."

Mazzola said an additional purpose of MDEX is to promote the development of engineering and design expertise. To that end, several area high schools that participate in STEM extra-curriculars sent teams to MDEX.

Among them was the International Academy of Macomb. Team mentor Randy Eveland said it's a magnet school in Clinton Township that draws students from around Macomb County.

The school sent its I.AM.RO-BOT team to MDEX. The team participates in local and regional First Robotics competitions. The students build robots to perform specific tasks and compete against other schools, Eveland said.

The robot that the students brought to MDEX is called Botiana, said sophomore student Jacob Johnson. He said I.AM.RO-BOT has taken Botiana to two different local competitions and done well with it.

Sophomore Emily Dixon said the team had to design a robot that could place large round balls into different levels of a mock rocketship.

Part of participating in First Robotics competition is joining forces with other teams, Eveland said. The students have scouts check out possible partner teams. I.AM.ROBOT's scout is Alexa Cahilig, a sophomore at the International Academy of Macomb.

"We want to win, so we want to team up with the schools that have the best robots," Cahilig said.

Eveland said that he works at Ally Financial and acts as a mentor to the students.

"I am not an engineer, but I do help with the business aspects of the project," Eveland said.

To get the money needed to build robots, students will go to companies and ask for sponsorship, Eveland said. Among the companies that sponsored Botiana this year are Ford, Ally Financial and Home Depot.

"They get to have a sticker with their corporate logo placed on the robots they sponsor, much the same way NASCAR race cars have corporate stickers," Eveland said. "I know the kids like to think parts appear by magic, but one of the lessons they are learning is that it takes money to make things happen."

More Measles Exposures in Oakland County

Additional measles exposure locations have been identified in Oakland County. "If you were at the following locations on the dates and times listed below, you were at risk of being exposed to measles," said Leigh-Anne Stafford, health officer for Oakland County Health Division.

Recent exposures on April 1 took place at Bais Haknesses Hagrah: 14561 W. Lincoln Blvd., Oak Park, 7-10 a.m.

On March 28 at Congregation B'Nai Israel: 15400 W. 10 Mile Road, Oak Park, 5:30-8:30 a.m. and after 8 p.m.; One Stop Kosher Food Market: 25155 Greenfield Road, Southfield, 5:45-8:30 p.m.; and Walgreens: 23111 Lahser Road, Southfield, 6:20-8:45 p.m.

Vaccination is available and effective within 72 hours of exposure. High-risk individuals can receive immune globulin treatment within six days of exposure. Oakland County Health Division offices in Southfield and Pontiac are open Monday, 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m. and Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Health Division offices are not testing centers.

The offices are located at North Oakland Health Center, 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Building 34 East, Pontiac and South Oakland Health Center, 27725 Greenfield Road, Southfield.

Visit www.oakgov.com/health for more information.



in October 2018 and currently serves as vice president, Global Human Resources for BorgWarner Morse Systems.

Her previous experience includes 16 years in human resources at Ford Motor Company across a multitude of areas with increasing responsibilities.

She came directly to Borg Warner from serving as Global Human Resources director – Global Personnel, Organization & Planning.

Prior to that, she served as vice president of Human Resources for Ford ASEAN (Bangkok, Thailand) and Human Resources director at Ford Asia Pacific (Nanjing, China).

She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in criminal justice from Valdosta University and a master's degree in public administration from Florida Atlantic University.

Additionally, Pryor has a Juris Doctor degree from Thomas M. Cooley Law School.



Feds Indict a Man Who Sold Cars That Didn't Exist

PAGE 4

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) - Authorities say a former salesman at a Florida Porsche dealership scammed more than 30 customers out of about \$2.2 million by selling them non-existent cars.

According to law enforcement records, the 44-year-old suspect Shiraaz Sookralli made his initial appearance April 3 in Fort Lauderdale federal court.

He faces a variety of charges, including mail fraud and wire fraud as well as money laundering charges.

