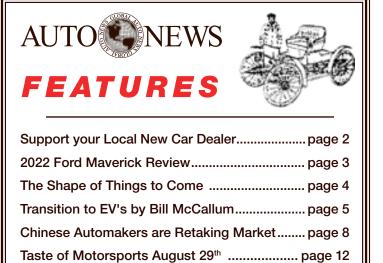
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Volkswagen's roots in Silicon Valley sprout the tech-driven Future of Transportation

For more than two decades, Volkswagen Group of America has been researching the future of transportation in Silicon Valley. Volkswagen launched what's formerly known as the Electronics Research Laboratory to tap into Silicon Valley's innovation and spirit, and made it among the first automotive manufacturers to establish a cross-functional team in the region.

Starting with three employees in 1998, the unit now known as the Innovation and Engineering Center California (IECC) has contributed dozens of innovations to Volkswagen vehicles all around the globe and more than 250 patent applications.

Today, the IECC is Volkswagen's major West Coast innovation hub and has four main goals:

research innovations in mobility, apply artificial intelligence and digital solutions to business challenges, develop key technology for autonomous systems, and find ways to improve sustainability through new materials and decarbonization.

"We're proud of the technology and engineering accomplishments our Silicon Valley team continues to lead and build for Volkswagen," said Dr. Wolfgang Demmelbauer-Ebner, executive vice president and chief engineering officer at Volkswagen Group of America. "For more than 20 years, the IECC has been a key driver behind our efforts to combine our automotive expertise and creative spirit, allowing us to continuously deliver first-to-market innovations and a

continued on page 20



Volkswagen Group Innovation and Engineering Center California (ECC)

The Volkswagen Group Accelerates Their Transition to EV's with the ID.4



Volkswagen 2021 ID.4 EV (photo Dave Kunz)

by Dave Kunz

Most car companies are starting to embrace electric power, though it remains to be seen if significant portions of the buying public will do the same. Nonetheless, most of the "big news" coming out of the industry these days is about electrification.

Volkswagen has another incentive to jump on the bandwagon: the company is still hurting from fines and embarrassment after they were caught cheating on diesel engine emissions output.

So, the brand that brought us the Beetle and Rabbit as mainstay vehicles is now heralding the arrival of its first dedicated electric car, the 2021 ID.4 crossover SUV. It looks good, has decent passenger and cargo space, will easily go over 200 miles on a charge, and starts in the neighborhood of \$40,000 before incentives.

This clean-sheet EV is entering an increasingly crowded field. Even if you take 800-pound gorilla Tesla out of the equation, there are a growing number of electric cars with similar specs either already in showrooms or arriving soon. Both 2021 and 2022 will see a slew of new electric offerings.

The stark white ID.4 I drove around Southern California for a week certainly got plenty of looks. It wears VW's current signature design language, and seems both familiar and different. Those who heard it go down the road were treated to its high-tech "whoosh" sound, mostly purposely-generated noise to warn sight-impaired pedestrians at low speeds.

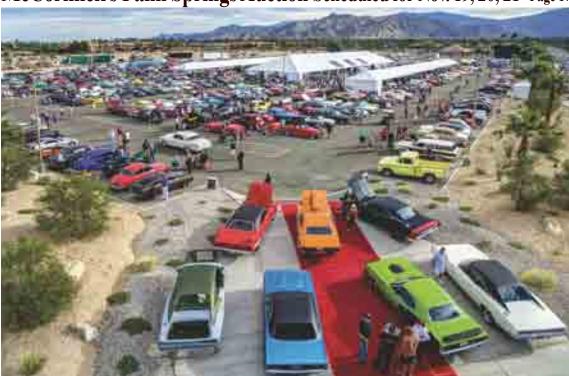
Speaking of white, my test vehicle was a 1st Edition limited run model, the inside of which looked like a rolling Apple store. Thankfully,

the regular interior isn't so shiny white. The 1st Edition models are all technically sold out, so there's that.

I didn't try to see how far I could go on a full charge (official EPA estimated range is 250 miles), but I did take advantage of high-speed charging at one of the growing number of Electrify America quick charge stations popping up in places like shopping centers. They provide an 80% charge into the battery in about 40 minutes, while you can be doing other things. The first three years of this high-speed public charging is free to ID.4 buyers.

VW wasn't the first to come out with an automobile, but the Beetle became a sensation once they did. Today, the scenario is repeated somewhat. The company wasn't the first with an EV, but is hoping the ID.4 follows successfully in its famous grandfather's footsteps.

McCormick's Palm Springs Auction Scheduled for Nov. 19, 20, 21-Page 17



McCormick's Palm Springs Collector Car Auction, held at the Convention Center near downtown Palm Springs twice each year, featuring nearly 600 cars. (photo McCormick)



Support Your Local New Car Dealership



publisher

Supporting your local new car dealer is a theme I have been promoting for almost 40 years now and for good reason. New car dealers support each and every community they serve. The local sales tax from new car sales helps create and maintain a cities park and highway system.

In some cases the taxes created by new car sales is the largest source of revenue for a city.

It's been my experience that new car dealership owners are one of the largest supporters of local non-profits including museums, hospital foundations and Boys & Girls Clubs to name a few.

The Bill Pierre Ford Auto Group family is an example of how a local new car dealer has supported the community since 1947. (See story on page 4)

The Boeckmann family owners of the Galpin Auto Group in Los Angeles support over 20 Southern Calif. based non-profits including the Los Angeles City Police Fund. Please continue to support your local new car dealers.

Featured Car Shows

- Taste of Motorsports 12
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- McCormick's . . page 17
- Pebble Beach

Lexus LC500 – A Supra for the Elite



editor

Picture this, it's a summer evening in June. You're taking a sunset cruise through Snoqualmie Pass in Washington with the top-down. You hit the gas on the LC500 and a harmonious sound rumbles from the 5.0 L V8 of the LC500 and echoes off of the mountains surrounding you. There is the perfect blend of mountain air and high quality leather hitting your nose. You turn on "Imagine" by John Lennon, and a feeling of zen hits you, launching you into an almost meditative state; all is right in the world.

Driving the LC500 feels like a perfectly orchestrated string quartet. The powerband from the V8 is incredibly smooth leading up to the 7300 redline. The driving experience is smooth, and saying the interior is luxurious would be an understatement

The Hard Facts:

With regards to the hard specs. the LC500 has two motor options. The first option is the 2UR-GSE 5.0L V8 motor that is shared with the RCF. Producing 471 hp, 398 lb-ft of torque, and propels you from 0-60 in just 4.4 seconds. The second option being the 3.5L hybrid V6 which gives 354 hp, 369 lb-ft of torque and up to 35 mpg on the highway.

These motor options are paired with a 10-speed paddle shifted

continued on page 18

Sally's Test Drive **Includes A Visit To Cooper Wines**



travel editor

Hyundai's Sonata arrived just in time for an early Spring road trip through the farmlands in Eastern Washington. Driving on two-lane state highways and a short distance on the interstate, the mid-size sedan hugged the curving, narrow roads as we passed the incredible scenery of freshly planted fields and powered-up nicely to join the faster pace on the interstate.

Every time I drive a Hyundai, I am impressed with the attention to detail that is given to the design of the vehicle. The 2021 Sonata has a coupe-like silhouette. The badged grille dominates the fascia and bigger air ducts make it look bolder. The rear of the Sonata is accentuated with LED taillights and a hands-free smart trunk release that exposes the 16-cubic foot trunk space. The Phantom Black exterior was complemented by a black interior with high-quality leather appointments including a leather-wrapped steering wheel.

The Hyundai Sonata Limited is powered by a 1.6-liter turbocharged, four cylinder engine matched with an 8-speed auto-

continued on page 10

Chevrolet C8 Stingray Conv. Test Drive



Ary Voss feature writer

"Wow, I could have had a C8"

The above quotation is a takeoff on a popular vegetable juice drink, but is also something that one might hear a Ferrari owner mutter when realizing that he or she could have had an American supercar with all the performance of the Italian marque at a considerably lower cost.

This latest C8 Corvette Stingray is now available as either a coupe or a convertible with a folding or retractable hard top. Since the coupe's roof lifts off for open-air motoring anyway, it represents a more frugal choice. It's probably wiser to instead spend the money upgrading to the 2LT version, which starts at \$68,295, and adds a substantial number of features. The Z51 performance package is also a highly desirable checklist item since it includes all of the Corvette's best performanceoriented gear.

The all-new Corvette Stingray Convertible is visually provoca-

continued on page 6

Toyota Highlander Test Drive Review

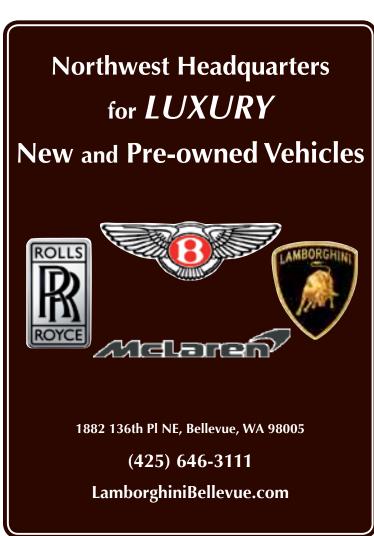


Scot McCallum "Green Car Guy"

The 2021 Toyota Highlander was our choice for a tour of Eastern Washington which included the Cascade Loop Highway. This SUV is quiet and comfortably seats your entire family with three seating rows. There is plenty of power with a 3.5L V8 engine and the new Highlander has plenty of storage capacity including multiple compartments up front. A premium audio system with Apple & Android Auto Play compatibility makes for a very nice road trip. It also handles well and is very easy to park. And, for those of us who feel safety is a critical component of any vehicle, the Highlander has a 5-Star Government Safety Rating. The Highlander is a great choice for a family SUV to explore the best parts of our great state!



See Toyota Highlander Photo on page 13





VW Jetta GLI **Upholds Its Tradition**



feature writer

Volkswagen created the GLi in 1984 to take advantage of the popularity of the Golf GTi hatchback by offering the same performance enhancements in a sedan.

Now the sixth generation pushes the performance along, as its predecessors did, but add the benefits of modern safety capabilities as well as creature comforts.

For 2021 the Jetta GLI comes in two trim levels: S and Autobahn. It also gets the next-generation Car-Net telematics system and in-car Wi-Fi capability when you subscribe to a data plan. Autobahn models add standard wireless charging and an adaptive damping system for the suspension.

The difference in the driving experience between the base Jetta and the GLI is well worth the premium to the price. The base Jetta feels flaccid, with little power and rather imprecise road feel, which limits the car's cornering

The GLI upgrades this mostly by equipping it with the same engine and brakes as the Golf GTi. That means under the hood

continued on page 6

Mercedes-Benz S-Class Test Drive Review



Dave Kunz LA feature writer

If ever there has been a model worthy of the term "flagship," it's the Mercedes-Benz S-Class. Despite the proliferation of SUVs both on the roads and in Mercedes' own showrooms, the big 4-door car remains the icon of the brand. And it's also arguably an icon of the auto industry in general.

For 2021, Mercedes-Benz went to a clean-sheet design for the S-Class. Still big, still uncompromisingly comfortable, and still a leader in advanced technology. The large Benz also crosses over solidly into six-figure pricing, with the basic (if you can even use that term with regard to this car) S500 carrying a starting sticker of \$109,800. For that lofty sum you get a laundry list of standard features however, including the 4MATIC all-wheel drive system.

Under the hood, the S500 produces forward propulsion with a turbocharged inline-six that makes 384 horsepower. Add in the electric motivation of the standard EQ Boost 48-volt mild hybrid system, and you're in 400+ horsepower territory. The twin-

continued on page 8

2022 Ford Maverick Test Drive



truck writer

Ford is bringing an all-new truck to market later this year and it's a compact. Resurrecting a model name from the 70s – the new Maverick compact pickup is partly based on the current Escape. So, while its small its also all truck. With this intro Ford is staking out a new segment in the truck market, one that they inadvertently helped create. How so?

It's no secret that traditional half-ton pickups (like the F-150) have grown to oversized proportions in the past two decades. In fact, when the mid-size Ford Ranger returned to the portfolio just a few years ago it was the size of a pre-millennium half-ton. No small truck help there.

Of course, the rest of the industry has been moving virtually in lock-step with Ford as no one wanted to be caught short as it seemed that the market just couldn't get enough of big trucks. Now, we have over-large half-tons from all the manufacturers.

But in just the past few years there has been push-back. A vocal

continued on page 6

Millennials Gain **Buying Clout thru Online Buying**



millennial writer

In 2020, the market research firm J.D. Power reported that "Millennials bought more new cars than any other age group, accounting for 32 percent of total new-car sales, edging out baby boomers for the first time". Interestingly enough, Millennials are also twice as likely as baby boomers to not only shop, but also buy a vehicle — new or used entirely online, according to Cars. com, which provides information and shares data with dealers for online sales.

In a January, 2021 New York Times business article, author Roy Furchgott, reported that "Millennial financial clout, disdain for dealerships and the pandemic have converged to shift how cars are sold, which may benefit car buyers and dealerships alike beyond the pandemic".

