The 2019 Jeep Grand Cherokee Delivers on a Future filled with Discovery and Exploration

The 2019 Jeep Cherokee delivers on the promise for what lies ahead. A future filled with discovery and exploration that connects this vehicle to the world.

- All-New 2.0L Turbo 1-4 Engine with Engine Stop/Start technology, Available
- New LED Headlamps, Day-time Running Lamps, Fog Lamps and Tail Lamps
- New Capless Fuel-Fill System
- World-Class Craftsmanship with Premium Interior Leather Trim, Finishes and Soft-Touch Materials, Available
- A future filled with discovery and exploration that connects this vehicle to the world.
- New Hands-Free Power Lift-gate, Available
- New Off-Road Pages and Graphics, Available on Trailhawk®
- Tire Fill Notification with Audible Alert
- New Apple CarPlay® compatibility and Android Auto™ on Uconnect® Radio with 7-inch Display, Standard; Uconnect 4C NAV with 8.4-inch Touchscreen Display, Available
- New All-Weather Mats
- New Selec-Traction Management System, including the exclusive Rock Mode on Trailhawk. You can match your capability to your adventurous nature and the road conditions you met along the way.
- The 2019 Jeep Grand Cherokee Limited base price as tested is $40,945. With optional equipment the MSRP is $49,630 and with a 25 MPG offering an above average fuel economy. To sum it up, then 2019 Jeep Grand Cherokee offers, “Fresh Style, Enhanced Power and New Technology.”

Steve Saleen (Ctr.) and Other Legends Will Return to Monterey, CA on August 15, 2019 for the 10 Year Anniversary of the Legends of Auto Gala (See Page 14)

Galpin Auto Group To Be Honored at Ten Year Anniversary of Legends of Auto on August 15th

by Bill McCallum

Ten years ago the idea of a Legends of Auto Event was just a thought I was discussing with a Ford executive in Dearborn, MI. The idea was to honor individuals from all segments of the auto industry at an annual event in Los Angeles during LA Auto Show Week. Ford set up a meeting with Bert Boeckmann, President of Galpin Ford in CA the largest Ford Dealer in the U.S. and they agreed to host the event. (See photo below) Working with Bert and Beau Boeckmann we arranged to use the Galpin Museum and Event Center across the street from Galpin Ford on Roscoe Blvd. in Northhills, CA.

At our first Gala Dinner we honored Carroll Shelby and a small group of other Legends. Carroll passed shortly after that first event and we have lost George Barris, Dan Gurney, and Vic Edelbrock and one other Auto Group at this event. (See Page 14)

Many of last years honorees are returning this year for our TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY GALA EVENT as well previously honored Legends.

We will be announcing current Legends to be honored as we get closer to the event and we have created a new category to honor DEALER AUTO GROUPS. We are honoring the Galpin Auto Group and one other Auto Group at this years event in Monterey. Space is limited and you can order tickets online. (See page 14) Hope to see you in Monterey on the evening of August 15, 2019.

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Climate change and the New Green Deal are certainly hot news topics, and the quality and efficiency of Acura’s hot 2019 MDX hybrid were clearly evident during my test drive and are worth considering for your next Green purchase. The MDX Hybrid is Acura’s upscale model that is loaded with features. To start with, the new front-end design with 20” alloy wheels and sleek side skirts provide a sporty look. You will immediately notice the spacious interior that seats eight and the MDX is the quietest hybrid I’ve experienced. The dashboard system is both feature-rich and intuitive, and the ride is smooth with its 3.0L VTEC V6 engine, 7 speed transmission, and AWD system. Eleven safety features will provide peace-of-mind as well the 6 year/70,000 mile power train warranty. The MDX Hybrid is also available with loaded Tech and Advanced feature packages. Drive this vehicle soon, you won’t be disappointed!

continued on page 8

91st Academy Awards Report
Art Gould feature editor

will pure electric vehicles (EV’s) “rule the road” in the U.S.? I think not. Yes, there will always be a small market for EV’s in the U.S. That market will be confined to large metropolitan areas’ across the U.S. Will pure electric vehicles “rule the road” in global markets? Yes, because countries like China can mandate the type of vehicles people drive. Other countries like France can play the environmental card and try to eliminate internal combustion engines.

So why have we ended up with every global automaker projecting a pure electric (EV) future without a clear documented projection of the size of the EV market. Simple. They (automakers) look at the Tesla market cap as "... the grass is greener on the other side of the fence," while Tesla is running low on cash again and closing retail stores across the U.S. while offering mobile service. Is that a formula for success? I think not.

Decades ago with all the lakes, rivers, and streams in the U.S. the popular myth of the day was "... aqua cars will rule the water ways." Great idea NO market.

Over 3 decades ago another myth surfaced that flying cars were just around the corner. Great idea NO market. NEXT ISSUE: Our national electrical grid can handle an increase in EV sales?

continued on page 6
For those people who still want to own and drive a good-sized sedan, Kia gives plenty of comfort and capability at a reasonable price with its Cadenza.

It is a car for people who are social and carry people rather than mostly family members in their back seats.

This might be another couple who ride with them to and from social events. And the car owners may actually want them to be comfortable in a crossover ute from roughly the same price range.

That’s a matter of some of the laws of physics and some of the understanding that people who buy crossovers want the second row to fold down. That limits their ability to be as comfortable as a fixed seat. Then those buyers also tend to have children sitting back there the majority of the time.

It is just possible that may influence how important it is for the manufacturers to spend extra money to make those seats com-

continued on page 7

Last fall before the winter weather arrived, I decided to make a bold move and trade in my luxury sedan for a compact sport utility vehicle which could better navigate trips through snowy mountain passes and make the travel on the roadways around my new home in Eastern Washington easier.

Since I wanted a hybrid vehicle, the Toyota RAV4 was my choice because I appreciate Toyota’s proven hybrid technology and the RAV4 continues to be a leader in the compact-crossover SUV segment. The fifth generation RAV4 has been introduced for model year 2019 and is now in dealer showrooms—except the hybrid version which will arrive this spring. As an impatient person, I could not wait for the redesigned model of the hybrid. When I arrived at the Toyota dealership to inquire about the 2019 model, my choice of color and style in the 2018 hybrid was just waiting for me at the dealership’s front door.