A criminal complaint filed in federal court says that Sookralli, who had been a salesman at Champion Porsche in Pompano Beach, Fla., created a shell corporation with a similar name back in the year 2017.

Federal investigators say in the indictments that Sookralli then made bogus sales orders for non-existent future exotic Porsche models.

He then took deposits from unsuspecting buyers with his shell company's bank account.

Champion Porsche, which did not authorize the transactions, contacted victims and cooperated with law enforcement after learning of the scheme by Sookralli.

A message seeking comment from Sookralli's attorney wasn't immediately returned to AP.

Ford Escape Offers Buyers Range of Choices

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

product. We made it to be flexible and it comes with a broad lineup of powertrains." Stephan Presser, Vehicle Engi-

neering manager at Ford, said the 2020 Escape uses a flexible frontwheel architecture.

"A key observation about its design is that we've improved fuel economy without sacrificing fun and performance when you drive the Escape," Presser said.

We were able to achieve this by reducing weight and improving aerodynamics. And we made sure it's a quiet vehicle. A quiet ride is something people associate with quality and we wanted to make sure the Escape gives a quiet driving experience. We achieved it with the latest in noise-canceling technology.'

Heather Fedullo, Vehicle Dynamics manager, said that the overall design of the 2020 Escape is wider, with a larger track and a lower center of gravity. And they managed to make the vehicle 200 pounds lighter by the use of new high-strength steels.

The steering system uses new electronic power assist technology designed to implement the vehicle's driver assist technology. This includes cross-traffic alert tech, Ford's Active Parking Assist 2.0 tech and adaptive cruise control with stop-and-go and lanecentering technology, Fedullo said.

Daniel Kok, manager of Advanced Electrified Powertrain Systems at Ford, said the new Escape comes with a variety of different powertrain options. Consumers can now choose between hybrid, plug-in hybrid, 1.5L Eco-Boost and 2.0L EcoBoost with auto start-stop technology.

"One thing we'd like people to take away when they learn about the new Escape options is that we've given them fuel efficiency choices. Part of how we've been able to do that is with battery design. We've made flat batteries that we can put under the floor of the vehicle. This allows us to provide hybrid vehicle choices without sacrificing cargo space. A definite plus when talking about SUVs.

Dean Nowicki, global program manager for the Escape, said it was his job to bring all the different design and technology elements together.

'We reduced weight from 3,501 to 3,286," Nowicki said. "That gives the vehicle better fuel economy and the passengers a better driving experience. We were able to reduce weight through smart design. We optimized all component designs and used high-tech materials to reduce weight."

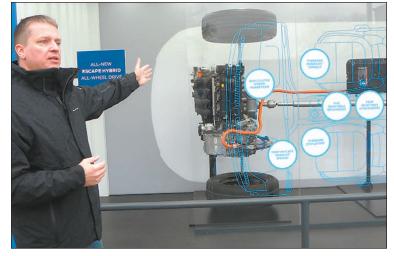
Debra Hands, Escape aerodynamics supervisor, said Ford was able to use its wind tunnel to extensively test the Escape's exterior design to reduce drag. She



FORBES 2019 **BEST-IN-STATE** WEALTH ADVISORS

Powered by SHOOK Research

The Forbes ranking of Best-In-State Wealth Advisors, developed by SHOOK Research is based on an algorithm of qualitative criteria and quantitative data. Those advisors that are considered have a minimum of 7 years of experience, and the algorithm weighs factors like revenue trends, AUM, compliance records, industry experience and those that encompass best practices in their practices and to working with clien Portfolio performance is not a criteria due to varying client objectives and lack of audited data. Out of 29,334 advisors nominated by their firms, 3,477 received the award. This ranking is not indicative of advisor's future performance, is not an endorsement, and may not be representative of individual clients' experience. Neither Raymond James nor any of its Financial Advisors or RIA firms pay a fee in exchange for this award/rating. Raymond James is not affiliated with Forbes or Shook Research, LLC Kaydan Wealth Management, Inc. is not a registered broker/dealer and is independent of Raymond James Financial Services, Inc. Securities offered through Raymond James Financial Services, Inc., member FINRA/ SIPC. Investment Advisory Services offered through Raymond James Financial Services Advisors, Inc. and Kaydan Wealth Management, Inc.