Furchgott continued, "The transition makes it a hot market for online car-buying services and software platforms, such as Cars.com, which went public in 2017; Shift and Vroom, which both went public in the last year; and

continued on page 8

The Shape of Things To Come



Mark Smith classic cars writer

"The shape of things to come" was the advertising tagline written for the new offering from Triumph - the new TR7. The wedge design language was shared by some of the most iconic designs of the era. The Lotus Esprit. Maserati Merak, De Tomaso Pantera, Bricklin SV-1, and perhaps the best wedge era design, the Lancia Stratos, designed by Marcello Gandini of Bertone.

This particular vehicle I am driving today is a 1979 Triumph TR7, Mimosa yellow over a black interior. The car was restomodded into a tribute/clone of an extremely rare model offered in 1977, with only 61 examples hitting the streets. The Sprint model featured, and this car is equipped with a 2.0 liter slant four cylinder engine with a 16 valve head, 5 speed manual transmission and a stout rear with a 3:09:1 rear drive. The reasons why so few TR7 Sprints were produced has long been debated in Triumph collectors circles, but it seems logical that the TR8 was the soon to be released powerhouse of the lineup

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The RPM Foundation: A Shared Belief

from same page ——

expressing our individuality, an avenue of escape from the every-day grind, an important component of our heritage as a people. Vehicles are a testament to our creativity, innovation, and drive.

And when you share this belief, you also share our concern: who will care for the vehicles we consider so important 20, 50, 100 years from now? The current skilled trades shortage, brought on by a push for all students to pursue a four-year degree, has impacted the vehicle restoration and preservation industry particularly badly. Talk to any restoration shop owner, and they'll tell you a tale of woe related to finding skilled help, entry level labor, and most importantly the next generation to whom they can pass the torch.

This concern, and the need for action, gave birth to the RPM Foundation over 15 years ago. Its name short for "Restoration, Preservation, and Mentorship," RPM addresses the issue of locating and supporting the next generation of vehicle restoration professionals through scholarship and program grant funding, skills preservation initiatives, mentoring students and new entries into the field through career services, and our own Apprenticeship and Internship programs meant to provide opportunities for students to earn a living while they learn from masters of the trade.

Since our inception, the RPM Foundation has awarded over \$3.5 million to programs that provide a pathway to careers in restoration and people pursuing those careers. We've received and evaluated hundreds of grant applications, awarding over 350 grants to deserving organizations in 35 states. And we've impacted over 27,000 students through our grant funding and programs.

Our programmatic approach to introducing young people to the vehicle restoration industry has allowed for the vast expansion of our school/instructor/shop owner network, resulting in relationships with over 150 schools and their associated instructors. RPM's nationwide network of mentors, ambassadors, automotive instructors, shop owners, corporate partners, and private donors has grown exponentially. With that growth comes more opportunities for collaboration and integration.

RPM is leading the charge to ensure the skills needed to support our hobby not only remain, but grow – infusing the current and future generations of technicians with the tools necessary to succeed in vibrant careers in this niche automotive space. By doing this, not only are we ensuring our collective hobby remains strong, but we're inspiring and energizing new enthusiasts every day.

The RPM Foundation is driving the future of the restoration industry. If you believe what we believe, join us for the ride. Visit www.rpm.foundation to learn more.



Michelle Hale global correspondent

Hyundai is a Leader in EV Strategy

Walking car concepts? Awards for human exoskeletons? What's going on with Hyundai? Turns out, a lot. The Korean carmaker, it's Genesis premium brand and continued on page 19



Harold Allen
Texas feature writer

Ford Bronco Takes A Star Turn

Nothing goes better in Texas than Broncos, Ford trucks and lots of Cowboys. Last week over fifty Ford Broncos, from vintage 70's to a 1996 model, were on continued on page 7

continued on page 7



Gary Murphy LA feature writer

Legends of Auto Honors the Bill Pierre Ford Family

Before the Space Needle, the Seattle floating bridges or the I-5 freeway was built, there was a Dealer named Bill Pierre Ford in Lake City, WA. Founded in 1947 continued on page 17



Nick Ellis RPM foundation

The RPM Foundation: A Shared Belief

If you're reading this publication, you believe what we believe – that vehicles are more than just a means of getting from one place to another. They're a means for continued on same page





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Transition to EV's **Started Over 2 Decades** Ago with Hybrids

by Bill McCallum

While the automaker OEM's and one-off EV manufacturing speculators like to use the phrase "transition to EV's" what they are suggesting is a "quantum leap to EV's". Will it happen? Eventually. But for those of you living on a desert island, we have been in the middle of the EV transition for over 20 years,

The vehicle is called a HYBRID. Powered by both an electric and a fossil fuel engine. With the addition of the plug-in Hybrid, if your daily commute is 40 to 60 miles a day you can be using little or NO FOSSIL FUEL with a nightly recharge. Since the current U.S. market for EV's (2% to 3%) is based on those short daily commutes. Why the mass hysteria to pure EV transition when the auto industry with Toyota leading the way has been in the transition for the last two decades. It's simple. Governments, politicians, and environmentalists CAN NOT ACCEPT the progress the industry has made with HYBRID'S as to reducing carbon emissions in the U.S. This same

group of individuals don't seem to be considering the potential problems "down-the-road" with the transition to pure EV's

Back to: "THE TRANSITION TO EV'S -- IT'S A RACE" I have been getting some "push back" on my suggestion that Volkswagen is in the lead in "IT'S A RACE". For the doubters I suggest you read the front page story "VOLKSWAGEN ROOTS IN SILICON VALLEY SPROUT THE TECH-DRIVEN FUTURE OF TRANSPORTA-TION", Hyundai is still in second place but closing in on the leader. Toyota is moving up and keeping their plans "close-to-the-vest. Ford is having production problems, but holding on to fourth.

Not sure about GM at this point with potential Lords Town problems, and Honda is making some moves around the "first-turn" with new EV's planned and more hybrids coming.

Oh yes. Then there is Elon (Tesla) so far in lead in total sales he will be watching the THE RACE as a spectator until he moves to MARS. Stay tuned.

Auto News increases both online and on-the-ground coverage across the United States

While most folks have more time on their hands to read and play with their computers and cell phones during the Covid-19 crisis, we at auto news have been expanding our U.S. circulation and increasing our online reach. (www.autonewsonline.com)

A special thanks to Chris Chung our Editor for creating and launching our "Thursday Weekly Updates" and our YOUTUBE reviews using DRONES. As a result of these efforts our online traffic is up 170% and accelerating

For those of you who have known me during our 35 year journey you know that I am not one for "self promotion." So Chris convinced me to submit a short BIO to LINKEDIN

Our print mailing list and on the ground distribution has also been expanding this year.

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In the Early 1900's - 20 Automakers made EV's representing 25% of the Total U.S. Market

AUTO NEWS® BYTES

Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles moves ahead with Autonomous Driving R&D for Mobility as a Service

- All-electric Volkswagen ID. BUZZ is expected to be the first vehicle in the Volkswagen Group to also drive autonomously
- Carsten Intra, CEO of Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles: "Important contribution to future mobility and road safety in cities"

Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles, a brand within the Volkswagen Group, is consistently and rapidly advancing the development and implementation of autonomous driving. "With the confirmation of the Volkswagen Group's Supervisory Board for our Autonomous Driving R&D program until, we are setting the course for the future of mobility. Autonomous, electric driving will make an important contribution to urban mobility and road safety. Our vehicles are the logical first choice to apply such systems to", explains Carsten Intra, CEO of Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles, after the Supervisory Board meeting of the Volkswagen Group.

The planned introduction of autonomous systems for traffic use in 2025 is currently being prepared at Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles. Christian Senger, Head of Autonomous Driving: "This year, for the first time, we are conducting field trials in Germany, in which the self-driving system by Argo AI will be used in a version of the future ID. BUZZ by Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles. The aim is to develop a ride-hailing and pooling concept similar to what MOIA offers today. In the middle of this decade, our customers will then have the opportunity to be taken to their destination in selected cities with autonomous vehicles.'

As part of their cooperation, Ford Motor Company and Volkswagen have invested equally in Argo AI, a company specialized in software platforms for Autonomous Driving. The goal: the consistent and fast development and use of autonomous systems. In addition to the initial investment of one billion US-Dollars, the Volkswagen Group also contributed its subsidiary AID (Autonomous Intelligent Driving) into Argo AI. With the autonomous driving budget recently confirmed by the Supervisory Board of the Volkswagen Group, Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles is taking the next significant step towards the future of autono-

The commercial vehicle brand is responsible for the development of fully autonomous systems and their commercial use in urban areas. The brand plans to develop and build Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV), such as robo-taxis and vans.

In addition to the investments in Argo AI, the Volkswagen Group is also investing billions of euros in projects of its own software company, the Car.Software Organisation. The Car.Software Organisation develops, in parallel and independently of Argo AI, assisted and automated driving functions up to level 4 for the private mobility sector of all Volkswagen Group brands.

Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles plans to develop the vehicles in which Argo's so-called self-driving system (SDS) will be used. They are based on the all-electric ID. BUZZ, which is expected to have its world premiere next year. The developments are already running at full speed, to not only electrify the iconic Bulli, but to also transform it into a ground breaking autonomous vehicle with SDS.



2022 Ford Maverick Test Drive Review by Howard Elmer

continued from page 3

group had started saying - enough! - we want a smaller truck. Ford is answering with the Maverick; a true compact.

But they aren't the only manufacturer who is listening. In fact, a new player, Hyundai has chosen this year to also bring an SUV based compact truck to market - the Santa Cruz (one that they showed years ago in Detroit—then sat on). It also looks promising as a compact and has gotten positive buzz. However, Ford's entry, the Maverick, is going to be the real catalyst in this compact category; one that will also dive in to. Just watch Ram – that's my prediction.

The all-new 2022 Ford Maverick is the truck for people who never knew they wanted a truck, says Ford. I'm not sure I agree with that statement. But I understand that they expect to draw in new customers to the truck market; however, I really think the bulk of sales will be to current truck owners who will consider the new Maverick right-sized for their needs. So, while size is one thing, Maverick is also aiming at the winning trifecta of low price and decent fuel consumption, which

I expect the other truck builders will also make it the entry-level a hybrid that promises good fuel truck choice.

Maverick will be powered by

economy and will be priced to start at \$25,900 in Canada. The fact that

Ford released the price at the same time as the truck news dropped continued on page 8



2022 Maverick Towing a Trailer (photo Howard Elmer)

C8 Corvette Test Drive Review

continued from page 2

tive and stimulating. Styling that is not only elegant, but functional as well. It breaks new ground, and it serves up a distinctive profile defined by a long dash-to-axle ratio and a low, lean proportion.

Photographs don't do the Stingray justice - it is not only a purposeful and functional design, it is stunningly gorgeous. There are some purists who feel that the new design, which is similar to that of a Mclaren violates the heritage of the iconic sports car, but everything about this C8 Corvette represents a step up.

Major purchase decisions to be made include engine size and roof configuration. Something to keep in mind regarding the latter is the fact that the engine is visible with the coupe version, but alas, not with the retractable roof model.

The engine is now mounted behind the passenger compartment or amid ship rather than up front, which makes for improved weight distribution.

The engine is still a 6.2-liter V-8 that cranks out 490 horses along with 470 pound feet of torque. When equipped with the dualmode exhaust system included as part of the Z51 performance package, five more horsepower is gained, but it also adds an electronic limited-slip differential, more powerful brakes and summer tires. There is no longer a manual transmission available - only an eight-speed dual clutch automatic -a first for Corvette, which is controlled by either a push-button gear selector on the center console or by using steering-wheel-mounted shift paddles.

Even with the base version, this new 'Vette is capable of phenomenal handling characteristics and euphoric sensations on the road or on the track

My test C8 Stingray Convertible was a base model priced at \$66,400., which with the optional retractable hardtop and destination charge came to \$67,495. The exterior wore a Ceramic Matrix Gray coat with the interior executed in Adrenaline Red. It rolled on Michelin Pilot SportZP staggered rubber – 19 inches up front and 20 inches aft, mounted on 5-splitspoke polished alloy wheels.

The C8 Corvette's interior continues with a two-seat layout, but the cockpit moves closer to the car's nose allowing for the mid-mounted engine. The interior comes lined in leather, real metal, and faux suede and even features a stitched headliner. The roof fits

inside the car's trunk aft of the engine compartment. The rear trunk is able to fit two golfbags, and the "frunk" (front trunk) provides space for luggage.

The driver position is behind a squared-off steering wheel and a 12.0-inch reconfigurable gauge display, with a large infotainment touchscreen angled toward the driver for easy access. The C8's base cabin is well thought out, but moving up to the 3LT package gains upgraded materials such as sewn leather on most interior surfaces, along with carbon-fiber trim.

The C8 Corvette incorporates Chevy's Infotainment 3 Plus system featuring an 8.0-inch touchscreen with Bluetooth audio streaming, a 4G LTE mobile

hotspot, and wireless Apple Car-Play and Android Auto capability.

The Corvette is available with a limited number of driver-assistance features, none of which are standard on the base model. Key safety features include: available blind-spot monitoring and rear cross-traffic alert.

The new Stingray is, in a word, incredible. It behaves in a docile and civilized manner when called upon to do so, but it is also a screamer when poked and prodded. It handles with an admirable athleticism and preciseness, riding comfortably, when simply cruising, or it may be firmed up for track exercises and more aggressive driving.