You can definitely see me coming in my Electric Storm Blue RAV4 and contrary to the belief

continued on page 13

Trucks, currently, have never been more important to a manufacturer’s bottom line. Not only because they are selling in ever increasing numbers but because there just doesn’t appear to be price ceiling. Customers keep loading up new pickups with luxuries that only a few years ago were found only in sedans. It’s this hunger for constantly increasing content that pushes prices up as these up-market extras quickly add up; and of course this is where builders earn the most money.

For 2019 that’s why we not only have an all-new generation of Silverado (the fourth since 1999) but also, simply put, more of everything.

The new Silverado now offers eight trim levels, six different engine and transmission combinations—and for the first time—a new Duramax 3.0L turbo-diesel.

Though this next-gen Silverado is larger than its predecessor (1.2-inches wider, 1.8-inches taller, 1.7-inches longer, with 3.9-inches added to the wheelbase) it is lighter by some 450 lb. A mixed materi-

continued on page 6

Hello, Readers! Happy Spring! Did you know the automotive industry and car dealerships spend a lot of time and dollars in collecting data on Millennials? They want YOUR business! Insurify Insights revealed and reviewed the ten most popular cars among our country’s 33 million Millennials to date. You heard that correctly: Millennials are the largest living generational group, as of 2019, we will be surpassing Baby Boomers, so dealers are you listening?

…Here are the results:

The top brands and models of cars for Millennials so far have been: Hyundai Elantra, Ford F-Series pick-up, Ford Focus, Chevrolet Malibu, Chevrolet Impala, Toyota Corolla, Toyota Camry, Nissan Altima, Honda Civic… and… the number one most popular car for Millennials is the Honda Accord at 3.87% of Millennials purchasing, owning and driving this car.

Price-wise, these cars are approximately $18,000-$29,000, with the least expensive being

continued on page 15

With the approval of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, commercial vehicle tax deductions are more favorable than ever. If you’re in the market for a new commercial vehicle and you work in an industry where you need to haul tools and materials through small alleyways and city streets while getting 22 mpg, look no further than the Mercedes-Benz Metris. What is The Metris?

For my review this issue, Mercedes-Benz of Lynnwood was kind enough to loan me a 2018 Metris Cargo van. After driving it for a few days, I can say I’m impressed!

Since its release in 2015, the Metris has been positioned as a mid-size commercial van. It’s smaller than its Sprinter brother, but bigger than vehicles like the Nissan NV200 and Ford Transit Connect. Because of this, the Metris is able to boast an 186 cubic-foot cargo space, 5000 lb towing capacity, qualify for the 100% depreciation tax benefit with its 6,750 lb GVWR weight, and still astonishingly get 22 mpg.

continued on page 19
Cadillac XT4 Test Drive

The Cadillac automobile dates back 116 years and for many years, it was the “go to” marque for luxury and status. If you owned a Cadillac, you were notably a success – you had arrived. Cadillac claimed the title “The Standard of the World.” Cadillacs were large, emblazoned with a heaping amount of chrome. There was a variety of body styles - coupes, convertibles and sedans in all sizes and levels of trim, and yes, even hearses ensuring that one could take their last luxurious ride in a Cadillac.

Large SUVs came into play followed by the need for smaller, more economical vehicles. Up until now, Cadillac’s Crossover and SUV stable consisted of the very large full-size Escalade and the mid-size XT5 crossover. Enter the brand new 2019 Cadillac XT4 crossover - a subcompact vehicle that provides upscale transportation for five.

The XT4 pioneers an all-new engine architecture, incorporating sophisticated technologies aimed at balancing two of the most critical consumer powertrain demands: Power and Efficiency.

Powering the XT4 is a 2.0-liter, DOHC, Tri-power valve train, 16-valve, Twin-scroll Turbocharger inline four-cylinder engine with Active Fuel and Thermal Management, Direct Injection, and Auto Stop/Start. The engine is five pounds lighter than the previous 2.0-liter engine, despite the addition of new technologies. It produces 237 horsepower at 5,000 rpm along with 258 lb-ft of torque in a range from 1,500-4,000 rpm. The transversely mounted front engine gears motive force to the Twin Clutch AWD system through an electronically controlled Hydramatic nine-speed automatic transmission with manual shift mode and steering wheel mounted paddle shifters.

Braking duty is handled by an Electro-Hydraulic boost system that’s on demand and responsive, with Auto Dry Brakes, extended Hill Hold, Fading Brake Support, Brake Assist and ABS.

In terms of the XT4’s design, the lead exterior design chief confessed that the challenging approach taken was “What if the Escalade never grew up?” However, the overall form more closely resembles the XT5 crossover than the Escalade. The XT4’s grille is more subdued and it sits lower, hugging the wheels and tires. The front fascia and character lines are bolder and the iconic sharp angles are unmistakably Cadillac.

Entering the cabin, first class accommodations are in evidence throughout and the elevated design quality may be personally made to meet interior décor choices – available materials offered are...
California Report Shows That Robot Cars Aren’t Ready for Public Roads

New reports required by the California Department of Motor Vehicles from companies testing robot cars on the state’s public roads show the technology is not ready to operate without a human who can take control of the car, Consumer Watchdog said today. The disengagement reports reveal how many times a human driver had to take control of the robot car during testing on public roads. Companies such as Uber needed human intervention at least once every mile driven, but Waymo and Cruise were able to drive thousands of miles before intervention was needed. “Despite all of the hype and promises, these reports show that robot cars aren’t ready for life without human drivers ready to take over” said Adam Scow, Senior Advocate for Consumer Watchdog. “While some companies are gradually improving, others are crawling out of the gates. Much more testing and improvement is needed before regulators can consider approving driverless cars for our roads.” In 2018 robot cars were driven and tested for over 2 million miles on California public roads, a big increase from the 500,000 miles driven in 2017. Waymo, formerly Google’s autonomous vehicle unit, logged the majority of miles with approximately 1.25 million miles. It reported a test driver took control 76 times, or once every 16,447 miles. The failure rate is significantly better than the 2017 period when Waymo’s robot cars drove 352,544 miles on California’s roads and reported 63 disengagements, or one every 5,596 miles. Last October Uber began the only company to receive a permit to test without a human driver in the vehicle.