Kok showed how a flat battery design freed up space in the new Escape.

said Ford also gave the vehicle a the full-forward position, the rear smooth underbody. If someone looks underneath the Escape, they will see a flat surface.

Jim Hughes, chief engineer-Global Ford Escape, said the ultimate goal of all the new designs and engineering is to give the customers what they want - elegant functionality.

The vehicle is meant to look sharp. It is built on Ford's frontwheel drive flexible architecture.

This is a worldwide platform that Ford is using, Hughes said. The same day Ford unveiled the Escape in the U.S., the automaker unveiled the SUV's European counterpart, the Kuga.

Jennifer Comfort, Escape architecture supervisor, said that it was vitally important to make the Escape lighter without sacrificing interior space. Her goal was to make sure that the 2020 Escape could carry four golfers and four golf bags, and they were able to do that.

A sliding second-row seat, unique among small SUV entries, allows rear-seat passengers to increase legroom, knee clearance and footwell length for a more comfortable ride. With the second-row seat in the full-rearward position, the gas engine-powered Escape delivers best-in-class legroom, to complement improved headroom, shoulder room and hip room, Comfort said

cargo area in gas engine-powered models extends nearly six inches to increase the cargo area to 37.5 cubic feet.

Hughes said that while the Escape is designed for the urban driver, it was still important to give the vehicle towing power.

Gas-powered Escapes can tow up to 3,500 pounds, and even the hybrid versions have a towing capacity of up to 1,500 pounds.

Hughes said Ford hasn't forgotten about the kind of technology today's driver expects in his or her vehicle.

The all-new Escape, Hughes said, features loads of connectivity technology, starting with Ford-Pass Connect, a standard feature that serves up 4G LTE Wi-Fi for up to 10 mobile devices with a compatible wireless subscription service.

An available 8-inch touch screen mounted on the center stack uses capacitive glass for quicker, more responsive interaction with the available updated SYNC 3 system and compatibility with available features such as Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, Waze navigation and Ford+Alexa. For music lovers, Escape offers an available 575-watt 10-speaker B&O premium audio system.

The 2020 Escape will be assembled at Ford's Louisville, Ky., plant, Hughes said. It goes on sale this fall. Ford hasn't released With the second-row seat in any pricing information yet.

Ford Fixes Flat Tire Problem

flatable tires, there have been flat tires, but Ford and Michelin have done something about that problem.

Flat tires happen all the time, and in the time it takes you to read this sentence, another vehicle tire was punctured, said Ford spokesman Dan Jones.

A flat tire is a huge inconvenience for drivers, Jones said. Road trip sidetracked. Commute delayed. Across the United States, flat tires will leave mil-

Ever since there have been in- inch per week. Results are based on Michelin internal analytical testing. Actual results may vary.

Explorer is the first SUV in the world to offer Michelin Selfseal tires, which are standard on Explorer Platinum and Explorer Limited Hybrid four-wheel-drive models, and optional on Explorer Limited two-wheel-drive and four-wheel-drive models. Tire size for all models is 255/55R-20. All Explorer models are equipped with a spare tire.

If a nail or screw punctures a

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2019 -

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)

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2019 -

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)

Visit www.KaydanWealthManagement.com for a complete list of all future meetings and events.



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lions of motorists every year on the side of the road, jack in hand and gravel on knees.

Now, the new Ford Explorer offers a way to keep road-trippers on track as they #Explore-OurAmerica in the form of new Michelin Selfseal tires, Jones said. Designed to withstand common nail and screw punctures, these environmentally friendly tires are lined with a natural rubber sealant to fill most tread punctures and dramatically slow the rate at which air leaks - helping ensure your road trip continues without interruption.