Corvette Stingray (photo Arv Voss)

VW Jetta GLI Test Drive Review

continued from page 3

is Volkswagen's 2.0-liter turbocharged and direct-injection four-cylinder engine, which sends 228 hp. and 258 lb.- ft. of peak torque.

That is 18 more horsepower and 51 lb.- ft. of torque more getting to the front wheels than the previous GLI model. Power gets to the road through either the base six-speed manual transmission or optional seven-speed dual-clutch transmission. The car has an EPA-rated fuel efficiency of 25 mpg in the city and 32 mpg on the highway.

Other performance upgrades include a limited-slip differential, Golf R brakes and progressive, variable-ratio steering. It also gets a MacPherson strut front suspension and multi-link independent rear suspension that's specifically for GLI models. Touching the ground are special 18-in. aluminum-alloy wheels fitted with 225/45 R18 all-season tires.

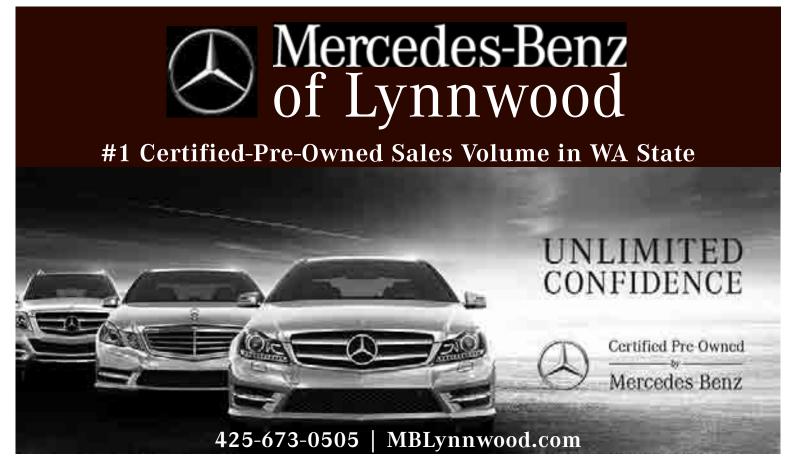
There are also appearance changes to ensure folks looking your way realize you are driving the model's performer. Naturally, this starts with a more aggressive face. The front bumper gets a lower front spoiler and there is a larger air intake than the regular Jetta. The grille is filled with black honeycomb and a red accent stripe.

On the side there are lower side skirts to emphasize that the GLI suspension package lowers the car a bit more than halfan-inch lower. In back there's a rear spoiler and a finned diffuser, again to point out the car's

You also get a number of nice standard features. Outside there are LED lights in front and back. These lights are quickly becoming standard and do a good job. Some of the driving assists are Volkswagen's Front Assist, a blind-spot monitoring and reartraffic alert. Once you have used the standard keyless access, you will discover the ambient lighting offers ten colors. There is also push-button start and stop as well as dual-zone climate control.

You can opt for other features such as Volkswagen's Digital Cockpit, a panoramic sunroof, heated and ventilated front leather seats or even the Beats-Audio sound system. The sound system in the model I tested was quite good, especially for a compact sedan in this price category.

While I liked the look of the interior, it left me in no doubt that wasn't an expensive car. The interior's design lacked an elegance of, say, a similar-sized Audi. There was just a bit too much plastic, or at least too much continued on page 7



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VW Jetta GLI Test Drive Review

continued from page 6 plastic that looked and felt like

plastic.

The cars also wasn't particularly quiet, but most of that was caused by having the manual transmission and being driven by someone who doesn't try to emulate the shift patterns of an automatic. Speaking of which I found the shifting a bit vague. It was fine when driving hard, running the engine up in revs and shifting aggressively. But when driving sanely it seemed a bit sloppy. Not bad, actually, just ehh, if you know what I mean.

The motor is actually on the noisy side inside the cabin, but that was alright with me, since that motor is what defines this model. I was surprised how

long it took me to get used to the power surge when the turbo came fully alive. Again, that's what makes the GLI worth having and something you adjust to quite quickly.

The car's suspension setup is better than you think it will be. Once pushed into a corner

it hardens up nicely to keep everything copacetic. Perhaps the better way to say this is that the car doesn't ride like a hot hatch but can probably keep up through the twisties. Having said that, this isn't a car designed to upstage the GTi, or the other tuned-up compacts out there.



VW Jetta GLI (photo David Schmidt)

Ford Bronco Texas Press Event by Harold Allen

continued from page 4

display around the Dallas Cowboys' Frisco Star.

The number of Bronco fans that turned out suggests Ford will have no trouble selling them as fast as Ford can build them. The only question: Will people wait long enough to get one. I've attached photos of the Classic Broncos that came to the event, and there were almost too many. Fortunately, they managed to fit them around the Tostitos Championship Plaza.

Ford brought two 4-door softtop models, and demonstrated how easy it is to pull the top back like a convertible. They also had a series of demonstrations on removing the Bronco doors, using its own tool kit with the Bronco logo on the tools. To take the door off requires removing two screws and disconnecting the wiring plug – very simple. They also give you a bag that you slide the door into to prevent damage, and then you can put it in the back and strap it down.

On display Ford also had a Bronco Sport 4-door in white, but the big news is the full-size Bronco will be available with 300 horsepower driving to all four wheels via a 10-speed transmission, and also will have the Bronco G.O.A.T. (Go Over Any Terrain) drive modes. The Ford display included gas cans painted in the colors that the Broncos will come in, giving us an idea of the available Bronco palette. There is no question in the minds of the Bronco experts giving the demonstrations that they have thought of every detail, and the new Bronco will be a strong competitor for Jeep. Again, the only problem is in trying to get one. The current Bronco Sport is difficult to find, while the new 2-door and 4-door Broncos are scheduled to arrive in maybe four months. But with the chip shortage chances are it's going to be like six or more months. While we were at the event, I met several customers that had put deposits down on the 2-door continued on page 14





Mercedes-Benz S-Class Test Drive by Dave Kunz the journey an absolute r

continued from page 3

turbo V8 with EQ Boost in the S580 model gets you admission into the 500+ horsepower club.

The amazing thing about this four-door flagship is that it manages to be both a surprisingly nimble city car and a serene highway cruiser at the same time. For in-town motoring, the low-end torque of the power system lets you leave stoplights with little drama at all, while the available rear-axle steering gives the 208" long car the turning circle of a compact.

Out on the open road, sink into the wonderfully contoured leather driver's seat and let the Active Distance Assist DISTRONIC adaptive cruise control help make the journey an absolute pleasure. This system will maintain distance, help you stay in the center of the lane, and even anticipate upcoming curves and terrain and adjust speed accordingly. Want to change lanes? Hit the signal switch, and if the adjacent lane is clear (the car figures this out), it'll glide you smoothly to the left or right in a gentle move.

Life at the top can get expensive, for sure. My test vehicle was a loaded-up S580 with nearly everything piled onto the options list. As such, its bottom-line tab came in at a cool \$147,590. For some high rollers that won't be seem to be quite enough, so later this year the Maybach version of the S-Class arrives, starting at a jaw-dropping \$185,000.



Mercedes-Benz S Class (photo Dave Kunz)

Millennials Gaining Buying Clout through the Online Buying Process

continued from page 3

Carvana, whose stock has gained more than 200 percent since March 2020. Many more services are emerging, like CoPilot, Gettacar, CarBevy, CarSaver, and Joydrive, some of which are backed by bigname venture capitalists".

Still, despite the rising number of services, "there is vast room for growth", said Toby Russell, a cochief executive of Shift, a used-car seller. As a result, more and more dealers are seeing the potential for increased online sales and to capture more of this market share.

In one example, Nissan is refining an online sales system, Nissan@Home.

As dealers increasingly understand the changing times and need to expand their online draw and selling platforms, components like self-selected designs and tool kits, home deliveries and test drives are being replaced with a trial or tryout period and an easy return process if the car purchased does not work for you.

So what do you think, Millennials? Are you one of the 36% of Millennials whom purchased a car in 2020? How did you do it? Entirely online, or partially online? Let me know, I'd love to hear from you.

See you next time!

2022 Ford Maverick Test Drive

continued from page 6

shows how serious they are about cornering this market. Right size, cheap on fuel, low entry price – this could be a winner.

Maverick has the Ford pickup truck "look" including the dropdown side windows and a front end that stretches edge to edge. It looks squat and planted. Despite its size Maverick's upright and squared off shape is great for space efficiency, inside and out. Maverick is offered in three trim levels – XL, XLT and Lariat. An FX4 package will also be available with the AWD XLT and Lariat trucks. This package will offer more off-road capability; all-terrain tires; suspension tuning and additional underbody protection. There is also an electronic AWD drive mode dial with modes like Mud/Rut and Sand, as well as Hill Descent Control.

Maverick will come as a five-passenger, four-door pickup only. That full-hybrid powertrain has a projected fuel number of 5.9 L /100 km/City – or about 800 kms on a single tank of gas.

Maverick's base engine is a 2.5LAtkinson-cycle four-cylinder hybrid powertrain. It makes 191 hp (this number includes the electric motor) and 155 lb.-ft. of torque pushed through a continuously variable transmission (CVT) driving the front wheels. This base package offers 1,500 lb of payload and max tow of 2,000 lb. However, a second optional powertrain pushes that tow number to 4000 lb. That setup features a 2.0L EcoBoost gas engine making 250 hp and 277 lb.-ft. of torque. The transmission is an 8-speed automatic and comes standard with all-wheel drive.

continued on page 14



2022 Ford Maverick (photo Howard Elmer)

INSIDE CHINA AUTO NEWS BYTES

by Bill McCallum

CHINESE AUTOMAKERS ARE RETAKING THE DOMESTIC CONNECTED CAR MARKET FROM FOREIGN OEMS

China is at the forefront of connected vehicle technologies due to the region's distinctive consumer behavior with a desire for high-tech vehicles and decisive government action in developing a solid local Internet of Vehicle (IoV) industry. According to ABI Research, a global tech market advisory firm, close to 50% of all new vehicles sold in China in 2021 will have connectivity, and the penetration rate will increase to nearly 80% by 2025. At the end of 2021, almost 40 million cars will have connectivity in China.

Traditionally, Chinese Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) operated as merely manufacturing sites to their foreign joint venture partners. In the past years, they became more self-dependent. "Now, they are looking for ways to compete against their incumbent western counterparts by offering high-end infotainment systems with a smartphone-like interface in partnership with local internet giants (e.g., Baidu and Tencent Alibaba). Meanwhile, they have developed frameworks to enable fast iteration of software services, with deployment cycles reduced to 12 months versus three years by their Western counterparts. The high competitiveness requires traditional automakers to quickly adapt to the local market dynamics, with some, such as Suzuki and Renault, having already exited the market," explains Maite Bezerra,

Largely a result of the cutting-edge Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies, the outstanding connected experience offered by OEMs in China is undeniably boosted by personal data. The higher willingness of Chinese customers to share data with content providers allows carmakers to develop sophisticated and personalized vehicle experiences. "Moreover, as the connected experience a key selling point, carmakers are increasingly offering connected services subscriptions for longer free trial periods than in Western countries, sometimes even for the vehicle's lifetime," Bezerra notes. For instance, Nissan offers a free trial for three years in the United States, seven years in the United Kingdom, and ten years in China. While Chinese OEMs are overtaking traditional OEMs, they do so by relying on local third parties, including BAT (Baidu, Tencent Alibaba) and foreign players, such as Qualcomm, NXP, and Autotalks (V2X), that dominate the semiconductor industry landscape. Thus, the Chinese market offers excellent opportunities for third party suppliers which can adapt to serving the OEMs that are more flexible and ambitious than their foreign counterparts.

Besides the infotainment experience, vehicle connectivity has been boosted by the fast 5G implementation and China's leadership in V2X. The country has committed to the C-V2X protocol and developed a strong national strategy that targets mass deployment from 2025. At least five vehicle models have already been launched with C-V2X in China, including Great Wall Motor's Haval HG, the world's first 5G vehicle. Nearly 45% of new cars sold in China in 2025 will feature C-V2X.

INSIDE EUROPE AUTO NEWS BYTES

by Bill McCallum

VOK DAMS produces digital European Inventor Award 2021 for the European Patent Office

VOK DAMS Munich transferred the innovative spirit of the European Inventor Award 2021 into the digital space for the European Patent Office and created an exciting award ceremony honoring the creativity, dedication, and achievements of the finalists.

The European Patent Office once again trusted on the expertise of the Munich-based team of VOK DAMS for the production of the European Inventor Award 2021. The award ceremony took place End of June 2021, in the shape of a digital event open to the public in six languages, attended online in real time by thousands of people.

The European Inventor Award recognizes outstanding inventors from Europe and around the world who have made an exceptional contribution to social development, technological progress and economic growth.

This year, the award ceremony became a digital event, representing a clear statement by the European Patent Office on the power of innovation in Europe. In the run-up to the event, a wealth of information about the European Inventor Award was already available to visitors digitally, which thousands of visitors from all over Europe took advantage of.