In 2018 General Motors’ Cruise division, which previously claimed it would put robot cars on the road in 2019, drove 447,621 miles in San Francisco and had 86 human interventions. Last year, 520 miles continued on page 20

10 Year Anniversary of Legends of Auto August 15, 2019 During Concours Week

What a show! Since 1950, the United States west coast Concours d’Elegance has set off to duplicate the amazing Concours d’Elegance first established in Europe pre-World War II and which was a showcase of beautiful cars, style and fashion. Each year Pebble Beach Concours d’Elegance attendees are wowed by the passionate setting in beautiful California, where the warm, sunny, breezy feeling of the Monterey peninsula meets the Pacific Ocean. Pebble Beach Concours d’Elegance is the largest classic automotive show in the world with approximately 200 cars entered in the show.
The Concours d’Elegance car Show of the year. Each compete for the coveted Best of Show title and award where judges weigh meticulous renovation, engineering and restoration and select their annual winner. Attendees this year saw special car groups and classics, Cadillac, Mercedes, Pierce Arrows, Rolls Royce, etc. along with other historic models. Pebble Beach Concours d’Elegance car Show of the year. Each compete for the coveted Best of Show title and award where judges weigh meticulous renovation, engineering and restoration and select their annual winner. Attendees this year saw special car groups and classics, Cadillac, Mercedes, Pierce Arrows, Rolls Royce, etc. along with other historic models.

The Concours d’Elegance is the highlight culmination the end cap of a week of special and exciting automotive events like the McCall Motorworks Revival party, which traditionally kicks off the Concours d’Elegance car week and showcases many of the most beautiful automobiles and aircraft; the annual Legends of Auto Gala, which honors those whose have made significant contributions to the auto industry and advanced the excitement and passion therefor; and the Concorso Italiano, which features more than 800 vehicles of Italian origin, as well as elements of Italian style such as fashion, food, art and music on the gorgeous grounds of Black Horse Golf Club.

The list of this special week’s events really does go on and on and as an interested spectator you can pick and choose those shows and events which you would like to attend. So even though Pebble Beach, CA inspires golf and those passionates in golf, once each year, Pebble Beach hosts the Greatest Car Show in the World, the Concours d’Elegance, as well as many other fun and exciting events related to the Automotive industry and world. If you have ever considered attending all or part of this special week, and you are a classic or exotic car lover or buff, make 2019 your year and join us next August. You won’t be disappointed.

BMWs and Daimler’s strategic alliance overshadows Tesla’s reign on social media

Unprecedented, the German car makers BMW and Daimler (owner of Mercedes Benz) bet Tesla’s social media omnipresence during a few hours, by social media mentions, with their strategic alliance announcement, regarding ride-sharing and mobility.

Today, BMW grossed 39,500 mentions, Daimler 24,140 and Tesla 39,300, while BMW enjoyed 43,700 engagements, Daimler 26,600 and Tesla 49,400. The global impact of the strategic announcement is thought relatively small, considering that Tesla regained its number one social media position shortly after the announcement with routine Tesla car reviews and Elon Musk memes.

About Talkwalker

Talkwalker is a social listening and analytics company that empowers over 2,000 brands and agencies to optimize the impact of their communication efforts.

We provide companies with an easy-to-use platform to protect, measure, and promote their brands worldwide, across all communications channels. Talkwalker’s state-of-the-art social media analytics platform uses AI-powered technology to monitor and analyze online conversations in real-time across social networks, news websites, blogs and forums in 187 languages.

Talkwalker has offices in New York, Luxembourg, San Francisco, and Frankfurt. It is also the home of Talkwalker Alerts, a free alerting service used by over 500,000 communications and marketing professionals worldwide.

AUTO NEWS®
BYTES

A landmark 2019 season is in store at Monterey County’s WeatherTech Raceway Laguna Seca. The legendary 2.238-mile, 11-turn road course is set to host a calendar of new and returning events that will thrill motorsports fans from across the globe.

WEATHERTECH RACEWAY LAGUNA SECA
2019 SCHEDULE

Trans Am Speed Festival May 3-5
Ferrari Racing Days & Corse Cliente F1 May 9-12
Monterey Motorcycle Festival featuring MotoAmerica July 12-14
Monterey Pre-Reunion Races August 10-11
Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion August 15-18
IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship September 13-15
INDYCAR Grand Prix of Monterey September 20-22

