

## Tech Center Creates STEM Fun for Kids Day

by Jim Stickford

The kids took over the GM Tech Center in Warren last week. More than 4,000 of them went with their parents to see what they do on their jobs.

That's the estimate given by GM spokeswoman Jasmin Saleh, who said the children were brought in April 25 by their parents for a "Take Your Kids to Work Day."

"This day happens after a lot of people donate their time to plan, create and put on events and demonstrations for children," Saleh said. "This day gives parents the chance to show their kids what they do, and to help build a love of STEM."

Lucia Del Villano and Andre Watts, both dimensional systems engineers, put together a display that used wooden building blocks. The idea was that participants would use the blocks to make tight-fitting doors.

"Both Andre and I, in our jobs as dimensional systems engineers, make sure that the parts that go into doors have quality and that they fit together tightly so that the doors of GM vehicles open and close as they should," Del Villano said. "I've been here at GM for three years and with my current work group for six months. I see what we're doing

today a great opportunity for kids to get excited about engineering."

All too often, it's difficult to keep that excitement about STEM going, Del Villano said. As children get older, that spark of interest can die off. So when presented with the chance to create an interactive event that would allow children to use their imaginations in an engineering problem, she and Watts jumped at the chance to make that happen.

"It's fun to see the kids at work," Del Villano said. "A lot of

them want to be a part of the demonstration. Some of the older children have asked us what kinds of degrees and education they would need to be an engineer so that they can do what we

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Watts, using wooden blocks, shows children the fundamentals of making sure car doors have a tight fit.

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## Eaton's eMobility Systems Enter Joint Agreement

Under a joint venture, Emotors and Eaton's eMobility will develop a battery electric vehicle.

Emotors – officially called Nidec-PSA Emotors – is a joint venture between Nidec Leroy-Somer and Groupe PSA. The company has agreed with power management company Eaton's eMobility to supply high-performance traction inverters for a battery-electric vehicle platform.

"We are pleased to partner with Emotors and value the opportunity to support them in one of their product lines," said Jeff Lowinger, president of eMobility. "Eaton's power-dense inverters help deliver a safe, reliable and comfortable driving experience."

Eaton eMobility, headquartered in Southfield, will provide its power-dense inverters to Emotors, who will integrate it with the motor and ship the finished system to its customers for assembly into the battery electric vehicle.

Leveraging Eaton's expertise managing high-voltage power, eMobility developed the vehicle inverters with a power density of 35 kilowatts per liter and 98 percent operating efficiency, said Eaton spokesman Thomas Nellenbach. The inverter's high-power density and compact, lightweight design take up minimal space in the vehicle while helping maximize range and improving safety and the driving experience.

Eaton projects electrified vehicles will increase to 38 percent of the global passenger car market by 2030, with share dis-

## Ford, Rivian to Develop New Battery-Electric Vehicle

Ford Motor Company will be investing \$500 million in the startup technology company Rivian.

In addition to the investment announced last week, the companies have agreed to work together to develop a new, next-generation battery-electric vehicle for Ford's growing EV portfolio using Rivian's skateboard platform, said Rivian spokesman Michael McHale.

The company was founded as a startup in 2009 by RJ Scaringe, who is the company's CEO. It is a technology developer that specializes in EV engineering.

It has four primary locations – Plymouth, Mich.; Irvine, Calif.; San Jose, Calif., and an engineering facility in Great Britain.

Each component has its own specialty, McHale said. The Plymouth site is dedicated to engineering and design; the Irvine site is dedicated to batteries, electrical hardware and vehicle control software; the San Jose site is developing self-driving



Scaringe, left, with Ford at the announcement of Ford Motor Company's investment in Rivian.

technology, and the British site is dedicated to advanced engineering.

Rivian's manufacturing facilities are located in Illinois.

"We don't have a traditional headquarters location," McHale said. "It's a new world we're living in. Each location does what it

does. The headquarters is really wherever RJ is. When people say that the company was only founded in 2009, I say that's a long time for a startup."