Within the framework of an interactive "Walk of Fame", the audience was given insights into the inventions of the award winners of the past years before the award ceremony.

VOK DAMS sent the participants of the award ceremony on an inspiring journey through an archipelago of inventions. Water, land and architecture reflected the versatility of the innovative inventions. The individual islands of the archipelago became the stage for the award candidates. Varying in their appearance, the islands each stood for a prize category.

The use of an extended reality LED studio and the creation of digital 3D worlds with a multitude of animations - implemented by VOK DAMS partner madhat GmbH - on the basis of state-of-the-art gaming technology, created an unique digital experience. The event was broadcasted in six languages from a temporary studio at the European Patent Office in Munich. No pre-registration was required for the digital event, so the audience from all over the world could follow the journey of the fifteen extraordinary and award-winning people.

The Best Ways To Save Money On Car Insurance Premiums - New Guide

Compare-autoinsurance.org (https://compare-autoinsurance.org/) has launched a new blog post that presents the most common and easiest methods drivers can follow to get affordable car insurance rates.

For more info and free car insurance quotes, visit https://compare-autoinsurance.org/how-you-cansave-money-on-auto-insurance/

Nowadays, getting cheap car insurance that offers a lot of coverage is essential. Luckily, even in these tough times, there are many ways to get cheap car insurance. By doing proper research, drivers can find an auto insurance policy that is at the right price.

To find cheaper car insurance policies, drivers can follow the next steps:

Compare multiple quotes. It's crucial to compare car insurance quotes from multiple companies. Comparison shopping can help drivers uncover cheap car insurance companies and auto insurance discounts. Drivers may discover a new company that has emerged or dropped its prices in this competitive market. Drivers should compare quotes at least once per year or if they experience a major life event such as marriage, divorce, getting a new car, or moving to a new place.

Bundle policies. To save money on insurance, drivers can bundle their car insurance with other insurance policies such as homeowner's insurance, renter's insurance, boat insurance, life insur-

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Around the Track – Racing News



FastLane Racing **SchoolAnnounces** New CEO and **Expanded Driver Programs**

After more than 25 years of providing high performance driving instruction at Willow Springs International Raceway, FastLane Racing School (raceschool.com) has hired a new CEO, Sandy Mahle. FastLane has started launching new programs and will continue to do so throughout 2021. They will also continue to expand

services for vehicle manufacturers and the film and television industry.

FastLane Racing School (raceschool.com) announced that Sandy Mahle has joined the company as its new CEO, and has plans for new, expanded driver education programs in 2021.

As CEO, Sandy Mahle brings to FastLane over 20+ years of technology leadership experience in Silicon Valley, as well as over 100 years of the Mahle family history in the automotive industry.

"I'm thrilled to be joining Fast-Lane to start this new chapter," said Sandy. "The merging of technology with the automotive industry. especially driver development, has long been a passion of mine. With its rich history of top quality driver programs, FastLane was a natural fit. I'm excited to be a part of the new leadership team as our programs and services evolve in the coming years."

"We're thrilled to have Sandy on our team," Eddy Valdez, General Manager of FastLane. "Her experience will be essential to our new data-driven driver development programs."

FastLane Racing School has provided high quality driver education programs for over 25 years from the Willow Springs International Raceway in Southern California. Originally founded by Danny McKeever, FastLane has a long and storied history – from developing the first SCCA race school licensing programs to over 20 years of providing complete driver training and support for the Long Beach Celebrity Grand Prix. Along the way, FastLane has trained a wide range of drivers, from teens in its defensive driving academy to seasoned racing professionals.

FastLane is proud to have trained over 600 law enforcement officers in its Emergency Vehicle Operations Courses. Thousands of other drivers have graduated from corporate and fleet driving programs, manufacturer driver training programs, and government certification courses. FastLane has also been a longtime partner for the entertainment industry, having participated in over 100 movies, broadcast shows, and commercials.

"If it moves – we likely have a program and expertise in it," said Sandy. In 2021, FastLane plans to deepen its existing programs, as well as launch a complete set of new programs.

Sandy is excited to break new ground as a female CEO in an industry long-dominated by men.

Mazda MX-5 Miata: 30 Years of "Zoom-Zoom"

by Chris Chung

Years ago I worked with someone that drove a 20 year old Miata; he was a high-level Executive at a tech company, so an R8 or any modern sports car would not have been out of his reach. That 20 year old Miata was later totaled, and he proceeded to hunt down and buy the exact same spec Miata. I never understood why, until I bought a 1999 Miata in October, 2020.

My '99 Miata was a complete bargain for the amount of joy that it brought. The car drove great, had an LSD, was reliable, got great gas mileage, and could be a contender at autocross events on the weekend. Unfortunately I parted ways with my beloved Miata, but was extremely excited when I recently had the opportunity to test drive a 2021 MX-5 Club RF; and I'm happy to report that the Miata continues to deliver the purist driving experience that is so fleeting in today's world of EV's and autonomous driving concepts.

That's not to say that the latest iteration of the Miata doesn't have the creature comforts that one would expect in this day and age though. My test vehicle was the "Club" trim which featured a 7" touch-screen display featuring a user-interface that is intuitive and easy to navigate while rowing

gears. Android Auto and Apple CarPlay come standard on all trims, as well as the option of wireless CarPlay on the Club trim. The Recaro designed leather seats with suede inserts are comfortable and supportive, with Bose speakers in the headrests and seat heaters integrated into them. The rest of the interior is compact, but made of high-quality BMW like materials that is aesthetically pleasing and nice to touch; a huge step-up from my "99 Miata. Blind spot monitoring and lane departure warning come standard on all trims while the Grand Touring trim includes rain sensing wipers and auto-dimming mirrors.

The exterior aesthetic remains similar to previous years. Clean sweeping lines make the car look like a mini-Supra and the retractable roof option includes a glass rear window and c-pillar frame that gives the car a coupe-like silhouette.

All three of the 2021 trims (Sport, Club. and Grand Touring) utilize the same 181hp Skyactiv-G 2.0 L, 4 cylinder motor propelling them from 0-60 in 5.8 seconds, and a 14.5 second quarter mile. This classic motor mated with a shortshifting 6-speed that contends with even Porsche, makes this car by no means fast, but a complete joy to canyon carve in or commute to work with.

Bilstein shock absorbers with sport-tuned suspension and front/ rear Brembo brakes paired with the near 50/50 weight distribution make the Miata an out of the box contender at autocross events and weekend track days.

At the end of the day though, the Miata wasn't built to be the fastest car on the road, the most comfortable, or the one with the highest tech. It was built to be a driver's car; a physical manifestation of unplugging from the grid, and something that automotive purists can enjoy as everyone else gets into their autonomous pod in the future. And that is what it delivers as it has for 30 years, and something that I hope it continues to deliver for many years to come. Congratulations Mazda, on 30 years of "Zoom-Zoom".



Mazda MX-5 (photo Chris Chung)

Ford GT500 Built For the Track

by Chris Chung

With the elimination of the Shelby GT350, the Shelby GT500 now is the only Mustang sporting the Cobra badge. Being the only Shelby Mustang available, the GT500 had big shoes to fill, and seemingly a lifetime of heritage to uphold. And it does just that; this iteration of the pony car boasts the record of the most powerful production car Ford has offered the public, as well as the Most Expensive Mustang available. I recently had the chance to get behind the wheel of a GT500, and I have to say, if you're looking for a turnkey time-attack killer, it's worth

The GT500 starts off with a

5.2 L V8 base, and adds performance goodies on-top to bring out 760 horsepower and 625 lb-ft of torque. An obscene amount of power for a production car. However, this power is orchestrated beautifully by the dualclutch 7-speed transmission. As everyone knows, I personally like to row my own gears; but when you have that much power at your disposal you don't even want to take your hands off the steering wheel! Not to mention, the dual-clutch transmission shifts much faster than a human could possibly shift the car. The culmination of this, is a car that propels you from 0-60 in 3.4 seconds and runs a 11.3 second quarter-mile, out of the box.

In terms of stopping, the car is equipped with massive 16.5-inch Brembo brakes bringing you to a halt from 70 in just 142 feet. The suspension includes MagneRide electronic dampers, new springs, anti-roll bars, and upgraded front and rear multi-link suspension. The ECU comes dialed in with five drive modes (Normal, Sport, Track, Drag, and Slippery) as well as with customization available at your fingertips. These factors combined allow the Mustang to perform nimbly on a track, accelerating hard on the straight aways, slowing down on a dime, and seamlessly going through turns like the car is on rails.

The interior is very close to the GT500's other Mustang brethren. The GT500 sports all of the creature comforts you'd see in a modern day Ford. Dualzone climate control, an 8-inch touchscreen display that supports Ford's Sync 3 software which adds Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, as well as comfortably positioned steering-wheel controls and center-console knobs to name a few. However, the GT500 adds gauges between the vents, Recaro seats to hold you in place as you cruise into podium position.



Testing the Hyundai Sonata and Tasting Cooper Wines by Sally Hanson

continued from page 2

matic transmission. Fuel economy is 37 mpg on the highway and 27 mpg in the city.

Equipped with the Hyundai digital key, remote smart parking assist, rear occupant alert, 12-speaker Bose premium stereo, panoramic sun roof, blind spot

view monitor, surround view monitor, the Limited is priced in the mid-\$30,000's. The upscale and comfortable interior makes the ride even better with heated and ventilated front seats that are 8-way adjustable.

How many times have you fumbled with a difficult to figure out navigation system or instrument cluster? My husband's overused complaint is: "That's not very user friendly, is it?" In the Hyundai Sonata, the 12.3-inch fully digital instrument cluster and the 10.25inch navigation touchscreen were so "user friendly" and easy to use tech features that I was able to use

the technology without grabbing the owner's manual!

Looking out the panoramic sun roof on another blue sky day with big billowing clouds overhead, a trip to a close-by winery was calling us.

When we drove into the parking lot at the Cooper Winery in the Red Mountain American Viticulture Area, we were met with excitement by Bud, the chocolate lab who is the winery's greeter and considered the official gatekeeper of Red Mountain. Located about one and a half miles northeast off I-82 at the Benton City exit, the distinctive red barn at the intersection of North Sunset Road and Highway 224 makes the winery easy to spot. Great wine tasting of the varietals produced on Red Mountain begin on that corner.

The small family-run winery offers a tasting room displaying racks of barrels of aging wines and pours of their handcrafted small batch operation. The staff is extremely outgoing and friendly. An expansive lawn and patio with outdoor seating offer more opportunities to sample the wines and visit with Bud.

Cooper is an estate winery, which means that their varietals are produced solely from grapes owned by the winery and the wine is made entirely on the winery's property. Owner Neil Cooper takes great pride in producing different varietals than are produced elsewhere on Red Mountain. Bordeaux style reds are his specialty.

Cooper Wine Company sells the majority of its wines to wine club members who rave about the benefits of membership. Check out the winery's very colorful and positive Facebook page. Cooper's bottles of wine are pictured at sites throughout the world.

While wine tasting, I am the designated driver. Even though I was not drinking the wine, I especially enjoyed the friendly atmosphere at Cooper's and the conversations with others at the tasting. We left the winery with two bottles — one of Merlot and the other, Chardonnay, so that I, too, could enjoy these superb wines at home. We look forward to going back to enjoy their patio and wines on a warm evening.



Hyundai Sonata at Cooper Winery (photo Sally Hanson)



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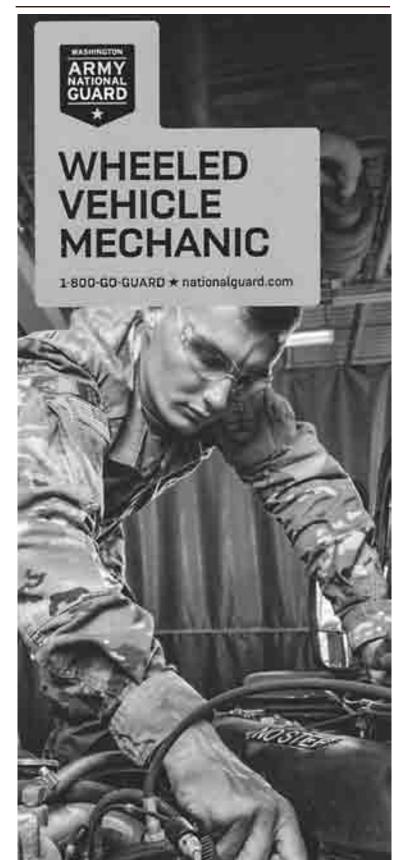
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Doug's New Dealership front desk entry



Doug's New Hyundai Dealership from walkway

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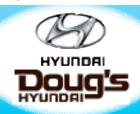




Hyundai is now offering factory-scheduled free maintenance on new vehicles for three years or 36,000 miles. Offering complimentary maintenance, specifically of this length, is unusual for non-luxury manufacturers.

The maintenance will include oil changes, filter replacements, and tire rotations and starts with 2020 models purchased on February 1 or later.