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5
Chevrolet Silverado Test Drive Review by Howard Elmer continued from page 3
as approach to construction is the reason for this. Strategic use of high-strength aluminum and more rigid, than the outgoing model. The stretched body on the new Silverado translates more volume inside the cab—starting with added 3-inches of rear-seat legroom for a total of 43.4 in and which almost equals the 44.5-inches available to the front seat driver and pas-
senger. Also up front, by going with a traditional gear shift lever, the entire centre console/armrest is a massive storage space organized into several transforming spaces that will accommodate pretty much anything your daily life requires—along with good access to charging ports and outlets necessary to run them. The interior itself is better seen, the described. However, it is, without a doubt, the best interior Chevy has ever put forward. As we see continuing development in fuel efficiency for this new gen is a technology called Dynamic Fuel Management. Unlike the current Active Fuel Management (which runs as either an 8-cylinder or 4-cylinder), the new B4B can fire on as few as two cylinders. Studies have shown that under normal usage, the DFM-equipped engine was running on less than eight cylinders 60% of the time. This translates to a 9% improvement in fuel efficiency over the old AFM system. Gas engines include updated versions of both the 4.3L V6. However, the 5.3L V8’s along with a all new 2.7L turbo engine that is now the base engine on the high-volume Silverado LT and RST. It offers 22% more torque and greater fuel efficiency that the 4.3L V6. However, the 5.3L V8 will still the chief options on the entry-level and WT models. New to the lineup, and certainly sense, that each generation of 1500-series pickup is becoming more and more tow-capable. This is regardless of brand. They tow more weight, handle larger trailers and, thankfully, the builders are adding the tech and safety features needed to handle these heavy machines. It’s actu-
ally funny that many of us still refer to this size of truck as “half-tons” – they are no longer half anything. The new numbers for the 2019 Silverado are 12,200 lb towing (max), 400 lb over 2018. New maximum payload has increased 340 lb to a hefty 2,500 lb. Now to handle these new weights Chevy has added heavy duty leaf springs and slick towing technologies. First, up to four cameras offer dif-
ferent views while hitching. This continued on page 19
Cadillac XT4 Test Drive Report continued from page 4
metalized aluminum, diamond cut aluminum, carbon-fiber or wood. The 60/40 split second row folds flat adding flexibility and functionality. A rotary control allows for intuitive adjustments along with the dedicated dash panel controls and switch gear. Connectivity includes phone integration with Apple CarPlay and Android Auto.
Trim levels offered are: Luxury, Premium Luxury and Sport, which seem to be in reverse order, with the Luxury model being the base and the Sport commanding the highest price.
My test 2019 Cadillac XT4 was in Sport trim with a base sticker of $39,295 in an AWD configuration, and fully loaded. The as tested price rose to $56,835 after adding the optional packages, stand-alone options and destination charge.
The 2019 Cadillac XT4 Sport AWD is a highly desirable cross-over that's truly worthy of the Cadillac nameplate, with a lot of serious competition in its segment - and in many cases, for less money. It handles well and it's comfortable. Is it quick? Not necessarily. Fuel efficiency is acceptable. The XT4 handling is stable and compliant. Affordability depends upon the model chosen. The base Luxury model is certainly affordable, but lacks a lot of personally desired feature content. Cadillac's semi autonomous Super Cruise feature is not yet available for the XT4. The Cadillac XT4 is favorably impressive and an ideal crossover choice. The final determination turns out to be personal taste in feature requirements. Size is yet another factor to consider. It's certainly more maneuverable, fuel efficient and affordable than say the Escalade. In fact, you could almost buy two XT4s for the price of a fully loaded Escalade.
SPECIFICATIONS: 2019 Cadillac XT4 2.0T AWD Sport SUV
Base Price: $39,295.
Price as Tested: $56,835.

McLaren Announces Record Global Sales for 2019
• Global sales of 4,806 cars in 2018, up 43.9% compared to 2017
• North America continues to be largest market plus 49.2% year-on-year UK 'home' market growth
• Bespoke division, MSO, triples order book in one year
• Global sales for McLaren Automotive, the British creator of luxury sports cars and supercars, rose to 4,806 cars in 2018 with sales up 43.9% percent over the previous year. This is another record for the company which has increased sales every year since its formation in 2010.
• North America, which represents McLaren's biggest single market and over a third of global sales, surpassed the 5,000 cars sold mark since sales started in 2011 and achieved another year of record growth.

Kia Cadenza Test Drive Report by David Schmidt continued from page 3

The 2019 Cadillac XT4 is favorably impressive and a great crossover choice. The final determination turns out to be personal taste in feature requirements. Size is yet another factor to consider. It’s certainly more maneuverable, fuel efficient and affordable than say the Escalade. In fact, you could almost buy two XT4s for the price of a fully loaded Escalade.

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Base Price: $39,295.
Price as Tested: $56,835.

The Cadillac XT4 is favorably impressive and an ideal crossover choice. The final determination turns out to be personal taste in feature requirements. Size is yet another factor to consider. It’s certainly more maneuverable, fuel efficient and affordable than say the Escalade. In fact, you could almost buy two XT4s for the price of a fully loaded Escalade.

SPECIFICATIONS: 2019 Cadillac XT4 2.0T AWD Sport SUV
Base Price: $39,295.
Price as Tested: $56,835.

The Cadenza's powertrain is quite good. The output of this 3.3-liter V-6 is 290 hp and 253 lb-ft. of peak torque. This power goes through the eight-speed automatic transmission to the front wheels. In doing so it earns an EPA efficiency rating of 20 mpg in the city and 28 mpg on the highway.

You have the option of two powertrain setups in addition to the normal settings. They are Eco and Sport. The latter makes the transmission hold in gear longer when accelerating and pay more attention to what you are doing with the accelerator. While it isn’t a big difference, it’s an addition to the driver’s control of the power, which is always a good thing.

Another mechanical advantage the Cadenza offers is recognition of its quality. In first full year on sale in 2017, Cadenza toppped the quality charts, earning a J.D. Power Automotive Performance, Execution and Layout award and J.D. Power’s 2017 Initial Quality continued on page 8
Maserati Ghibli “Test Drive Report” by Art Gould

continued from page 2

with White Maserati script. A Sunroof is also part of what is found on the Ghibli models. 19-inch Poisoned Lime wheels with Maserati logo Adaptive full LED headlights with High Beam Assist.积分
Integrating Into the Grandlusso is the soft closing doors, 12-way power adjustable seats featuring electric head restraints. Wilkins premium audio system. An 8.4-inch infotainment screen along with Android Auto, apple CarPlay and an electronically lockable passenger glove box all join to tell the “inside story.” Power for this S version as tested is provided by a twin turbo 3.0-liter V6 engine turning out 425 horsepower and 408 foot of torque. Transmissions for all Ghibli models is a 8 F speed that adds positively to the smooth performance. Stopping power is provided by Brembo brakes as standard equipment.

The Ghibli has, as available, a host of intelligent systems. The Ghibli S Q4 includes an intelligent all-wheel drive system. All Maserati Ghibli versions feature Electronic Stability Control as standard equipment. This system is designed to provide the excellent dynamic that helps make the latest Ghibli an amazing performer. It anticipates any issues that could cause instability and counteracts them in the blink of an eye. The system works by selectively reducing engine torque and applying brake force to individual wheels, as required. The result, out on the open road or through sweeping twists and turns, is increased safety, greater driving enjoyment at potentially higher speeds. The Granlusso starting price is $80,980. My ‘as tested’ version came in at $95,000 which included all the safety and convince items that the Granlusso a truly luxurious Italian sports car in a convenient sedan configuration.

2019 Kia Cadenza Test Drive Report

continued from page 7

Study accolade in the Large Car category.