"This strategic partnership marks another key milestone in our drive to accelerate the transition to sustainable mobility," said

Scaringe. "Ford has a long-standing commitment to sustainability, with Bill Ford being one of the industry's earliest advocates, and we are excited to use our technology to get more electric vehicles on the road."

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The Gladiator interior was honored for its user friendliness.

## Lincoln Nautilus, Gladiator Interiors Award Winners

Cars are a lot like people – what's on the inside matters a great deal.

And that's good news for the Lincoln Nautilus and Jeep Gladiator. Both vehicles made the 2019 Wards 10 Best Interiors list.

They join such vehicles as the Bentley Continental, which retails for \$276,730; and the BMW M850i, which retails for \$120,000.

Other vehicles on the list are the Genesis G70, the Mercedes-Benz A220, the Volvo V60, the

Toyota RAV4, the Nissan Kicks and the Hyundai Santa Fe.

Tom Murphy, managing editor of WardsAuto, said that CUVs and SUVs might be all the rage in the U.S. market, but the 2019 Wards 10 Best Interiors list finds several automakers still eager to deliver beautifully executed sedans and coupes with passenger compartments that are sleek, stylish and alluring.

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## Eaton eMobility System Gets Partnership

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persed among battery electric, plug-in hybrid, hybrid electric and mild hybrid electric.

Eaton's inverters can be used in all types of electric vehicles, as well as other alternative fuel vehicles, such as hydrogen fuel cell cars and trucks, Nellenbach said.

Eaton has high-voltage, fast-acting fuses in nearly 50 percent of global electrified cars and power electronics on a leading European battery-electric vehicle platform.

Eaton also has more than 15 years of experience in developing commercial vehicle hybrid systems and has a number of vehicle electrification products in the market, including DC/DC converters, power distribution units, battery-electric transmissions, and high-voltage fuses.

Eaton eMobility was launched in 2018.

Eaton employs 99,000 people worldwide.

# Nautilus, Gladiator Interiors Prove Impressive

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Eight *Wards* editors based in Southfield selected the best interiors from a list of 32 nominated vehicles with all-new or significantly improved cabins available in the U.S., Murphy said.

Test drives in Metro Detroit were conducted in February and March, and judges scored each vehicle on design aesthetic, comfort, ergonomics, materials, fit-and-finish and the user-friendliness of displays and controls. There is no price cap for 10 Best Interiors.

"Utility vehicles represent the biggest growth in vehicle sales, and automakers aren't launching as many coupes, sedans and wagons as they have in the past, which makes it remarkable that half the list this year is conventional cars," says *Wards* Senior Content Director Drew Winter.

Judges liked the new 2020 Gladiator, saying "this spring, Jeep is offering its first pickup truck in 27 years, the all-new Gladiator, and it's much more than a Wrangler SUV with a bed attached to the back.

"Yes, much of the Wrangler's content from the B-pillar forward is the same, but the second row is completely new, with loads of clever storage options.

"The second-row seats were redesigned to fold down for storage behind and for seat bottoms to lift up for storage below.

"The optional floor bins can be locked, and the seatbacks can be locked in place as well to secure goods stashed behind them, such as the optional wireless Bluetooth speaker that can be removed for trailhead entertainment."

Judges stated that while all these locks may sound excessive, they provide peace of mind deep in the wilderness for those

who will leave their vehicles unattended perhaps for days.

Judges also liked the Gladiator's flexibility, noting that every Gladiator is convertible. Either the soft top folds back quickly and easily, or the hard-top "Freedom Panels" pull off to enjoy the great outdoors.

"The 2020 Jeep Gladiator is a modern take on authentic Jeep design, combining versatility and function in a manner that is clearly inspired by our legendary heritage," said Ralph Gilles, FCA's head of Design.

"The Gladiator's rugged interior styling is a subtle balance of premium materials, must-have features and technology that turns the basic daily drive into an adventure.

"The truck encompasses the spirit of the Jeep brand while checking all the boxes our customers desire."

Judges praised the Nautilus for its "light, airy and beautiful" appearance.