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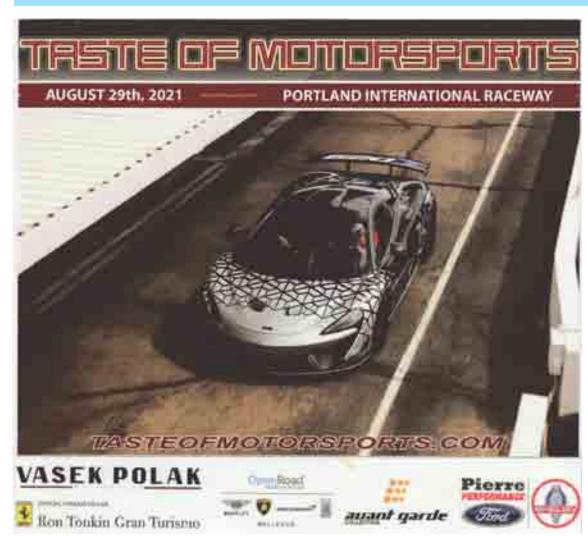
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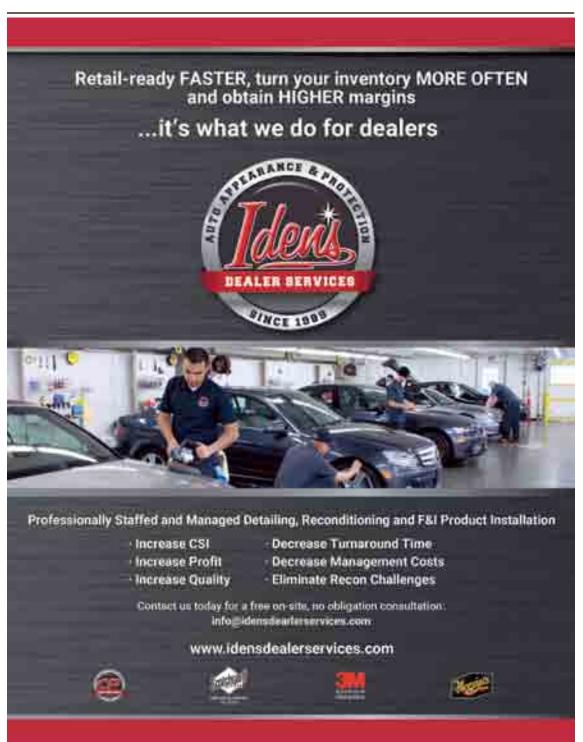
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From Around the U.S.







Motorsports Legends Spend A Day at M1 Track in Michigan

Welcome to the M1 Concourse CEO newsletter. Each month we look to share news and information about events and activities at M1 Concourse, along with other events of interest.

Our M1 Motorsports Club activities are now filling the track calendar with open lapping, autocross, drifting, lunch laps and private coaching sessions. Our performance fleet vehicle partners, Lexus and Dodge, provide a lineup of performance cars for the track sessions.

We are pleased to welcome the addition of former pro-driver Rick Knoop to our instructor lineup, joining Johnny O'Connell as one of our guest instructors.

Johnny, with seven class wins and an overall victory in the 12 Hours of Sebring along with a number of class victories at the 24 Hours of Le Mans and the 24 Hours of Daytona, is the most successful GM factory racing driver.

Johnny O'Connell in GT Class Cadillac ATS-V.R.

Rick Knoop driving McLaren

Rick is an accomplished and versatile driver that has consistently won and placed in the world's most challenging and prestigious sports car races. From his class wins at Le Mans 24 Hours and Daytona 24 Hours, Rick's driving accomplishments include factory drives with the Toyota, Mazda, Porsche, Ferrari, BMW teams. Rick also produced the 2014 movie "Racing Through the Forest" about the Pebble Beach Road Races of the 1950s.

Recently, M1 Concourse had the privilege to welcome motorsports legend, Roger Penske and Ford CEO, Jim Farley for a special day at the track. Roger's last professional outing in a race car came in 1964 Nassau Speed Weeks in a Chaparral 2A.

Penske made a return to the cockpit at the M1 Concourse Champion Motor Speedway circuit, in the historic Sebring 12 Hours and ALMS championship winning 2008 Porsche RS Spyder, coming the day after the new Porsche Penske Motorsport IMSA LMDh team was announced.

The purpose behind the test day, which also included Ford CEO Jim Farley driving Scott McLaughlin's title-winning DJR Team Penske Ford Mustang Australian Supercar, was for Team Penske to prepare drivers and the cars that will be piloted up the 'hill'. Both have been invited to participate in the Duke of Richmond's July 8-11 Goodwood Festival of Speed.

We recently conducted a press conference at M1 for our upcoming Woodward Dream Show, August 19-21. This new M1 event is designed to complement the famed Woodard Dream Cruise with a showcase of historic and legendary hot rods and muscle cars on display.

Two of the Woodward legends that will be participating the Woodward Dream Show were on display for the attending media.

Harold Sullivan's 1967 Plymouth Belvedere GTX hardtop, known as the 'Silver Bullett', was the legendary rolling test bed for parts and ideas that originated among an elite group of engineers who had plotted Chrysler's considerable racing success in the 1960s. The "Bullet" in full street trim could cover the quarter mile in 10.50 seconds at a speed of 132 mph and would become the 'King Of Woodward'.

'Black Ghost' - 1970 Dodge Challenger R/T

'Silver Bullett' - 1967 Plymouth GTX

Also available for the members of the media to see was the 1970 Dodge Challenger R/T known as the 'Black Ghost'. The Ghost showed up on Woodward in the spring of 1970, blew the doors off every competitor, and then drove offinto the darkness before anyone could answer the question, "Who was that?" The Challenger lived up to the muscle car legends of stoplight-to-stop-light escapades and late-night action. In stark contrast to the owner's day job as a motorcycle police officer enforcing traffic laws. The combat veteran, Purple Heart recipient and Detroit Police Officer, Godfrey Qualls took the Challenger out on the weekends and tested the

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Kevin Iden Creates a Multiple Location Detail Business in the N.W.

by Bill McCallum

When I started publishing Auto News in 1986, Kevin Iden was a college student with a dream. The dream was to create and grow a network of dealers offering them detailing and reconditioning services to benefit both the dealer and their customers.

Thus, Iden's Dealer Services was born in 1989 in Renton, WA and today has grown to over 200 employees, 24 locations (and growing), and working onsite with over 70 new car dealerships to streamline their process to get cars retail ready faster and to a higher quality level.

Iden's dealer accounts provide several services to their customers including:

1- Complete Interior & Exterior Detailing Services (new cars, used cars and service customers)

2- 3M Window Films/Tint and CHIPROTECT 3M Clear Vehicle Protection Film

3- Paint, Fabric, Leather, & Windshield Sealants

4- Providing Full Reconditioning Services (Dent Repair, Interior, Wheel, and Paint Repairs, inventory photos & more)

For additional information on Iden's Dealer Services visit: www. IdensDealerServices.com

2021 4-RUNNER TRAIL PREMIUM



The 4-Runner has had a long history as a best seller for Toyota. Toyota continues to add improvements for the outdoor adventure fans.

BASE PRICE: \$40,190

TYPE: SUV

ENGINE: 4.0L DOHC V6 TRANS: 5 speed AT HORSEPOWER: 270 hp MPG: 19 Hiway

Toyota Tacoma Test Drive Report

Bill McCallum

Being born and raised in Tacoma, Washington, I was excited to receive an invitation to the original press launch of the Tacoma Pickup decades ago.

I have often said, ".....Toyota's naming their midsize pickup after Tacoma was one of the few historic events of significance in Tacoma's history."The Toyota Tacoma Pickup has been the number #1 selling midsize pickup for 16th consecutive years out selling the combined total of the Ford Ranger, Chevrolet Colorado and the GMC Canyon.

Our 2021 test drive model car-

ried a base price of \$47,980 which included a 3.5L V6 Atkinson Cycle with Dual VVT-I engine producing 278 hp and mated with a 6 sp. AT. Also included in the standard package as tested, is Toyota's Safety Sense P with 10 features including a Pre-Collision System W/Pedestrian Alert. With 22 mpg on the highway and a base model price of \$27,500 the Toyota Tacoma deserves a look.



2021 Toyota Tacoma P/U at Tacoma Dome in Tacoma, WA. (photo Auto News)

TOYOTA VENZA LTD.



The Venza is Toyota's first All-Wheel Drive Hybrid. The Venza has power, style, value, and great MPG going for it.

BASE PRICE: \$39,800 * **TYPE:** 2 row Hybrid SUV ENGINE: 2.5L 4 cylinder **TRANS: ECVT**

HORSEPOWER: 219 hp MPG: 37 hiway



Toyota Highlander at Bear Creek Golf Course (Story Next Issue)



Motorsports Legends Spend A Day at M1 Track in Michigan

continued from page 12

HEMI's power against the best of the era.

In 2020, the Historic Vehicle Association (HVA) which aims to preserve and celebrate America's automotive culture, inducted the 1970 Dodge Challenger, known as Detroit's Black Ghost into the Historic Vehicle Registry.

Entries are now being accepted for cars into the Woodward Dream

We were also pleased to have in attendance SEMA Hall of Fame inductee and our 2021 Woodward Dream Show 'Legend of the Cruise' Award recipient, Bob Larivee. A legend in his own right.

Bob was instrumental in forming the Michigan Hot Rod Association. In addition, under his direction the Autorama - which started as a small local car show - became a worldclass series of national events and created the Ridler Award, the most coveted award in the hot-rodding world.

Through his involvement in Autorama and his company, continued on page 19



Ford Bronco Review

continued from page 7

Bronco. The Bronco will be available with a wide range of Built Wild accessories.

I purchased a new Bronco Sport myself, and it is a great off-road vehicle which fits in the garage; for me, a truly novel idea. It drives well, offering an 8-speed transmission with 1.5L EcoBoost engine, and gets great mileage. I'm getting 22 to 25 miles per gallon around the city and can tow 2.000 lbs. with a Class II trailer tow package. It is very comfortable inside, offering an 8-inch infotainment screen, SYNC3® and APPLINK®.

The most impressive part of the new Ford Bronco is the 40-year history that customers still collect and treasure today. Of course, if you look at the market for the early Broncos, these vehicles sell for the \$40,000 to \$50,000 range - and if your lucky enough to find an original Baja Bronco by Bill Stroppe you could pay as high as \$70,000 or more.

No question this all-new Bronco is going to be a big winner for Ford. When I shopped for the Bronco Sport I bought I had to visit three different dealers to find one in stock.

2022 Ford Maverick **Test Drive Review**

continued from page 8

Out back Maverick offers what's being called a FLEX-BED system. The bed is 4.5 feet long, however the tailgate can add to that length (for a total of 6-feet). It also has a multi-position tailgate that can act as a support for long items like plywood. The bed also has slots to use lumber for subdividing the bed, 10 anchor points, two 12V-20Amp outlets in the bed (prewired for owners DIY uses) plus two fixed 110V outlets. The bed floor and sides are also conveniently low, so almost any adult can reach over and grab items off the floor.

Maverick will offer lots of technology, including an 8-inch touch screen with Apple Car-Play and Android Auto. Also, standard is FordPass Connect with an embedded modem and Ford Co-Pilot360 technologies like Automatic Emergency Braking and Automatic High Beam Headlamps. Other safety features included standard Pre-Collision Assist. Optional systems will include Adaptive Cruise Control with Stop & Go, Blind Spot Information System with Cross-Traffic Alert, Lane Centring and Evasive Steering Assist.

The interior design appears to have thoughtful storage features along with reasonable passenger space. That's what I can see from the photos. Past that observation I'll have to wait to get into a test unit and see how I fit. That should be this summer.

The 2022 Ford Maverick goes on sale this fall. The build and price website is live at Ford.ca and orders can be placed today.

SHOWCASE REVIEWS

CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER



The Chevrolet Trailblazer is back and loaded with standard features TYPE: Subcompact SUV that appeal to both "off-roaders" and SUV fans. Priced right, looks good and fun to drive.

BASE PRICE: \$27,000 * **ENGINE:** 1.3 Liter TRANS: 9 Speed AT HORSEPOWER: 155 hp MPG: 30 hiway

GENESIS GV-80



The Genesis brand is on the move with new dealers and new brands. The GV-80 Luxury SUV is making it's move in a crowded field.

BASE PRICE: \$57,000 * **TYPE:** LUXURY SUV **ENGINE:** Twin Turbo V-6 TRANS: AWD HORSEPOWER: 375 hp MPG: N/A

HONDA ACCORD HYBRID TRG



Honda is making a move towards **BASE PRICE:** \$36,440 * an EV lineup with the Accord Hybrid. Great MPG combined with value pricing, connectivity and fun to drive.

TYPE: hybrid **ENGINE:** 2.0 liter i-VTEC TRANS: CVT HORSEPOWER: 212 hp MPG: 43 Combined

HYUNDAI SONATA LTD



Hyundai started it's design industry leading revolution decades ago with the Sonata. They continue to add new features and technology each year.

BASE PRICE: \$33,850 * TYPE: Midsize Sedan **ENGINE:** 1.6 Liter Turbo TRANS: 8 speed AT HORSEPOWER: 180 hp MPG: 37 hiway

TOYOTA SEQUOIA 4X4 NIGHTSHADE



Toyota's "Big Daddy" SUV is still as popular as it was when it was introduced. Lots of room, power, extras and fun to drive.