One of the better things about this car is what it looks like. It is attractive, and it also looks sophisticated. It frankly looks a step higher up the automotive food chain than you pay for it. With plenty of features, the Cadenza Premium begins life at $33,190, the mid-range Cadenza Technology has an MSRP of $39,290 and the top-of-the-line Limited is tagged at $44,690. In the case of this Kia, it means that it’s a value-oriented vehicle. Kia originally had a reputation for being the cheapest kid on the block. That was not an altogether positive view. But that’s not true anymore. Perhaps it would be fair to say now that it’s the “best value for money” on the block. If you have any questions, comments or ideas, please send them to comment@AutoWritersInk.com. SEE AD ON PAGE 3

2019 XXX Drive-In Event Schedule

February 10 - Swedish Car Show 206-434-9482
March 10 - VW Show 253-841-2036
March 31 - All Jeep Show 206-356-1505
April 7 - Military Vehicles show 206-349-2662
April 14 - Italian Car Show 360-731-8758
April 21 - Porsche Show 425-648-6230
April 28 - C10 Truck Show 253-232-7244
May 5 - Electric Car Show 425-200-1351
May 12 - Springer Opener 425-766-3514
May 19 - Vintage Trailers 253-335-1500
May 26 - BMW Car Show 425-922-5321
June 4 – Convertibles Only 206-282-5603
June 9 – Fenders and Fins 206-349-2662
June 16 – Fenders on Front St 425-392-1111
June 23 – Cadillac-LaSalle Show 206-799-6358
June 30 - Hot Rod Hall of Fame Show 206-948-2063
July 7 - Rat Bastards Car Show 253-632-7515
July 14 - Camaro Club Show 206-948-2063
July 19 - Monar Car Show 253-273-6037
July 28 – Corvette Club Show 206-477-1046
August 4 - Old Rides Show 206-214-8318
August 11 - GTO legends Show 206-228-1140
August 18 – 55-56-57 Chevy Show 206-601-1762
August 25 - Classic Swagger Show 206-434-0047
September 1 - Buick Olds Pontiac Show 253-576-1128
September 8 - Universal Feed the Children Show 253-377-2625
September 15 - Electric Car Show 310-926-9070
September 27 - VW Fall Fling 253-201-2037
October 13 - Magnums, Etc. 253-224-7199
December 1 - Jingle Bell Cruise 425-766-3514
Distracted Driving Reaches All Time High According to Research of University Missouri

A distracted driver — such as answering a phone call, a text message, or being distracted by a passenger — is 29 TIMES MORE LIKELY to wreck in a work zone, says Praveen Edara and a team of researchers.

“Unfortunately, crash reports do not include detailed information about the crash, such as the ‘injury to a crush,’” Edara said. “What’s unique about our research project is that we used naturalistic driving study data that provides information about how driver, vehicle, roadway and environmental factors contribute to a crash. In other words, we reconstructed a driver’s actions and the surrounding environment prior to the crash from a firsthand account.”

The study’s results could provide recommendations on “behavioral countermeasures” to state transportation agencies and the Federal Highway Administration, which are implementing countermeasures to decrease injuries and fatalities in a highway work zone. Of the seven current Federal Highway Administration funded projects using this data, only MU is using the data to specifically look at highway work zones.

Cadillac XTS Test Drive Report continued from page 4

The Cadillac XTS is most comfortable on long trips and gets a respectful MPG of 19-28 miles per gallon. The field of sedans on the market is mind-boggling. The amount of technology goes from minimal to overwhelming. Dealers now offer courses in learning how to use the technology. This also helps improve customer evaluations of the dealership.

So do I like the fact the phone works well with your phone and this is great to help keep your eyes on the road. There is no doubt important if you have a teen driving the car. Pairing the phone is simple for most systems. Seating really is for four, not five passengers. The middle of the back seat is great for a younger but that’s all. The 3.6l 304 HP V-6 engine has good acceleration and the six-speed transmission is seamless. Pricing starts at $46,395 and jumps to $65,695 there is also a V model for more performance. AWD starts at $52,395 for folks living in cold and icy areas.

The XTS supports Apple Carplay and Android Auto. The XTS is a good value if you are looking for a Cadillac sedan. The XTS is available in a base model, Luxury, Premium and Platinum V-Sport. I understand Cadillac is planning for two new sedans in the future and is not abandoning the sedan market. The Cadillac SUV market hit a home run with the Escalade and now its time for the sedans to do the same.

Bob Bondurant School of High Performance Driving to be Purchased by Private Investment Group

continued from page 15

He adds that the new owners will retain and enhance the reputation of the school. "We've truly had endless fun during the creation and production of this event concept to launch the new Scrambler 1100 and introduce the audience with a DJ performance, interactive games, competitions and a Ms. Scrambler contest. "We’ve truly had endless fun during the creation and production of this event and are absolutely thrilled that our concept was chosen by our long-term client Ducati China. It is a real pleasure to work with such a fun brand to create a public event which has been so well received by our client and the public alike," says Karja Sassi-Bucsit, Manager of VOK DAMS China. The agency was responsible for the implementation of the entire event including design, set-up, WeChat pre-communication, guest management, media production, show production, and event management.

Up to date information on VOK

DamS see www.vokdams.de

VOK DAMS presents the world of Ducati Scrambler to China

When Ducati — a long-time client of VOK DAMS China — approached us for an event concept to launch the new Scrambler 1100 and introduce the Scrambler “Land of Joy” into the China Market, VOK DAMS willingly joined the “Innovation” and set out to create a fun and immersive lifestyle experience that would excite guests in a way that truly represented the dynamic Ducati Scrambler brand.

In the weeks leading up to the event customer engagement was already peaking thanks to a specially designed WeChat-based pre-event campaign, so when the gates finally opened to the public on December 8th fans of Ducati were already lining up to embark on an adventure to Ducati’s Land of Joy and experience the new Scrambler 1100 as a symbol of individuality, freedom, Urban lifestyle, street style, and casual cool.