"Nothing derails a family vacation like a flat tire," said Joseph Billman, Ford wheel and tire engineer. "Explorer is the ultimate road trip family hauler - and it's the perfect fit for these new Michelin Selfseal tires."

Michelin Selfseal tires seal 90 percent of tread punctures up to a quarter-inch in diameter, slowing the loss of air pressure to less than 15 pounds per square

Selfseal tire and remains in place. the sealant surrounds the object to help seal the puncture and avoid air loss. If the object punctures the tire and comes back out, the sealant is designed to fill tread punctures up to a quarterinch in diameter.

The sealant is designed to enable drivers to continue their journey uninterrupted. If a tread puncture or low pressure is detected, the tire should be inspected and repaired by a qualified tire professional.

Michelin Selfseal tires are designed to help avoid:

• Dangerous side-of-the-road stops

- Lost time
- · Loss of vehicle control

"The all-new Explorer is designed to help our customers feel unstoppable and worryfree," said Craig Patterson, Explorer marketing manager. "The availability of these new Michelin Selfseal tires is another great example of that."

GM Collison Repair Network Approves New Tech Provider

DriveCRASH, Drew Technologies' collision-focused diagnostic platform, has been officially approved by General Motors for its Collision Repair Network.

GM approved DriveCRASH as a Diagnostic Scan Tool that can provide full OEM coverage, including read/clear diagnostic trouble codes (DTC), data PIDs, Special Functions/Output controls and SPS reprogramming.

DriveCRASH combines Drew Technologies' CarDAQ-Plus 3 J2534 interface with GM's Global Diagnostic Software 2 (GDS2) and Tech2WIN, providing complete OEM coverage for both Global A and non-Global A vehicles, model years 2004 and forward.

"After many years of being a partner with GM in diagnostic services, we are excited to be part of the new GM Collision Repair Network," said Bob Augustine, vice president of Business Development for Drew Technologies/OPUS IVS.

"Performing both Pre and Post

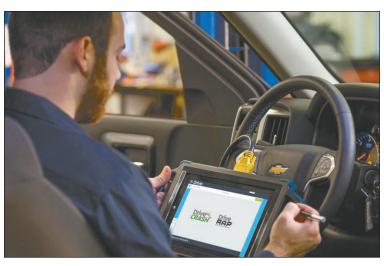
scans using the OEM-validated software is a crucial part of both the estimating and repair verification processes.

"With all the safety system technology now being deployed in the vehicle, ultimately, our goal is to ensure the repair is performed correctly and to the highest safety standards."

DriveCRASH offers a comprehensive scan solution for collision repair shops in a single, ruggedized, Windows 10 tablet.

With no upfront hardware costs, DriveCRASH delivers complete OEM scans and professional remote services, including Remote Assisted Programming (RAP), ADAS calibrations, and brand-specific diagnostic support from a team of OEM-trained technicians – on a pay-perservice basis.

Focused on repairing modern, intelligent vehicle electronics, DriveČRASH provides coverage across Asian, Domestic, and European makes through current model years, Augustine said.



GM uses Drew Technologies' DriveCRASH for Collision Repair Network.

EV Tech Renews Lead Mine

souri lead mining site that has been a dormant nuisance for decades may soon get new life, thanks to its vast reserves of a metal vital for use in electric vehicle batteries.

Agency on April 3 announced an agreement allowing a division of Missouri Cobalt LLC to implement a cleanup plan at the Madison County Mines site near Fredericktown. It will remain on the Superfund list, but the cleanup allows reuse for cobalt mining.

It isn't clear how long the cleanup will take or when mining will resume. Missouri Cobalt CEO Michael Hollomon declined comment. Lead was mined at the site for decades until the early 1960s. Remaining waste resulted in the Superfund designation in 2003.