BASE PRICE: \$63,345 * **TYPE:** 3 Row SUV **ENGINE:** 5.7 LITER iFORCE V8 **TRANS:** 6-speed AT HORSEPOWER: 381 hp MPG: 17 hiway

2021 VW ATLAS CROSS SPORT



The Volkswagen Atlas has increased it's market share every year since it's introduction. The Cross Sport adds to the lineup.

BASE PRICE: \$46,525 * **TYPE:** 3 row SUV **ENGINE:** 2.0L TSI Turbo 4 - cyl. TRANS: 8 speed AT **HORSEPOWER:** 235 hp

MPG: 24 hiway

* All information listed "AS TESTED"

autonewsonline.com/showcase reviews

Ford Motor Company recreates Henry Ford's 1909 Ocean to Ocean 4,106 Mile Race from New York to Seattle with the All-New Mach-E EV.....!



Char Gardner Displays her automotive art at Twisp Market on Saturdays (photo Auto News)



Ocean to Ocean Event ended in Seattle (photo Auto News)

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Featured Vehicles



1940 Ford Pickup Truck It's all stock Flathead V-8



1965 Jaguar XKE Roadster \$95,000





19641/2 Ford Mustang Convertible 289 V-8 AT. PS.



1957 Chevy Custom 150 black 2 Door Post \$57,500



1968 Chevrolet Camero SS Convertible DGC6850.



1965 Chev Corvette Coupe Cold blowing Factory Air



1951 Ford V-8 AT. PS.



1947 CHEVROLET WOODY



Cobra GT 500

Drager's New Facility Caters To Events



Drager adds more space for events

Drager Family History in Motorcycles and Collector Cars Dates Back to 1934

by Bill McCallum

Drager's Classic Sales and Collector Car & Motorcycle Collection's move from Lynnwood, WA to their new 20,000 square ft. facility in Burlington, WA has been a family affair. Jeri and his wife Joan (see photo) organized the move. While their son Andrew and his daughter Jannah did some of the heavy lifting during the move. Jeri's remodeling team lead my manager Mike started the remodel back in February 2020. The facility is open by reservation during the Covid-19 crisis but they are starting to book reservations for 2021 events. With a inhouse kitchen that can handle service for up to a 500 person event, they will be ready-togo in 2021 when restrictions ease up. They have already had a small car group, "Horsepower Chrome and Rust Kreepy Kruise" have an event on Halloween.

Jeri Drager, a West Coast Icon,

in the collecting and selling of motorcycles, cars, and trucks started working in the family business in 1959. Otto, Jeri's father and his wife started the family business in 1934 with a Harley Davidson store in Aberdeen, WA.

As the Harley Davidson business grew Otto moved his motorcycle business to Bremerton WA and then Seattle, WA. Jeri moved the business to Shoreline, WA. 20 vears ago and added an automotive & motorcycle museum and an event center. This Spring Jeri moved the business North to Burlington, WA, to an all-new 20,000 sq. ft. facility (see photos) which is now open by appointment.







Women in the Auto World



Previously Featured: "Women in the Auto World"

Lyn St. James - Indy Race Driver Felicia Fields - Ford HR VP Mary Barra - GM CEO Michelle Christensen – Acura Design Lisa Copeland – FCA Dealer Sandra Button - Pebble Concours

Monika Kalenski – MEK Magnet Chanterria McGilbra - Prancing Ponies Elena Cortesi - Ford Comm. Mgr. Muffy Bennett - Car Collector Jennifer Biggs - Repair Shop Owner Carolyn Jackson - VP Brand Strategy Barrett-Jackson Joyce Chow - Social Media Mogul Sarah Deccio - Distribution Mgr. Valerie Thompson – Motorcycle Racer Ashley, Courtney & Brittany Force - Drag Racing Champions Toyota of Marysville – Ladies at Work

DANA WHITE from Renault-Nissan Alliance in Paris to Washington D.C., and Now Chief Communications Officer at Hyundai North America. She has traveled the world in her Public Service and Automotive Career

Dana W. White is the chief communications officer of Hyundai Motor North America and is responsible for leading all regional communications and public relations strategy for Hyundai Motor North America, Hyundai Motor America, Genesis Motor America and Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Alabama as well as the office of Corporate Social Responsibility, Diversity and General Affairs in coordination with other affiliates including Hyundai Capital, Glovis and the Hyundai Washington D.C. office. White was named chief communications officer in April 2020.

White most recently led a consulting firm specializing in geopolitical risk and strategic communications, where she was an advisor to CEOs of Global Fortune 500 companies, U.S.

senators, governors and senior U.S. military officers.

Ms. White also served as the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs and the Chief Pentagon Spokesperson for the Department of Defense and Secretary of Defense James N. Mattis. She provided strategic guidance to all branches of the U.S. Armed Services, Combatant Commands and senior civilian leaders. In addition, she was the Director of Policy and Strategic Communications for the Renault-Nissan Alliance in Paris, France. She was a Professional Staff Member on the Armed Services Committee of the United States Senate, and an editorial writer for the Wall Street Journal based in Hong Kong. White served as the Taiwan Country Director in the Office of the Secretary of Defense and Director of the Washington

Roundtable for Asia-Pacific Press at the Heritage Foundation. She was a publicist at the Fox News Channel in Washington, D.C. and served as deputy press secretary on the U.S. House Republican Conference.

White graduated from the University of Chicago with a degree in East Asian Languages & Civilizations. She studied at Capital University of Economics and Business in Beijing, China and Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul, South Korea. She is proficient in Mandarin Chinese and French and possesses basic proficiency in Korean.

Dana W. White

Chief Communications Officer, Hyundai Motor North America





McCormick's Palm Springs Auction Scheduled for November 19, 20 & 21, 2021 will feature a rare 1965 Porsche 356C Cabriolet Saturday Night

1965 was the end of production for Porsches iconic 356 model and therefore highly collectable. McCormick's Palm Springs Exotic Cars Auctions will feature one of the finest restored examples of the 1965 356C Cabriolet at their next live classic car auction $scheduled \, for \, November \, 19^{th} - 21^{st}$ in sunny Palm Springs, California. The car is one of 588 built in the

last production year and includes Certificate Of Authenticity, period correct engine, matching numbers transmission, 356C four wheel disc brakes and rare working Fresh Air fan option. The car has won numerous awards including 1st in Class in La Jolla Concours. The car will be crossing the block Saturday, November 20th at The Palm Springs Convention Center.



Interior photo of rare car to be sold at McCormick's Auction

Legends of **Auto Honors Bill Pierre Ford Family**

continued from page 4

originally a sub agency of a Ford dealer in the neighboring city Bothell, Bill Pierre, Sr. started the beginnings of a Seattle Automotive legacy. The Dealership service department, located directly across from the fire station would literally close when the fire bell rang because the shop was made up of volunteer firefighters. Years later the Pierre Family decided to open a sales showroom a few blocks away because Highway 522 was being paved serving as one of the main routes from Seattle to Kirkland/ Bellevue around the North end of Lake Washington.

The family owned and operated Ford store became an integral part of what was called "little old Lake City" that in 1954 annexed into the City of Seattle. Over the years the Pierre family have grown the dealership into a group having multiple locations with a combination of franchise stores, used car and sub-prime sales locations allowing them to serve ALL of the people in their communities (Pierre Chevrolet, Harris Ford, Harris LINCOLN, Harris Mitsubishi, Harris Isuzu, Burlington Used Car Super Store, Pierre Money Mart and AutoLoanUSA).

Currently owned and operated by 3rd generation Shane Pierre. they are a dominant force in the used car market. Pierre consistently ranking in the top 10 used vehicle retailers for Washington state year after year and achieved National ranking in the top 100 used car dealers in America 9 years in a row, published by Auto Remarketing Magazine. The dealer that started in "little old Lake City" has also established a National presence and name for themselves. Aside from winning the President Awards by Ford Motor company 2 out of the last 3 years (2018/2020), Pierre Ford IS Ford Performance. Ranked the #1 Shelby Dealer in America the last 4 years running (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020), #1 Saleen Sales in 2019 and after adding Roush to the portfolio in 2019 ranking #3 continued on page 25



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The Shape of Things To Come by MarkSmith | Lexus LC500 Test

continued from page 3

featuring a V8 engine.

Walking up to the car, one first notices how radical the shape of the car is even by modern standards. It is flat, very low to the ground and sharp edged. The design stands the test of time to my eye, the car still has a presence like that of an exotic. Maybe it is an exotic of sorts - when is the last time you have seen one of these on the roads or even at a cars and coffee event?

The interior is very snug but not uncomfortable. The layout of the dash is standard sports car fare speedometer and tachometer take up the lion's share of real estate in the center of the dash, with a full complement of engine monitoring gauges surrounding the main two gauges. The interior is mostly hard plastics and sharp angles to continue the exterior design language inside the cockpit.

Pull the manual choke, clutch in and turn her over - braaaaap! Ease the choke and the engine settles into a high idle. The sounds of the exhaust dominate the ears. The gearbox moves easily into 1st gear and the car pulls away with an urgency. The view from the driver's seat forward is extremely first person like a video game. The car's external dimensions are so much smaller than everything on the road. Only a motorcycle feels more visceral.

Departing Bend, Oregon through the Warm Springs reservation and across the Mount Hood National Forest. Miles and miles of twisty two lane roads, up and down passes, through rain and past incredible landscapes in both Oregon and Washington States. What a wonderful sports car. Nimble, quick and stable.

The suspension in the TR7 is

Independent, McPherson, coil springs, anti-roll bar front suspension and De Dion axle, Coil springs, anti-roll bar rear suspension. This suspension setup along with the short overall length of 15 feet and curb weight of 2,400 pounds makes for an engaging and lively car.

The Triumph TR7, especially with this one with hotter Dolomite 16v spec engine, twin SU HS6 Carburetors, long tube headers and full polyurethane suspension makes this little automotive rarity a blast. Sports car handling, engaging driving characteristics and wild looks all in one very unusual package.

SEE PAGE 16 "Women in the Auto World"

Drive Review by Chris Chung

continued from page 2

automatic transmission that uses an Aisin unit that is exclusive (currently) to the LC500. As a result, the shifts are very responsive as you pull through the gears.

The LC500 is built on the stiffest Lexus chassis to date. With the addition of Adaptive Variable Suspension attacking twisties through the mountains is a blast. The vehicle is responsive, and feels very stable through turns. When paired with the aforementioned motor and 10-speed transmission you're able to fly through corners like you're in a personal roller coaster.

The interior is composed of high quality leather, suede, and soft touch materials. Aluminum lines highlight elegant curves throughout the vehicle, and the seats are plush but give just the right amount of support.

Takeaways:

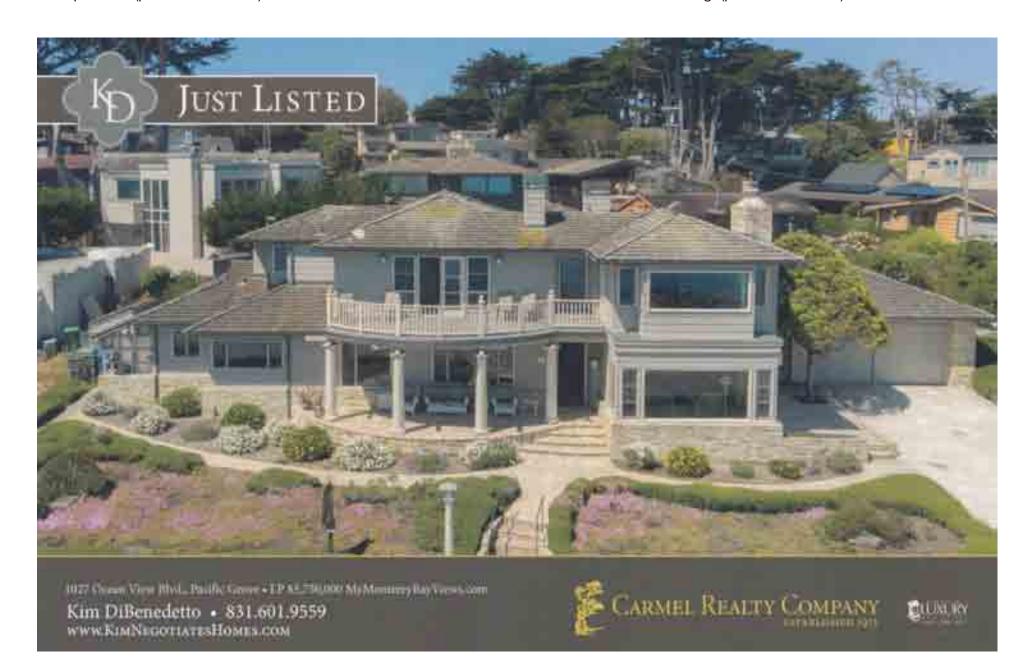
The LC500 is a refined experience for the elite. When I imagine someone who buys this vehicle I envision someone who would have bought a Supra some years earlier, but now wants a more elegant, less rowdy driving experience and aesthetic. With a price point starting at \$94,000 this car is certainly not for everyone, but when compared against the prices of other vehicles in its class (BMW M850i, Porsche 911, Mercedes S-Class Coupe) it is actually modestly priced. If you're looking for a luxury cruiser that makes a statement when you arrive, be sure to check out the LC500!