Judges noted that the "center console is the visual focal point of the interior, as the instrument panel slopes downward and intersects with support members for the center armrest that curve

gently downward toward the front footwells. Beautifully finishing that space is Silverwood trim that bookends climate and audio controls.

"Also impressive in the Nautilus is the satin metallic trim, the extensive ambient color options and the Sync infotainment system, which has easy-to-understand menus and fast response time to commands, both manual and spoken.

"Even the cargo area is well-ap-

pointed with the Lincoln logo sewn into the carpet and a brushed aluminum protective sillplate."

Lincoln spokeswoman Anika Salceda-Wycoco said that the Nautilus, with its sleek, spacious cabin, has been designed to serve as a sanctuary from the outside world, featuring acoustic side glass to reduce wind noise for rear passengers, and advanced engineering solutions to help eliminate road noise.



The Lincoln Nautilus' interior proved a hit with *Wards* judges.

## Ford Invests \$500M in Rivian Technology

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"We are excited to invest in and partner with Rivian," said Bill Ford, Ford's executive chairman.

"I have gotten to know and respect RJ, and we share a common goal to create a sustainable future for our industry through innovation."

Rivian already has developed two clean-sheet vehicles with adventurers at the core of every design and engineering decision, McHale said.

The company's launch products – the five-passenger R1T pickup and seven-passenger R1S SUV – will deliver up to 400-plus miles of range and provide an unmatched combination of performance, off-road capability and utility, starting in late 2020.

"As we continue in our transformation of Ford with new forms of intelligent vehicles and propulsion, this partnership with

Rivian brings a fresh approach to both," said Jim Hackett, Ford president and CEO.

"At the same time, we believe Rivian can benefit from Ford's industrial expertise and resources."

Ford intends to develop a new vehicle using Rivian's flexible skateboard platform, Hackett said.

This is in addition to Ford's existing plans to develop a portfolio of battery electric vehicles.

As part of its previously announced \$11 billion EV investment, Ford already has confirmed two key fully electric vehicles: a Mustang-inspired crossover coming in 2020 and a zero-emissions version of the best-selling F-150 pickup.

Rivian remains an independent company. The investment is subject to customary regulatory approval.

Following Ford's investment,

Joe Hinrichs, Ford's president of Automotive, will join Rivian's seven-member board, McHale said.

## Toyota Ramps Up Autonomous Vehicle Progress

by Yuri Kageyama  
AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) – Japan's top automaker Toyota, auto parts maker Denso and internet company SoftBank's investment fund are investing \$1 billion in car-sharing Uber's technology unit.

The Japanese companies said April 19 that Toyota Motor Corp. and Denso Corp. will together invest \$667 million and SoftBank Corp.'s Vision Fund will contribute \$333 million in Uber Technologies Inc.'s new entity, Advanced Technologies Group, or Uber ATG, which will try to develop and commercialize automated ridesharing services.

The move comes as Toyota steps up such efforts, including investing \$500 million in Uber, based in San Francisco, and setting up a \$20 million joint venture with SoftBank to create mobility services.

Toyota also promised to contribute up to \$300 million more over the next three years for developing next-generation autonomous vehicles and services.

Toyota Executive Vice President Shigeki Tomoyama said working together will help bring down costs and speed up development.

Uber Chief Executive Dara Khosrowshahi expressed hope that the deal, set to close by the third quarter, will help maintain Uber's leading position in the technology.

"The development of automated driving technology will transform transportation as we know it, making our streets safer and our cities more livable," he said.

SoftBank has invested in Didi and Grab, as well as Uber, and has acquired IoT leader Arm, while Toyota is developing autonomous vehicles in time for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

Automakers around the world are forming tie-ups to develop next-generation transportation, and Google's Waymo and U.S. electric-car maker Tesla are also big players in the effort.