Lead contamination can cause

ST. LOUIS (AP) - An old Mis- ing has shown a significant drop in blood-lead levels, but offered no data. Messages seeking comment from state and Madison County health officials were not immediately returned to AP.

Missouri Cobalt's website said The Environmental Protection it purchased the old mine site in 2018 to tap into the demand for cobalt used in high-performance batteries for electric vehicles made by Tesla, BMW and other companies.

> The company believes that while the lead is long gone from the mine, it has the largest reserve of cobalt in North America, estimated at 35 million pounds (16 million kilograms).

> Missouri Cobalt said the renewed mining operation will create an estimated 250 permanent jobs. The environmental remediation effort is expected to require an additional 50 workers.

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learning disabilities and other problems for children. Blood Jim Gulliford said in a statement testing in the 1990s found that up to 15 percent of children living near the old mining site had elevated levels of lead in their blood. The EPA said recent test- hand."

EPA Region 7 Administrator that efforts to mitigate and reopen the mine "demonstrate how economic and environmental revitalization go hand-in-







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Ghosn Arrested by Japanese Police – Again

TOKYO (AP) – Tokyo prosecutors arrested Nissan's former chairman Carlos Ghosn on April 4 for a fourth time on fresh allegations that cut short his brief time outside detention.

Ghosn was taken from his apartment in Tokyo early in the morning to the prosecutors' office and then sent to the Tokyo Detention Center, the same facility where he spent more than three months following his arrest in November. He had been released on bail just a month earlier.

It's unclear how long Ghosn may be detained under the latest arrest.

"My arrest this morning is outrageous and arbitrary," Ghosn said in a statement issued last week. "It is part of another attempt by some individuals at Nissan to silence me by misleading the prosecutors. Why arrest me except to try to break me? I will not be broken. I am innocent of the groundless charges and accusations against me."

Prosecutors defended the move, saying the latest allegations are a new case requiring precautions to prevent Ghosn from destroying evidence. They allege \$5 million in funds sent by a Nissan subsidiary to an overseas dealership were diverted to a company controlled by Ghosn.

'We now have a totally different case, and we are only doing what we think is right," Shin Kukimoto, deputy chief prosecutor at the Tokyo District Prosecutor's Office, told reporters.

"As a result of our investigation, we have a new case in which he must be detained, and we have appropriately obtained an arrest warrant from the court," he said.

Ghosn, 65, was first arrested on Nov. 19 on charges of underreporting his compensation. He was rearrested twice in December. The multiple arrests prolong detentions without trial and are an oft-criticized prosecution tactic in Japan's criminal justice system.

The allegations in the most recent arrest cover three money transfers from 2015 through last year, according to the prosecutors

Kukimoto said the new allegation of breach of trust is different from an earlier charge made in January. The companies where the money was transferred to, the motives, and the alleged scheme are all different, he said. He refused to identify the three companies allegedly involved but said one company was in effect owned by Ghosn.

Unlike an earlier case, in which Ghosn caused damage to Nissan to benefit himself and a business partner, this time it was merely "for his own personal benefit," Kukimoto said.

French prosecutors also are investigating Ghosn's financial activities at Nissan's French alliance partner Renault SA. where he was chairman and CEO until his arrest. Ghosn is one of France's most famous executives, and each development in his legal saga is closely watched by the French government, a key Renault shareholder.

A statement from the Japanese prosecutors' did not mention Oman, but the new allegation appears related to an investigation by Renault into payments to a major dealership in the Middle Eastern country, some of which are suspected of having been channeled for Ghosn's personal use. Renault said April 3 that it had turned over information about those payments to French prosecutors.

Ghosn predicted a new arrest in a French television interview conducted hours before the prosecutors appeared at his apartment. He told broadcaster

TF1 that he had never been "above the law," but acknowledged that he "pushed things to the limit" to improve Nissan and Renault. The interview was filmed April 3 but aired April 4.