Triumph TR 7 (photo Mark Smith)



Lexus LC500 convertible with Chris Chung (photo Auto News)







OEM & Aftermarket Parts





Save Money On Car **Insurance Rates**

continued from page 8

ance, or health insurance. In some cases, policyholders can save as much as 30% of the total insurance costs. Also, if they own two or more vehicles, they can get a 25% multi-car policy discount.

Raise the deductible. By simply raising the deductible, drivers can lower the collision and comprehensive portion of their premium. However, a higher deductible means more money out of the pocket in the event of a claim.

Find all the discounts that are available. To make insurance policies more affordable, car insurance companies are offering all sorts of discounts. Insurers offer discounts such as good student discounts, loyalty discounts, good driver and safe driver discounts, pay in advance discounts, or safety-feature discounts.

Purchase the right vehicle. Cars that cost less to repair or replace generally receive lower premiums. Family cars or minivans are usually the cheapest cars to insure.

Be a good driver. Insures will always check the driving record to see if a policyholder presents a high level of risk. Speeding tickets, accidents, drunk driving citations - all can make the costs of insurance to be higher. However, drivers who manage to keep a clean driving record for at least three years can get a good driver discount that can save as much as 25% of their premiums.

Drop unnecessary coverage. Drivers who own older vehicles that have low value should consider dropping comprehensive and collision coverage. Also, drivers can drop personal injury protection coverage or medical payment coverage (if their states don't require to carry these coverages) if they already have an excellent health insurance plan.

Buy only the state-required minimum insurance. To save money on insurance, drivers can purchase only the liability insurance at the lowest legal limits required by the state to legally drive a car.

Drive less. Drivers who are driving fewer miles than a specified number of miles each year, usually

7,500 to 10,000 miles, can get a reduction in their base rates. Usually, the insurers require that the drivers will install a small device in their vehicles that transmit the mileage data to the company.

Check for group insurance discounts. Some providers offer reductions to drivers who get insurance through a group plan from their employers, professional, business, and alumni groups, other associations, or schools.

For additional info, moneysaving tips and free car insurance quotes, visit https://compare-autoinsurance.org/

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Hyundai is Moving **Fast to Bring EVs** & Hybrids to Market

by Michelle Hale

on page 5

continued from page 4

sister-brand Kia, are running on all cylinders.

Hyundai Motor Group recently announced the formation of a Silicon Valley-based studio to develop transformer-class "Ultimate Mobility Vehicles," including the remarkable Hyundai Elevate Concept. According to the press release, "The vehicle does not rely solely on wheels and is expected to address challenging driving situations – for example, a car with robotic legs could save lives as the first responder in natural disasters: or, people who do not have access to an ADA ramp could hail a car to walk up to their front door, level itself, and allow wheelchairs to roll right in. Using a combination of robotics and wheeled locomotion technology, Elevate and other vehicles by New Horizons Studio are expected to redefine vehicular mobility."

This news follows a design award recently given to Hyundai for developing an exoskeleton wearable robot to improve ergonomics for its productions team. The head of its Robotics Lab says "Hyundai will continue developing novel products that will provide people with better life quality."

If Hyundai were a startup, I'd be skeptical that these are mere stunts to drive up valuation. However, with so many recent accolades from J.D. Powers. Consumer Reports, Insurance Institute, etc., for their core business of selling cars and SUVs, this tells me that Hyundai has a very compelling point of view of the future of transportation, while excelling at the daily demands of its customers.

The hard-won recognition from industry groups like JD Powers and Consumer Reports also tells me that Hyundai is doing so many continued on page 20

Dominate the Drag Strip With Lucas Oil's FL-0 **Low Viscosity Synthetic Racing Engine Oil**

Lucas Oil's FL-0 Low Viscosity Synthetic Racing Engine Oil is a premium, super-efficient engine oil that is ideal for use in highperformance vehicles and other applications using low-viscosity engine oils. Produced after years of research and development with the help of NHRA Pro Stock World Champion Warren Johnson and his son Kurt, Lucas Oil's FL-0 answers the need for automotive enthusiasts operating in race conditions who rely on a high-quality motor oil that is durable and protects vital engine components.

The Lucas exclusive blend of Polyalphaolefin (PAO), organic ester, friction modifiers and ultralow viscosity synthetic base oils provide outstanding protection and maximize horsepower output. High-performance engines are

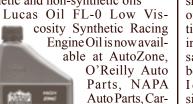
also provided with quicker acceleration due to the oil's low drag qualities. In addition, FL-0's high zinc-phosphorus formula provides excellent valve train and high RPM

Key Benefits of Lucas Oil's FL-0 Low Viscosity Synthetic Racing Engine Oil:

- Ideal for any application using
- low-viscosity engine oils Reduces drag
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cosity Synthetic Racing Engine Oil is now available at AutoZone,

Quest, Advance Auto Parts and more!





Executive Team

'Go Car Wash's senior leadership team collectively has decades of experience in car wash operations, both as team members and individual operators," Andersen said. "I joined Go Car Wash because they value the same things I do: teamwork, integrity, compassion, continuous improvement and fun. I know this is where I want to

invest my future." Andersen brings over 15 years of experience in various sectors of business development. He spent 12 of those years at Hilti,

three years at Mark VII Equipment and two years at Berkshire Hathaway. In addition to his experience in business development, Andersen served as a International Car Wash Association Board Member.

"Having a dynamic team of creative and adaptable leaders by your side will make all the difference for our company, especially

through these periods of aggressive growth and expansion," Derwin said. "We're lucky enough to have an arsenal of strong leaders ready to make our vision a reality.'

About GO Car Wash

GO Car Wash was founded in 2019 with the goal of building a multi-regional car wash company with clusters throughout secondary cities across North America.

M1 Concourse Newsletter

continued from page 13

which produced more than 1,000 hot rod shows in North America, Larivee has in-depth knowledge and understanding of the culture of Hot Rodding.

M1 garage owners and visitors are seeing the new M1 Event Center construction well under way. Scheduled for completion in preparation to open for the Motor Bella event (September 21-26) and our American Speed Festival events (September 30-October 3) the spectacular 28,500 sq.ft. facility will feature an adaptable conference, meeting and event space able to accommodate catered events up to approx. 400 guests.

The Event Center will also include a public access restaurant with track side patio, along with a second level lounge with sky deck and a private meeting and dining room. The restaurant is scheduled for formal opening during 2022.

With its location on the pit lane, the M1 Event Center provides a unique automotive experiential marketing, corporate event and entertainment destination located 30 minutes from anywhere in Metro-Detroit.

Events are now being booked

for corporate, conference, social, and private events along with track rental packaged programs starting from October 2021. For information of available dates and fees for future events, please contact our Special Events Department at; events@m1concourse.com

Our M1 Cars & Coffee events presented by Hagerty Insurance and Golling Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram, and supported by Great Lakes Coffee, will return on Saturday. June 19.

Mark your calendars for the 2021 M1 Concourse 'Cars & Coffee' dates; July 24, Sept 4, and Oct 16.

The M1 Concourse 'Cars Under the Stars' Fireworks Spectacular returns on Sunday, June 27. This much anticipated Pontiac community happening returns for the 4th Annual event with food trucks, craft beers, live music and the opportunity to park you car around the M1 circuit to watch the fireworks show.

We look forward to seeing you at M1 Concourse during our exciting 2021 season.

Yours sincerely, Tim McGrane Chief Executive Officer



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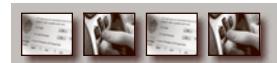
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Technology



Volkswagen's roots in Silicon Valley sprout the tech-driven **Future of Transportation**

continued from page 1

leading user experience for our customers across the U.S. and around the globe."

Home to some 200 scientists, engineers, designers and other specialists, the IECC has two branches: Innovation Center California (ICC) and Engineering Center California (ECC). The ICC plays a key role in building technology for Volkswagen worldwide, working with other innovation centers from Volkswagen Group in Germany and Asia, drawing on connections with startups, U.S. universities and research labs to identify new technologies.

"Our goal is to drive the transformation of Volkswagen into a tech-driven car company," said Marcus Brand, vice president at the ICC. "Being in Silicon Valley provides us with a huge opportunity to drive innovations into millions of vehicles."

To do so requires solving key questions about how technology and innovation can address some of the toughest challenges in the automotive business. For example, the teams in Belmont have been researching how artificial intelligence could help the advancement of autonomous driving, improve battery health or to create new materials for even more sustainable mobility products.

Experts at ICC also have developed virtual and augmented reality tools that are now being used by Volkswagen designers and factory engineers. Their research work will also help power the massive data processing and machine learning required to make autonomous vehicles a reality.

"Our job is to look over the horizon and ask what technologies emerging in America – and, ultimately, globally – do we need to embrace and apply for Volkswagen in a transportation context," said Brand. "We then strengthen our technical competencies here."

The ECC's role continues to grow as well. Its experts help turn innovations into useable products for U.S. and eventually global customers, from driver's assistance features that use machine vision to apps that help connect owners to their vehicle's functions. The work will touch virtually every vehicle the Volkswagen Group of America sells in the North American Region, including EVs like the new Volkswagen ID.4 SUV and future EV models across the portfolio.

"In Belmont, we have always been close to the heartbeat of American customers. And we can bring this to the global level. Our drive to build the digitalization of the vehicles and all their related services are the biggest change we've ever been a part of," said Jochen Jencquel, vice president at ECC. "We're collaborating with thousands of Volkswagen developers globally to bring Volkswagen's new vision of software inside the vehicle to life."

For example, the expert teams in Belmont are designing nextgeneration interior concepts for autonomous-capable electric vehicles at Volkswagen, taking into consideration how the interior controls and human-machine interface will need to change when a vehicle has more self-driving functions.

Hyundai is Moving **Fast to Bring EVs** & Hybrids to Market

continued from page 19

things right throughout their value chain – from the way it designs and engineers vehicles, to the way it produces and services them. It's very hard to get all these elements right, much less to earn this recognition among industry rivals, who are not standing still.

Bob Lutz, the car guys' car guy, wrote this recently for Road & Track about watching them for the past 30 years:

"Compared with the Japanese, the Koreans were less draconian in protecting their domestic market from imports, so they faced competitive reality... Aside from early missteps, the Korean automakers have shown amazing skill in adapting to the needs and wants of a global market. Japanese executives, in my experience, often get tangled up in history, tradition, and the supposed superiority of their culture. but I've found Korean leaders to be bold, tough, gregarious, and open to new ideas. This is in stark contrast to the banks of stonefaced Japanese execs at intercompany meetings, where little was ever said or accomplished. The Koreans are not hung up on their culture: They hire the best, Korean or not. It's their strength... The turning point for Hyundai-Kia came with the dramatic new design direction ushered in primarily by VW/Audi veteran Peter Schreyer. Rather than adopting a safe, design-follower strategy, the company repeatedly surprised the world with standout sedans and crossovers. They are today the global leaders in high-volume vehicle design. Coupled with outstanding reliability, it's a hard strategy to beat."

Indeed it is.



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Alan (left) Scale Racing Center owner hosts slot car



competition at Legends of Auto Monterey

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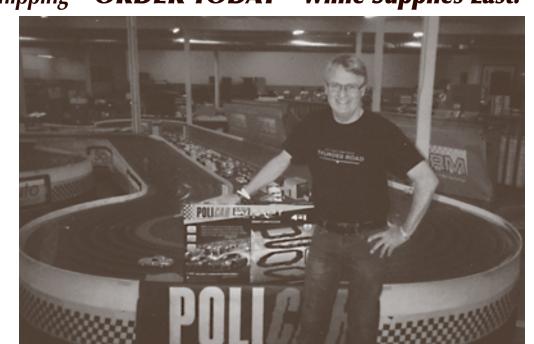
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Alan Smith, Scale Racing Owner Conducts Slot Car Demos at NW Race Tracks



Alan Smith, Scale Racing Center Owner, Demonstrates PoliCar Slot Car Starter Kit at his Center in Tacoma



Pirelli Tires Tailor Made Tire for Rivian Deliver Silence on Board and **Low Rolling Resistance**

Special Versions of Scorpion Tire Range created Specifically for R1T, the First Electric Pickup Truck in the World, and R1S, the Electric SUV

RIV is the dedicated marking that will identify Pirelli's Tires for Rivian; Elect markings will identify EV Tires.

Pirelli's 21 Inch Tires for Rivian have a World Unique Size

The EV startup Rivian has chosen Pirelli Scorpion range to fit its highly anticipated R1T pickup, which begins production in June 2021, and its R1S electric SUV. Pirelli has developed special versions of its Scorpion Verde All Season, Scorpion Zero All Season and Scorpion All Terrain tires (Pirelli's dedicated range for SUVs and pickups) to meet Rivian's specifications, and to enhance the vehicles' unique characteristics following the "Pirelli Perfect Fit" strategy. Indeed, all Pirelli tires developed for Rivian have a special marking on the shoulder: RIV and Elect.

"Elect" is the marking that identifies Pirelli tires for electric vehicles. Tires play a crucial role in EV performance – they are a key safety, performance, and range optimizer.