Created from a combination of 3D construction, real props and natural materials, the Ducati guest journey through the immersive environment included a casino visit, local and international street foods from food kiosks, a barbershop makeover, and custom Scrambler nail art at a branded nail salon. Fans competed in a customized bike slow race competition, with the winner receiving a chance to visit the Ducati factory in Italy, and there were plenty of photo and selfie opportunities to satisfy the notoriously social media-savvy Chinese guests. The Scrambler 1100 bike unveiling moment further engaged all the audience with a DJ performance, interactive games, competitions and a Ms. Scrambler contest.

“We’ve truly had endless fun during the creation and production of this event and are absolutely thrilled that our concept was chosen by our long-term client Ducati China. It is a real pleasure to work with such a fun brand to create a public event which has been so well received by our client and the public alike”, says Karja Sassi-Bucsit, Managing Director of VOK DAMS China.

About Bob Bondurant School of High Performance Driving

The Bob Bondurant School of High Performance Driving, which is located in Phoenix, Arizona, is the only purpose-built driver training facility for performance enthusiasts and the largest driver training center of its kind in the world. At the heart of the 100-acre racing facility is a 3-mile, 26-turn, and 11-multi-configuration track designed by the school’s founder, Bob Bondurant. The school maintains over 100 race-prepared vehicles and has an open wheel formula cars. For more information about the school, visit www.Bondurant.com or call 800-842-RACE.
Please Join Us for the 10th Annual Legends of Auto Gala - August 15, 2019

Legends of Auto Gala Dinner

Please join us on August 15th at the Embassy Suites Hotel on Monterey Bay (Seaside) for the 10th Annual Event

Date: August 15, 2019
Place: Embassy Suites Hotel on Monterey Bay (Seaside)
Time: 7 pm to 10:30 pm

Ticketing: https://my360tix.com/events/legends-gala
SPACE WILL BE LIMITED - Questions - bill@autonewsonline.com

Mission Statement
To recognize and award individual accomplishments, that have significantly advanced the auto industry around the world and to help develop the next generation of auto industry leaders.

About Legends of Auto
The “Legends of Auto” is a prestigious event in which we take time to honor key contributors of the automotive industry. Below are some pictures of our recent events.

Honored Members of Legends of Auto

- George Barris
- Bert Boeckmann
- Bob Bondurant
- Sandra Button
- Corky Coker
- Tom duPont
- Vic Edelbrock
- Ken Gross
- Dan Gurney
- Lee Iacocca
- Craig Jackson
- Lynn St. James
- Parnelli Jones
- Jay Leno
- Ken Lingenfelter
- Keith Martin
- Barry Meguiar
- Steve Saleen
- Bruce McCaw
- Dana Mecum
- Bruce Meyer
- Peter Mullin
- Roger Penske
- Stewart Reed
- Steve Saleen
- Carroll Shelby

*Departed Legends

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*Departed Legends
Doug's Auto Group

Home of Doug's exclusive valet service for all GM brands – If your daily schedule is making it difficult to get your vehicle in for service or repairs, Doug's offers Signature Valet pick up and delivery service to make your life easier. Whether you are bringing your car in for regular maintenance or need some repairs, we will be happy to set you up with complimentary signature valet service.

2019 Mazda 3

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2019 Hyundai Veloster N

The first-ever 2019

Prices and Offers Subject to Change without Notice + Leases Subject to Credit Approval with information at Dealership
Joyce Covers 91st Annual Oscars and Byron Allen’s Oscar Gala Benefit

continued from page 2

Stevie Wonder and the audience were swaying to the EGOT (Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, Tony) winner’s near hour performance of hits including “Love Me Now”, “All of Me” and finishing with his Oscar® winning song “Glory”.

The ballroom was filled with a room of extended family and friends who wanted to honor and support Byron Allen and Children’s Hospital. When Byron Allen shared his vision, his wife smiled and teared in admiration. Chrissy Tegan even donated a cooking lesson at her home after being brought on stage by Byron Allen, who also enlisted other friends.

Other celebrity friends which came out to support were: Anthony Anderson (Black-ish), Philanthropist’s Candy Spelling, Daymond John (Shark Tank), Comedian Jon Lovitz, Comedienne Kathy Griffin, Nikki Bella (WWE), Richard Brooks (Being Mary Jane) and BJ Korros (Shout Out for a Cause).

Academy Awards® 91 is his–
tory, but it’s heart continues with a ripple.

Jaime Foxx was the host and emcee for the evening and had everyone in party mode singing along with the DJ and performing his “Blame It”. He gave shout outs to some of his favorite Oscar® winners. He was dancing on stage with the female guests during which he declared his being single. Foxx was drinking and dousing with LIFEWTR, Pepsi’s new premium water brand, taking center stage.

John Legend private performance was mesmerizing. Chrissy Tegan, Byron Allen’s wife, legendary Quincy Jones and legendary

Curing Kids Cancer – The Board Challenge

Our Board is ready to make a major impact this year.

This month our Board met up for our annual planning meeting. It was a great time at Board Member Michelle “Buttercup” Davis’ home. Our board members jumped in, ready to work to make sure 2019 is a success. One of the most of exciting things to come out of the meeting is our Board Challenge. They will raise money for innovative research like Dr. Todd Cooper’s at Seattle Children’s. His team is developing comprehensive genomic analysis, which is essential for all children with high risk leukemia. This therapy costs $3,500 per child.

“Wow! Thank you so much Curing Kids Cancer Board for saying YES to helping children with leukemia get life-saving treatments and rallying the community to join you in this effort,” statement from Seattle Children’s.

The goal of the Board Challenge is to raise $50,000, which would provide 14 children with the opportunity to receive life-saving treatments for their leukemia by having this analysis performed on their DNA. We hope you will join our Board Members in their effort this year to make the difference for children battling cancer today!
2019 Toyota Avalon Hybrid Limited

by Harold Allen

The 2019 Avalon Hybrid Limited is a hidden gem in the Toyota lineup. No doubt most folks looking for a luxury sedan would not stop at a Toyota dealership. What a mistake on their part.