Prosecutors also seized the passport of his wife Carole along with her computer and cellphone, including sensitive exchanges with attorneys, the family's French lawyer told The Associated Press in Paris. Japanese prosecutors would not comment when asked why the wife was targeted.

"My arrest this morning is outrageous and arbitrary."

– Carlos Ghosn

Ghosn was an auto industry star, having transformed Nissan over two decades from near bankruptcy into one of the largest automaking alliances in the world.

Nissan, a co-defendant on the charges of under-reporting compensation, declined comment on the criminal proceedings.

However, company spokesman Nicholas Maxfield said in a statement that "Nissan's internal investigation has uncovered substantial evidence of blatantly unethical conduct."

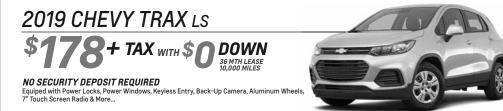
The maker of the March subcompact, Leaf electric car and Infiniti luxury models will hold a shareholders' meeting in mid-April to oust Ghosn from its board.

The maximum penalty upon conviction on charges of underreporting compensation and breach of trust is 15 years in prison. It is unclear when Ghosn's trial may begin. Preparations for trials in Japan routinely take months.





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Distracted Driving Remains Problem, According to AAA

Your eyes are on the road and your hands are on the wheel, but are you still distracted?

Research from the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety found that potentially unsafe mental distractions can persist for as long as 27 seconds after drivers use voice-based technology to dial, change music or send a text message, said AAA Foundation spokeswoman Adrienne Woodland.

At 25 mph, drivers travel the length of nearly three football fields during this time. AAA urges drivers to put down their phone and avoid distractions when behind the wheel, especially now during April's Distracted Driving Awareness Month. "Most drivers believe that if their eyes are on the road and their hands are on the wheel, then they are focused on the drive," said Woodland. "But research proves that there are hidden dangers when using a cell phone or in-vehicle technology. Mental distractions last longer than you think and can cause a dangerous crash." According to a recent AAA Consumer Pulse study, almost half of Michigan drivers (44 percent) personally feel it is very dangerous for someone to talk on a hand-held phone while driving. Despite this, more than half of those surveyed (58 percent) admitted to recently talking on a cell phone while driving.

the wheel. Any task that requires taking your eyes or attention off the road and hands off the wheel can present a dangerous risk on the roadway.

That includes changing the radio, programming navigation or even enjoying a sandwich. It's important to put aside electronic distractions and never use text messaging, email, video games or internet functions, including those built into the vehicle, while driving.

The frightening stats show that between 2012 and 2017, nearly 20,000 people nationwide died in crashes involving a distracted driver, and these numbers are underreported, Woodland said. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), there were 3,166 people killed in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers in 2017. While this reflects a 9 percent decrease from 2016 to 2017. there is still much work to be done, Woodland said. In the last six years, 9.5 percent of all fatal crashes involved a distracted driver. As part of National Distracted Driving Awareness Month in April, AAA - The Auto Club Group and the Auto Club Group Traffic Safety Foundation are partnering with The Hertz Corporation on a campaign that encourages motorists to evaluate their driving habits and take a pledge to stay focused on the road, avoid cell phone use and minimize distractions.

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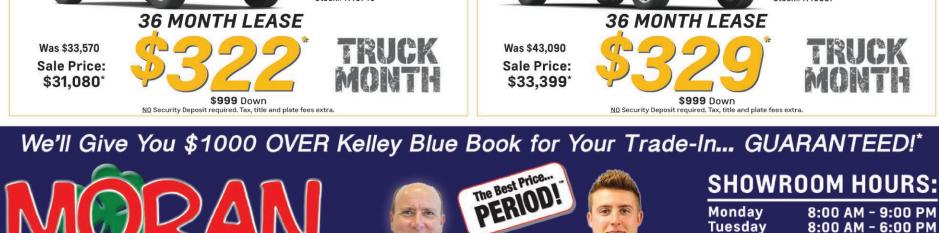
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