Pirellitires marked "Elect" offer a number of advantages for electric vehicles, thanks to a specific set of technical characteristics. Low rolling resistance helps to maximize each car's range. In electric cars, reduction in noise accentuates one of the key advantages of electric driving: silence. Finally, the Pirelli tires marked "Elect" offer improved traction in line with the intense demands from the transmission. Electric motors deliver the maximum torque available right from the bottom of the rev range, and so they need tires that can bite into the asphalt instantly.

Pirelli and Rivian co-developed these products over almost two years, and this collaboration has resulted in three special tires: 20, 21 and 22 inches. In particular, the Scorpion Verde All Season in 21 inches have a very special tire size, unique in the world, introduced in the industry by Pirelli specifically for Rivian: 275 55R21.

The technical partnership with Rivian underlines the focus of Pirelli on sustainable mobility and American car brands.

Pirelli Scorpion Verde All Season: The "Low Rolling Resistance" Tire

The Scorpion Verde (Italian for green) All Season is Pirelli's ecofriendly Crossover/SUV Touring All-Season tire developed for the drivers of crossovers, sport utility vehicles and pickups.

The main challenge Pirelli's technicians had to face to develop a dedicated version of these tires for Rivian was to meet their low rolling resistance targets.

Pirelli's engineers worked on a higher-silica compound that decreases the vehicles' energy consumption. Then, they worked on a dedicated design of the mold, narrowing the tread pattern of the tires and keeping an optimal footprint pressure distribution. In this case reducing surface-to-ground contact translates into less energy dissipation.

Pirelli's Scorpion Verde All Season tires for Rivian are constructed from lighter raw materials that don't compromise durability or performance. The Scorpion Verde All Season also presents a special size, unique in the industry: 275/55R21.

The Pirelli Scorpion Verde All Season for Rivian increases efficiency and range.

VW Creates Lab To Test EV Batteries

- Lab will serve as the center of high-voltage engineering activities in the U.S.
- Facility will support the launch and localization of Volkswagen ID.4 and future electric models
- VW to hire 25 engineers to support lab

Volkswagen of America today marked the start of construction of its Battery Engineering Lab at its Chattanooga Engineering and Planning Center. The approximately \$22 million dollar facility will test and validate electric vehicle cells and battery packs for the North American region.

The new lab will join Volkswagen Chattanooga's under-construction 564,000 square-foot electric vehicle production expansion and 198,000 square-foot battery pack assembly facility to form Volkswagen's hub for EV production and engineering here in the region. Volkswagen will test and optimize Georgia-manufactured battery cells at the new lab. This testing will include batteries for the Volkswagen ID.4 all-electric SUV, scheduled to begin U.S. production in 2022

Besides increasing its engineering capabilities in the region, the engineering lab is also part of Volkswagen's effort to localize all aspects of vehicle development and production - which lowers production costs and development cycles. Current battery testing and validation takes place in two labs in Germany, Braunschweig and Wolfsburg, along with Shanghai and Changchun, both in China. Testing and validating battery components in Chattanooga will allow engineers to more quickly apply lessons learned to local production.

"Testing batteries in the U.S. at this world-class lab helps us get vehicles to market faster, at lower cost and better tuned for U.S. customers," said Dr. Wolfgang Demmelbauer-Ebner, EVP and Chief Engineering Officer, Volkswagen of America. "It also lets us ensure the safety and reliability of our batteries in conditions U.S. customers encounter every day."

"Volkswagen of America continues to be an industry leader and core to our Tennessee economy," said Tennessee Governor Bill Lee. "I am pleased that VW selected Tennessee as the site of its newest battery lab in the world and the only lab in the U.S. This is a significant development for our growing tech scene and our Tennessee workforce is ready for the challenge."

"I'm proud that Chattanooga was chosen as the site to undertake this critical effort to ensure the safety of electric vehicle batteries," said Congressman Chuck Fleischmann. "It's an investment in the future of automotive systems that will keep Tennessee in the forefront of car manufacturing in the United States."

"This will be the first lab of its kind that VW will build in the U.S., and it means a great deal that they chose to build it in Tennessee," said Commissioner Bob Rolfe, Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development. "This expansion shows that Tennessee is not only a leader in the automotive sector, but it is also an outstanding place to conduct high tech R&D.'

VW engineers will test battery components, the integration of the battery with the vehicle and look for more ways to integrate locally produced components into the production process. The lab will include pressure and immersion testers, corrosion chambers, five explosion-rated climate chambers and a custom, two-ton multi-axis shaker table, which is designed to test the integrity of vehicle components in some of the roughest conditions they might face on the road. Built with sustainability in mind, the facility will also feature regenerative load cyclers that can return energy to the building or grid to be as efficient as possible.

About Volkswagen

Founded in 1955, Volkswagen of America, Inc. is an operating unit of Volkswagen Group of America and a subsidiary of Volkswagen AG, with headquarters in Herndon, Virginia. Volkswagen's operations in the United States include research and development, parts and vehicle processing, parts distribution centers, sales, marketing and service offices, financial service centers, and its state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The Volkswagen Group is one of the world's largest producers of passenger cars and Europe's largest automaker. Volkswagen sells the Arteon, Atlas, Atlas Cross Sport, Golf, Golf GTI, Jetta, Jetta GLI, Passat, and Tiguan vehicles through more than 600 independent U.S. dealers. Visit Volkswagen online at www. vw.com or media.vw.com to learn more.



Discount Tire Creates Covid-19 Safety Features

by Bill McCallum

I had a chance to visit with Mike Boland. Director of Customer Insight for Discount Tire on my October trip to Scottsdale,

Discount Tire with corporate headquarters located in Scottsdale, AZ, has 1,060 locations across the U.S. with over 21,000 employees.

Discount Tire founded in 1960 sells and services tires & wheels. They represent over 10 national tire brands. Mike Boland has been introducing the "In-The-Moment" program to make sure Discount Tire and American Tire (in Calif) customers are safe during the Covid-19 crisis. The program includes an Outside Touchless Experience with Keys Delivered in a Bag, Curbside Check In, Employees and Customers Wearing Masks, 6 ft. Social Distancing, and Hand Sanitizers available for all Employees and Customers.

This program, administered by Mike Boland, "Voice of the Customer" has made the Discount Tires stores the safest in the U.S. during the Covid-19 crisis.







BROOKS - BIDDLE AUTOMOTIVE SALES & SERVICE

Brooks-Biddle Automotive has been located in Bothell since 1966 (55 years). The full-service facility is located on 3.9 acres on Bothell Way. With 25 employees and GM and Suzuki training techs with 120 years of combined experience, quality service is always provided. Brooks-Biddle works on all makes and models, specializing in Chevrolets, and GM. They offer A/C Delco service, with the service department open from 7:30

a.m. to 5:30 p.m. M-F.

The Biddle family are charter members of the Washington State Auto Dealers Association (WSADA). Serving the entire Northwest, Brooks-Biddle offers a large inventory of pre-owned cars and trucks. John Biddle said, "We care and serve the needs of our customers." See the Brooks-Biddle Automotive ad in the Auto News Service Directory.

AUTO 206 INC.

Robert Dwyer with 20 years experience in the auto industry has opened AUTO 206 INC. a Pickering Dwyer Family Business, located in Kent, WA. (See ad on same page) Conveniently located two blocks from IKEA on East Valley Highway in Kent, Robert has 60 to 65 high quality vehicles on the ground. He can also locate a vehicle for you if he

doesn't have what your looking for in stock. AUTO 206 INC. has a working relationship with Arrows Automotive, Renton a full service automotive repair shop and AUTO 206 INC. offers bank and credit union financing.

During the COVID-19 crisis appointments are suggested. Robert@auto206. com or (206)454-9689

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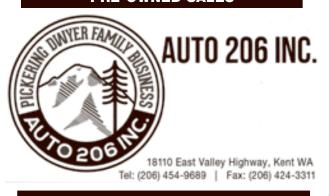
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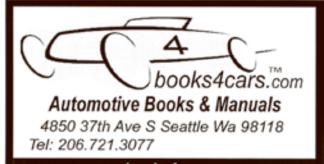
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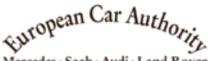


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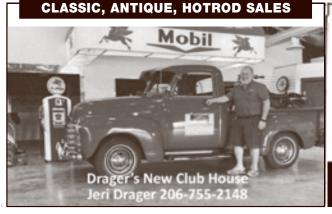
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Bill Smallwood III is a "car-guy" with 22 years in the business. His business, American Mutual Insurance Services, LLC specializes in collector car insurance and is the largest Hagerty Collector Car Insurance agent on the West Coast.

In addition to the Hagerty brand, Bill represents Grundy, Heacock, Classic Collectors, Safeco, Travelers, GMAC, Met Life brands and many more.

Bill's insurance agency represents

clients in WA, OR, ID, CA, and AZ, has 10 employees, and is a full service agency. Bill is also active in the car collector hobby and has helped organize the "Mustang Roundup" for a number of years as well as other car shows. Bill participates in a number of NW collector car shows as a vendor. Bill said, "I am passionate about cars, and my rates are very competitive." Sounds like a good combination to me. See the American Mutual Insurance Services LLC ad in the Auto News Service Directory.



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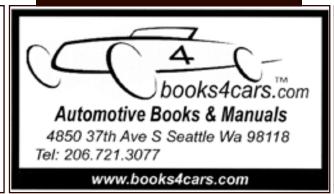
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Bill Pierre Ford Family Honored by Auto News Legends of Auto

continued from page 17

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Congratulations Shane Pierre, the Pierre Family and all of the staff at Pierre Auto Centers for a job well done and to your upcoming 75-year anniversary!!



Polestar Picks Seattle as Part of U.S. Launch Plans

by Bill McCallum

When Polestar, the electric car brand jointly owned by Sweden's Volvo Car Group introduced the brand to the U.S. a few years ago Seattle was the first stop. I was at the press event and had the opportunity to speak with Jonathan Goodman Chief Operating Officer. At the time he was introducing the Polestar 2 now available in three EV models. He said at the time "we feel the three most important cities in the U.S. for launching the Polestar brand are Seattle, San Francisco, and Los Angeles". Goodman went on to say "..... when you look at the EV infrastructure and when you look at the way the town is embracing new tech and everything else it seems an obvious place for us to come first."

Since that early introduction in Seattle, Polestar has been busy expanding the lineup and the Polestar 2 has received 2 BBC Top Gear Magazine "Best All-Rounder" EV awards.

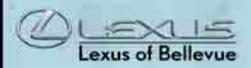
Polestar has been busy expanding it's global reach and has announced that the Polestar 3 EV SUV will be built in the U.S. at the Volvo owned manufacturing facility in Ridgeville, South Carolina. While back in Seattle they will be working with the megaauto dealer O'Brien Auto Group on a fall launch of the Polestar lineup in Seattle, Bellevue, and Tacoma, Wa.



Jonathan Goodman, Polestar CEO presents the Polestar 2 at a previous Seattle Media Event (photo Auto News)

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Pebble Beach **Concours Pays Tribute** As Lamborghini **Countach Turns 50**

2021 Exhibit Highlights Evolution from Early Production Prototype to Last Car Built

Ferruccio Lamborghini was never content to rest on success. With the 1966 debut of the P400 concept for his Miura, he set forth the very definition of a "supercar." Yet just five years later, in 1971, he unveiled an even more radical concept—the low and crisply creased LP500, complete with soon-to-be-signature scissor doors.

The name for this car is an exclamation of wonder in the local Piedmontese dialect of Italy: "Countach!"

To mark the 50th anniversary of this jaw-dropping concept, the forthcoming 2021 Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, to be held on Sunday August 15 on the 18th fairway of Pebble Beach Golf Links. will showcase some of the most important Countach prototypes and variants.

"The Countach redefined the super sports car segment and became an icon with design language that is still applied to every modern Lamborghini today," said Stephan Winkelmann, President & CEO of Automobili Lamborghini. "The Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance is the perfect backdrop to celebrate the 50th anniversary of this legendary Lamborghini with a special gathering of Countach examples that will likely never be seen again in one place.'

Individual Countach coupés have competed at the Pebble Beach Concours on several occasions, but this will be the first time the Concours devotes a full class to this exciting model, which was designed by Marcello Gandini of Bertone and built by Lamborghini chief engineer Paolo Stanzani and his staff.

"We're excited to share the origin and development of the Countach," said Concours Chairman Sandra Button. "These cars have played a distinct role in reshaping the modern automobile, changing our eye for style, and shifting automotive desires.'

The original Countach LP500 concept has been lost to history; it was intentionally crashed as part of safety tests for the new model. But Concours organizers have invited the earliest surviving prototype, the first Countach LP400, which is safely ensconced in the Lamborghini Museum (now Mudetec: The Museo delle Tecnologie of Automobili Lamborghini), to head up its 2021 display, which will showcase the evolution of the Countach right up to the very last Countach built, a 25th Anniversario model also coming from Lamborghini.

"It is hard to believe this radical and futuristic design is now 50 years old." notes Miles Morris, a member of the Concours Selection Committee. "Its shape was seared into many young minds with innumerable bedroom posters, and its design was so

successful that it was in production from 1973 right up to 1990.'

Further information and tickets to the 2021 Pebble Beach Concours are available at www.pebblebeachconcours.net.



Lamborghini at Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance