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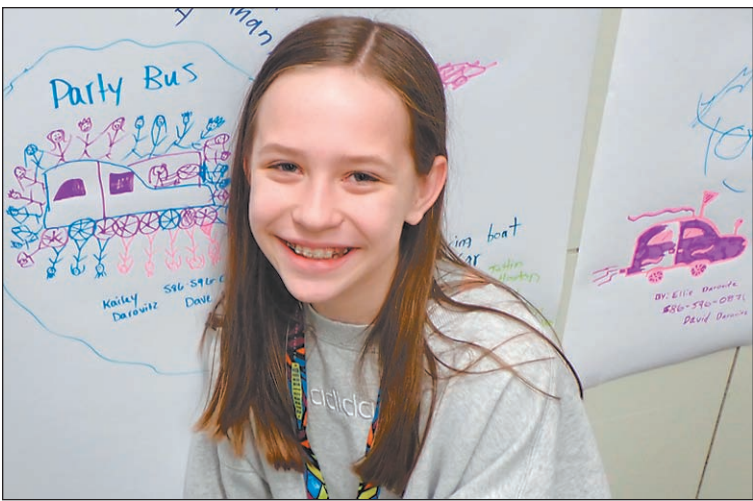
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Darovitz shows off her 'Party Bus' design created at the Tech Center.

## Warren Sets Date for Cruise

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quarters locations," Weatherby said. "One will be at the corner of 10 Mile and Van Dyke in Center Line. The other will be in front of the Warren City Hall, also on Van Dyke and across the Street from the GM Tech Center."

In addition to the cruise element, a car show, a car show will be held, Weatherby said. That will be held at the 10 Mile location.

People who want to enter their cars will pay a \$20 entrance fee. This money, as well as money donated by sponsors, will go the Center Line library project and the Warren Community Foundation.

"What's also nice about the date of the event is that it takes place in the middle of Center

Line's Independence Festival, which will be held on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, June 7-9. So there will be things for families to do besides watch cars, including a fireworks display on Saturday night."

Weatherby said they are in the midst of talking with potential sponsors for the event.

"We're very busy right now getting ready for the cruise," Weatherby said. "We expect a number of area small businesses and car dealerships to be sponsors."

"We're not worried about getting a poor turnout our first year. If there's one thing I've learned about cruises is that the people who attend them, that's what they do during the summer."

"The word will get out and we expect to have a nice turnout."

## Gilmore Museum Pre-War Display

The Gilmore Pre-1942 Showcase Car Show and Swap Meet on Saturday May 18 is not your "typical" car event, said Gilmore Museum spokesman Jay Follis.

"It's actually authentic 'time travel' back to the early days of motoring," Follis said. "Here you'll see vehicles produced during the first 50 years of the automobile in motion as they drive around the Museum's historic campus."

People attending will have the chance to witness an 1886 Benz – considered the world's first gaso-

line-powered car – started and driven by a Bertha Benz reenactor.

Electric- and steam-powered cars from the turn of the last century also will be featured.

Visitors can also discover the process of crank-starting a car, cheer on the faster vehicle in the "Gilmore Cup" race between a 1902 Curved Dash Oldsmobile and a High Wheel Motor Wagon, and participate in free vintage-style carnival games complete with prizes.

To learn more, go to Gilmore-CarMuseum.org.

## Tech Center Creates STEM Fun for Kids

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do for real. We even had one child ask if there was a prize for successfully completing the task at hand. No there isn't, but isn't knowledge the ultimate prize?"

Lucas Christianson, age nine, came with his father, Jeff, who is a vehicle personalization program manager at the Tech Center.

One of the stations Lucas visited was called "Coding Without Computers." There, participants were presented with a board that was divided into squares. They had to move pieces from one part of the board to another, using only the commands left, right and forward.

The children were given a pen and paper and had to write out their "program" in advance. Then Michelle Pascual, a design release engineer, would move the pieces using the program developed by the children.

Jeff Christianson said that he was glad to be able to bring Lucas and his other son, Mason, age seven, to where he works.

"I like to think that they already thought I was cool," Chris-

tianson said. "I've brought them to work in the past, and I like that they get to see the cool things that I do for my work."

Shannon McClintock, an electrical designer at the Tech Center, is also a member of the GM's Veteran's Group. Every year, she and her colleagues put together CARE packages and send them to troops.

That takes a lot of manpower and one thing they like to include is candy, so McClintock had a table set up where children could put together candy packages for troops in active service.

"It is a way for people to say thank you for your service," McClintock said. Plus, there's candy, and we don't mind if the kids take a piece or two for themselves."

Club GM also set up a table to sell T-shirts with an Earth Day theme to raise money for the charities supported by the group during the year.

Nancy Muzichuk, recently retired as an engineer at GM, said the shirt designs are created by children, with the winning designs decided by a vote of club members.

Dave Darovitz, a communications manager at the Tech Center, brought his daughter, Kailey, to work. When tasked with drawing a "vehicle of the future" on white paper on one of the VEC building's wall, Darovitz couldn't help but notice that his 12-year-old daughter drew a vehicle that was labeled "party bus."

"Well, we asked them to be creative," Darovitz said. "As a parent of seven, I enjoy having the chance to show my kids where I work and let them meet my colleagues. I'm already looking forward to next year."

## Warren Civic Theater Auditions in May

The Warren Civic Theatre, under Artistic Director Greg Trzaskoma, will hold auditions the week of May 13.

Experienced or novice, all are welcome. Children who are not yet able to read must have a parent or responsible adult in the show with them. Visit warren-civic.org to schedule an audition.

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## Auburn Hills Firm Forms New Alliance

Munro & Associates of Auburn Hills, a provider of Lean Design methodology, teardown benchmarking and design optimization services, has entered into a strategic partnership with Hinduja Tech.

Hinduja Tech is known for its frugal engineering and global delivery model, said Munro CEO Sandy Munro. This strategic alliance enables Munro and Hinduja Tech to provide a wide range of engineering services from concept through production for automotive and new mobility customers, she said.

Over the last three decades, Munro has shown it can help companies reduce time to market, R&D, engineering and manufacturing costs, all while increasing the quality of its customers' products, processes and systems, Munro said.

"Hinduja Tech complements Munro's new product development, teardown benchmarking, design optimization, manufacturing, and cost engineering capabilities by adding CAD/CAE competencies and capacities, thereby enabling Munro to offer its customers a full array of program management and value engineering solutions under one roof," said Munro.

"This alliance between Munro and Hinduja Tech creates an engineering powerhouse that should make waves in the automotive industry's quest for new eco-mobility production-worthy programs at reduced cost and time, while still enhancing quality."

Hinduja Tech has its United States offices in Novi and is an engineering services provider to the automotive industry around the world, Munro said.

## Auto Engineer Builds Business to Fight Skin Conditions

by Jim Stickford

It's been said that necessity is the mother of invention. Well, for one Michigan mother, her son's eczema resulted in her inventing special soaps he could use that wouldn't hurt his skin.

Camilla Rice works as an engineer in Ford's Hybrid Planning Department in Dearborn. She is the mother of two children, son Miles who is four-and-a-half, and daughter Selah, 12.

"I am from Highland Park, and always liked math and science," Rice said. "I was tutoring my fellow students when I was eight. I decided to use my love of science to better myself and thanks to grants and scholarships was able to get my engineering degree from GMI, now known as Kettering. That's a private school and is expensive."

While attending high school at Highland High, Rice was in a special program where she spent half her day in high school and half her day in community college.

Her love of science has taken her far, Rice said. So when her son started developing eczema, she used that love of science to do something about the problem.

One of the difficulties of having eczema is that ordinary soaps can exacerbate the problem.

"When it came to soap, I was like most people," Rice said. "I never bothered reading the ingredients list on the wrapper until I had a reason to. When I did, I discovered that ordinary soaps have ingredients like animal fats and almond oils."

People with nut allergies, such as her two children, can have problems with the almond oils, and the animal fats can make the eczema worse.

Miles' skin was so sensitive to

regular soaps that he couldn't wash using it, and even using a towel to dry off could be painful when the eczema would flair up.

Special soaps are expensive, so Rice and her husband Gerald decided to do something about the problem.

"We decided to make our own soaps," Rice said. "I consulted with a chemical engineer and a dermatologist. I am a big believer in the scientific method and believe in getting expert advice. I decided to make my soaps 'vegan' so they would have only natural ingredients and no animal fats."

And that's how their company, Green Olive Soaps, was founded. The Rices live in Troy and they make the soaps at home.

Aside from buying an immersion blender online, they didn't have to spend a lot of money buying specialized equipment.

The shapes of the soaps are also interesting, Rice said. The regular bar-shaped soaps have indentations to make them easier to grip.

And she also makes soaps in the shape of baked goods, such as cupcakes and cakes. While this might strike some people as unusual, Rice said that the idea came to her thanks to the Internet.

"I saw a video online of a lady making cupcakes and that got me thinking," Rice said. "I am a diabetic so I don't eat cupcakes, but they're nice to look at. I googled if it were possible to make soap in the shape of cupcakes and, to my surprise, I found the answer was yes. Mind blown."

Rice sells her specialized soaps online through greenolive-soaps.com.

"We make a variety of soaps," Rice said. "We use ingredients that will soothe and moisturize skin, such as whole grain oats,



Rice shows off custom-made soaps that look like real cupcakes.

kaolin clay, charcoal and organic ingredients such as olive oil and avocado oil. We import shea butter from Africa and we make sure that the shea butter is a fair trade ingredient so that the money actually goes to farmers."

Shea butter is a fat extracted from the nut of the African shea tree, Rice said. It is usually ivory in color when raw, with more processed versions being white in color.

It can be yellow when a root is added to it. It is widely used in cosmetics as a moisturizer, salve or lotion, Rice said. It really lets the skin breathe and doesn't block up pores, unlike certain mineral oils, she said.

As well as making soaps, Green Olive also makes lip balms, body scrubs, spa bars and bath salts.

"The products are a true labor of love, made at home by me and my family," Rice said.

In addition to selling online, Green Olive Soaps can be purchased at two brick-and-mortar locations, Rice said. One is the Kitty LaRue Boutique in Royal Oak.

The other location is the Art Is

In Market store at the Partridge Creek Mall in Clinton Township.

"We are looking to expand," Rice said. "My husband is looking for a bigger place to actually make the soaps. Right now, we do it at our home in Troy."

"We use natural ingredients like peach scents, so when people visit, they will often comment on how wonderful the house smells."

While she enjoys running her own business, Rice said it's important for her and others to never forget that the soaps are made for a specific reason – to help those with sensitive skin conditions.

"You don't have to have eczema to enjoy these soaps," Rice said.

"But they aren't cheap. A regular bar costs \$8.99. One shaped like a baked good such as a cupcake sells for \$11.99. We are currently looking to expand our sales to spas."

"Anyone can buy our soaps and enjoy our products, but they are made for people with eczema – or for other skin problems that make using ordinary soap so problematic."



# Fremont Insurance

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# GM Adding Second Shift for New Corvette

Sometimes the need for speed and sports car performance translates into jobs. At least that's the case with the next-generation Corvette.

General Motors is adding a second shift and more than 400 hourly jobs at its Bowling Green Assembly plant in Kentucky to support production of the Next Generation Corvette, which will be revealed on July 18, said GM spokeswoman Kim Carpenter.

The addition of the second shift will increase the plant's workforce to more than 1,300.

"The Corvette's iconic status owes so much to the men and women of Bowling Green, where it has been built exclusively for almost 40 years," said GM and CEO Mary Barra.

"This is the workforce that can deliver a next-generation Corvette worthy of both its historic past and an equally exciting future, and today's announcement gets us one step closer to its reveal on July 18."

Since 2011, GM has invested more than \$900 million into Bowling Green.

This total includes investments toward a new body shop, increased engine capacity, new paint shop, a new Performance Build Center, and additional plant upgrades, Carpenter said.

The plant currently has about 715 hourly and 165 salaried employees for a total workforce of about 880.

In addition to assembling the Stingray, the ZO6, Grand Sport and ZR1 editions of the Corvette, GM produces the LT1 and LT5 2.2L V8 engines used

in the Corvette Bowling Green Assembly.

The plant has produced more than one million Corvettes since it opened in 1981. It has the largest solar array of any automaker in Kentucky, and its annual economic impact includes more than \$76 million in state wages and \$15 million in income tax.

Known around the world as America's sports car, Carpenter said, the first-generation Corvette was introduced as a 1953 model. Originally designed as a show car for the 1953 Motorama display at the New York Auto Show, it generated enough interest to go into production.

The first Corvettes were assembled in Flint in 1953. But starting in 1954, production of the Corvette moved to GM's St. Louis Assembly plant, where the vehicle was to be manufactured for the next several decades.

Production of the Corvette in Bowling Green, Ky., started in 1981. For a short time, the vehicle was made in the two separate locations, until production was fully moved to the Bowling Green plant.

The fourth-generation Corvette, the C4, began production in Bowling Green in 1984. The fifth generation was introduced in 1997 and the sixth generation in 2005.

The seventh-generation Corvette – the most current – was revealed in January 2013 at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit and was the first to bring back the Stingray nameplate since 1976.

The final production seventh-generation Corvette will be auctioned off this summer with proceeds benefiting the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation.



GM will be adding 400 more employees to its Bowling Green operation.

# Ford, Amazon Expand Their Web Services

Ford just took another giant step for automotive-kind in the computer age.

The Dearborn automaker and creators of the Transportation Mobility Cloud (TMC) Autonomic last week signed a multi-year, global agreement with Amazon Web Services (AWS), which will expand the availability of cloud connectivity services and connected car application development services for the transportation industry.

Through this collaboration, Autonomic's TMC – the leading automotive cloud – will be powered by AWS – the world's leading cloud – to become the standard connected car solution for Ford vehicles, according to Ford spokesman Fazel Adabi.

Ford Mobility and Autonomic chose AWS for its global availability and breadth and depth of AWS' portfolio of services, including Internet of Things (IoT), machine learning, analytics, and computer services, Adabi said.

The collaboration with AWS allows additional partnership and business opportunities for auto-

makers, public transit operators, large-scale fleet operators, and software developers.

As a Technology Partner in the AWS Partner Network (APN), Autonomic will also work with Independent Software Vendors (ISVs) and System Integrators (Sis) to offer vehicle connectivity services and capabilities for developing connected vehicle cloud services, vehicle features, and mobile applications to automotive manufacturers and mobility application developers.

Automakers and application developers can use the TMC to free themselves from the large investment and extensive time required to build their own connectivity layer, Adabi said.

Instead, by connecting via TMC, they can apply those resources to creating innovative products and solutions that differentiate them in their marketplaces. TMC, already connected to millions of vehicles, provides secure, bi-directional connectivity to the cloud from vehicles.

It securely ingests and enriches vehicle data in real time, and it

gives software developers easy access to the processed data to be able to create rich applications for drivers, fleet owners, and vehicle manufacturers. TMC is a vehicle brand agnostic and provides the API-centric, cloud-based software development experience that developers of mobile applications prefer.

"This collaboration will significantly expand our opportunity to deliver the very best experiences to Ford vehicle and mobility customers," said Marcy Klevorn, president of Ford Mobility. "I am excited that our future cloud standard for connected vehicle solutions will be powered by AWS in addition to Autonomic's Transportation Mobility Cloud. Working with AWS and Autonomic, Ford and our mobility partners will have access to the mobility platform."

# Williams Named New CEO For Henniges Automotive

Henniges Automotive of Auburn Hills, a global supplier of highly engineered sealing and anti-vibration systems for the automotive market, has promoted Larry Williams to chief executive officer, effective April 9.

While serving as Chief Executive Officer of Henniges Automotive, Williams also will continue in his role as a board member and president of the company, a position he took on in March 2016, said Henniges spokesman Fred Jamieson.

"Larry has done a tremendous job leading our team, driving business growth worldwide and strategically positioning our company for the future," said Zhao Guibin, chairman of the Henniges Board of Directors. "We thank Larry for his unwavering commitment and are very pleased to appoint him to this new role."

As CEO, Williams will continue to drive growth and put a strong emphasis on innovation and the development of its global team, Jamieson said.

Currently, Henniges consists of 19 different manufacturing locations across eight countries around the world, with annual sales exceeding \$1 billion.

Likewise, Williams plans to focus on further expanding the company's footprint in key global regions, including Mexico, South America, Europe and China while ensuring standardization of product across the different facilities.

"When I joined Henniges in 2003, I quickly found a passion for the company; I'm proud of the success we've achieved throughout my tenure and am thrilled to take on this new leadership role," said Williams. "As CEO, I look forward to further amplifying Henniges' position as a leading automotive sealing and automotive anti-vibration solutions provider."

Williams first joined Henniges as vice president of finance, later earning the title of chief financial officer before being promoted to president.

Overall, his proven leadership skills and extensive experience in the automotive industry spans three decades, Guibin said. Williams earned his Master of Business Administration from Butler University and earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Central Michigan University.

Henniges provides automotive original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) with sealing systems for doors, windows, trunks, lift gates, sunroofs and hoods, Jamieson said.

The company also supplies the automotive market with anti-vibration components and encapsulated glass systems. Henniges sells to all major Automotive OEM customers and operates facilities in North America, South America, Europe and Asia. The company currently has approximately 8,700 employees worldwide.



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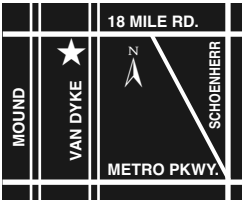
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# Former Nissan CEO Ghosn Pays \$4.5 Million in Bail

TOKYO (AP) – Nissan’s former chairman, Carlos Ghosn, was awaiting release from the Tokyo Detention House on April 25 when he paid 500 million yen (\$4.5 million) in bail.

Prosecutors were fighting to keep Ghosn in detention and it was unclear when he might be released.

The prosecutors said in a statement they vehemently oppose releasing Ghosn, contending he could tamper with evidence or influence witnesses.

Ghosn was arrested in November, released on bail in March but re-arrested and detained in April on fresh allegations.

The latest bail comes on top of the 1 billion yen (\$9 million) Ghosn posted for his earlier release.

He has been charged with under-reporting his post-retirement compensation and breach of trust in diverting Nissan money and allegedly having it shoulder his personal investment losses.

Ghosn, 65, a Brazilian-born Frenchman of Lebanese ancestry, says he is innocent. He contends the compensation he allegedly underreported was never decided on or paid and the payments considered to be a breach of trust were legitimate.

For the earlier release, his defense team offered special conditions such as installing a surveillance camera at the entrance to a specified residence for the former star executive and promising to use a cellphone and the internet only under specified conditions. The latest release requires similar restrictions, including not leaving the country, according to the court.

“I am so relieved. I had been worried,” Ghosn’s lawyer

Junichiro Hironaka told reporters about the court decision.

Japanese media reports said the court is adding a new restriction, requiring advance notice of contacts between Ghosn and his wife, Carole Ghosn. Details of that restriction were unclear.

Carole Ghosn was called in for questioning earlier this month.

Takashi Takano, one of Ghosn’s lawyers, has denied Japanese media reports that Carole Ghosn had contacted people related to the allegations and stressed Ghosn’s entire family has been abiding by the terms of his bail agreement.

“If they had done such a thing, the release on bail would end, and they would lose bail money,” he said in a recent blog post.

Japanese social media and media were alive with speculation over how Ghosn might appear when he leaves detention.

When he was released on March 4 after more than 100 days in detention, he wore a cap, mask and what appeared to be a construction worker’s outfit. Ghosn was still easily recognizable, and the “disguise” provoked widespread amusement and commentary.

Ghosn’s case has reignited criticism, both internally and internationally, against lengthy detentions without a trial or conviction in Japan, which critics call “hostage justice.” Although prolonged detentions are routine in Japan, rearresting a person who has cleared bail is unusual.

Ghosn led Nissan Motor Co. for two decades and was credited with steering the success of the global alliance with Renault SA of France and smaller Japanese automaker Mitsubishi Motors Corp.

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