The 2.5L 176hp 4-cylinder engine with 215 net hp combined with a VVT-i Electronic continuous variable transmission (ECVT) is very responsive and fun to drive. There is full array of safety equipment including over 20 different items to keep you and your passengers safe. Interior features include a heads-up display for speed and directional information. Power options on the Limited include wireless phone charging located on a shelf on the console, tilt and telescoping power steering wheel with memory, premium leather heated and vented front seats including heated rear seats, 8-way power driver seat and passenger seat 4-way with lumbar support. An additional feature is the Smart Key with push button start.

The sound system was a JBL experience and it delivers a rich, uncompromised listening experience from any music source. This system features over 14 speakers throughout the vehicle. The only thing I felt was missing was a cd player.

To sum it up, this is a luxury sedan with great value that won’t break the bank. Don’t make the mistake of not visiting your Toyota dealer for a test drive of the new 2019 Avalon Hybrid Limited.
Rolls-Royce Motor Cars Achieves Historic Business Record

- Annual sales of 4,107 are the highest in the marque’s 115-year history
- Year-on-year sales growth in all regions; the Americas remains largest market
- Rolls-Royce Motor Cars continues to generate a meaningful financial contribution to its shareholder, the BMW Group
- Buoyant demand for all model families, with Phantom a major growth driver
- Record levels of Bespoke commissions establishes Rolls-Royce as a true Luxury House
- Cullinan garners stellar headlines worldwide following a highly successful launch. First few Cullinans delivered to customers in time for Christmas
- Cullinan advance orders running well into the second half of 2019
- 200 new jobs take total Rolls-Royce workforce past 2,000 for the first time
- Highest-ever intake on Apprenticeship Programme

Reflecting on the company’s performance for the year, Torsten Müller-Ötvös, CEO, Rolls-Royce Motor Cars, said “2018 was a most successful, record-breaking year for Rolls-Royce. We have seen growth in all our regions around the world. At Rolls-Royce we are deeply focused on each and every one of our customers and are delivering on their demanding expectations. The Home of Rolls-Royce at Goodwood is acknowledged and celebrated as a global center of luxury manufacturing excellence, where our skilled, dedicated team create the world’s finest, most sought-after luxury products. We set a formidable mark in 2018: I am confident it will prove the spur to even greater success in 2019.”
Bob Bondurant School of High Performance Driving to be Purchased by Private Investment Group continued from page 14 of entrepreneurs who are also graduates of the Bondurant school, racing enthusiasts and automobile collectors.

One member of the investor group, Bruce Belser, will serve as CEO of Bondurant, effective upon the close of the transaction, which is expected in the coming weeks. Belser is a successful entrepreneur, having founded several businesses, and has served as a corporate pilot, Delta Airlines commercial pilot, fighter pilot and U.S. commander in the U.S. Air Force. Belser has attended Bondurant school twice as a student.

The new owners plan to ensure current and incoming students at the school have an excellent experience without interruption; the company is currently operating and school is in session. They will immediately stabilize the financial foundation of the organization and plan to infuse significant capital into the business to enhance the guest experience for individuals and groups, and provide excellent return on investment for sponsor-ship partners and a best-in-class work environment for employees.

“We plan to establish the next generation of race car learning and entertainment as popularity in car racing and interest in consumer destination experiences continues to grow,” said Belser.

continued on page 9

Millennials Car Buying Data by Jordan Williams continued from page 3 the Hyundai Elantra and the most expensive in the group the Ford F- Series pick-up. The most popular Honda Accord retails at approximately $22,570.

There seems to be a mix of made-in-America brand (Chevy and Ford, or is it Ford and Chevy?!) loyal customers and Toyota and Honda import fans. So which are you? Chevy, Ford, Toyota, or Honda brand loyal?

I would love to know your thoughts! Also, do you own a car other than these ten listed? Please reach out to me and tell me which car you own/drive and why you like it so much.

Thank you—See you next issue, Readers! — Onward to everything ahead.

Crevier Classic Car Museum continued from page 6 any special occasion, wedding, non-profit or corporate event. Over 100 classic, exotic, and rare vehicles are on display, providing an elegant backdrop and unparal-leled setting for that special event.

A perfect location to visit when in the Southern California area. Conveniently located at 365 B Clinton Street, Costa Mesa, CA 92626. Hours are Monday thru Saturday 8-6 and Sunday 9-5pm. Phone number is 714-426-0238.

**continued from page 3**

The Traverse was redesigned last year and added a new infotainment system this year including Apple CarPlay and Android Auto.

BASE PRICE: $30,925
TYPE: SUV
ENGINE: 3.6L V6
TRANS: 9-speed AT
HORSEPOWER: 310 hp
MPG: 17 city / 25 highway

The Outlander Sport featuring value and economy is also a fun to drive SUV with lots of room for your next road trip. The Outlander is a “best-seller.”

(BASE Ad on Page 3)

BASE PRICE: $26,545
TYPE: SUV
ENGINE: 2.4L MIVEC DOHC 4 cyl.
TRANS: CVT
HORSEPOWER: 166 hp
MPG: 23 city / 28 highway

The Forester combines everything that has established Subaru as a top selling brand in the NW and across the U.S. Value, economy, design and loaded with safety features.

BASE PRICE: $28,795
TYPE: SUV
ENGINE: DOHC 4-cyl 2.5-liter
TRANS: Lineartronic CVT
HORSEPOWER: 182 hp
MPG: 26 city / 33 highway

The All-New Subaru Ascent is a 3 row-crossover with seating up to eight. The 5,000-lb towing capacity & Trailer Assist makes the Ascent ideal for a “road-trip”

BASE PRICE: $34,195
TYPE: SUV
ENGINE: 2.4L Turbo (Boxer)
TRANS: Lineartronic CVT
HORSEPOWER: 240 hp
MPG: 21 city / 27 highway

This fun to drive car has been a mainstay in VW’s portfolio. A top rating for value and economy and very popular with the younger generation.

BASE PRICE: $23,655
TYPE: Sub Compact
ENGINE: 1.8L TSI cyl.
TRANS: AT & MANUAL
HORSEPOWER: 248 hp
MPG: 29 city / 34 highway
When you’re the leader of the pack, the view only continues to get better. Such is the case with the new 2020 Ford Explorer which has been the perennial leader for almost three decades. With some 8 million sales since its introduction, the Ford Explorer has been the all-time best-selling SUV in America. This sixth-generation model is the most advanced version to date. The newest example has its sights set on continuing to dominate and hold the title as the leading SUV in the industry.

Ford Explorer is The All-Time Best Selling SUV in America

For 2020 the Explorer returns to rear wheel drive. This enables the Explorer to capture the most capable towing capability in this highly competitive SUV class. Vehicles equipped with a 3.0-liter V6 EcoBoost and the towing package can haul up to 5,600 pounds, while those outfitted with a 2.3-liter EcoBoost with the towing package can tow up to 5,300 pounds.

Equipped with the standard 10-speed automatic transmission and available Terrain Management System with seven drive modes, the Explorer can take occupants anywhere they want to go, in comfort and style. The drive mode system, controlled by a rotary dial on the center console, lets drivers shift easily between Normal, Slippery, Trail, Deep Snow/Sand, Sport, Tow/Haul and Eco modes.

Comfort and space is designed with the passenger in mind. Sliding second-row seats make it easy to customize the inside to fit your crew. Reports state that now even a child can easily operate the previously challenging second row operation. With best-in-class first and second row hip room and best second row headroom, the interior has answered requests from customers to better accommodate interior room including unsurpassed third row headroom.

PowerFold third-row seats make it easy to create a flat-floor cargo area that bests the competition. Power lift gate continues the list of surprise and delight features. Dual-Zone Electronic Automatic Temperature Control add to conveniences to complete the “inside story.”

The latest in safety was not overlooked with Ford Co-Pilot360 driver-assist system. It includes automatic emergency braking with rear view camera, blind spot information with cross traffic alert and lane keeping system technology. Ford’s new Active Park Assist 2.0 enables the driver to hold a button on the dashboard while the Explorer takes control of the steering wheel, gas pedal, brake pedal and gear shifter to fit the vehicle neatly into a parallel or perpendicular parking space.

Ford Co-Pilot360 is standard across every Explorer model. Post-collision braking is also standard on all models offering advanced features such as Reverse Brake Assist and Intelligent Adaptive Cruise Control with Speed Sign Recognition.

The all-new Explorer offers two new models to round out the popular Explorer line. The Explorer ST and the Explorer Hybrid. All-new for Explorer is the ST, the newest SUV from Ford Performance. This is the most fun to drive and the most powerful Explorer ever with a specially tuned 3.0-liter EcoBoost engine projected to make 400 horsepower and 415 lb.-ft. of torque. Targeted top track speed is 143 mph. Strictly a performance machine and a real standout in the SUV world.

All-new for the Explorer line is the Hybrid. This SUV is designed to offer performance and capability in a fuel-efficient package with a 3.3-liter hybrid powertrain producing 318 combined system horsepower and is projected to return an EPA-estimated range of more than 500 miles between gas station fill-ups in the rear-wheel-drive model.

The new Explorer family goes on sale this summer. As America’s favorite SUV, Explorer sets the pace for the rest of the Ford’s utility lineup, which will grow this year with an all-new Escape and add to the recently introduced Expedition.

Look out for the Explorer lineup that includes the base model, XLT, Limited and Platinum models. Ford continues the lead in the hottest segment of the auto industry, SUVs and crossovers.
Empowering Women At Marysville Toyota

by Sally Hanson

Jim Colon, co-owner if Marysville Toyota, recognizes the obstacles women face when they enter an automobile dealership as an employee or consumer and he states, “We are working to change that paradigm.” At Marysville Toyota, 46 percent of the staff is female, while the National Automobile Dealers Association report women make up only 19 percent of U.S. dealership employees — most of whom are support staff. Marysville Toyota employs 26 women and several are Experience Consultants who offer the dealership’s unique selling process that moves away from haggling and negotiation as part of their sales tactic. With women making or influencing the majority of automobile purchases in the United States, the transparent way of buying and selling is very appealing to most women. Marysville Toyota observed International Women’s Day and Women’s History Month in March. Those events pay tribute to the incredible women who have gone before us bring women’s rights whether it’s in terms of suffrage, professional acclaim, or by changing attitudes. The 2019 theme for Women’s History Month was Visionary Women: Champions of Peace and Nonviolence. At Marysville Toyota, the management is working to change barriers women face when entering a dealership as an employee or consumer in a generally male dominated industry.

“We are proud to employ 26 women at Marysville Toyota...That is an astounding 46% female staff. Not only is our selling process unique, but so is our hiring practices in a male dominated industry, that’s something to brag about.” Stephanie Foster Office Manager

Previously Featured: “WOMEN IN THE AUTO WORLD”

Chanterria McGilbra – Prancing Ponies Foundation
Lyn St. James – Indy Race Driver
Felicia Fields – Ford HR VP
Mary Barra – GM CEO
Michelle Christensen – Acura Design
Lisa Copeland – FCA Dealer
Monika Kalenski – MEK Magnet
Muffy Bennett – Car Collector
Jennifer Biggs – Repair Shop Owner
Joyce Chow – Social Media Mogul
Sarah Deccio – Distribution Mgr.
Valerie Thompson – Motorcycle Racer
Ashley, Courtney & Brittany Force – Drag Racing Champions
Yokohama Tire Returns as Sponsor and Exclusive Tire Provider for Porsche Pikes Peak Division

Travis Pastrana is also back to defend his title in the Porsche Pikes Peak Trophy by Yokohama. The ADVAN A052™ is once again the spec tire. Yokohama Tire, Porsche and Travis Pastrana are taking on the mountain again in the world-renowned Broadmoor Pikes Peak International Hill Climb.

For the second straight year, Yokohama is partnering with Porsche Motorsport North America and the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb Organization as the sponsor and exclusive tire supplier for The Porsche Pikes Peak Trophy by Yokohama.

Action sports star and Nitro Circus founder Pastrana won the inaugural class last year and is set to defend his title in the “Race to the Clouds,” June 30 in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Pastrana will race against five others in the Porsche Pikes Peak Trophy division, including fellow Team Yokohama member and Nitro Circus performer Blake “Bilko” Williams. All will compete on Yokohama’s ADVAN A052™ tires.

“We’re honored to support Porsche again in this exciting division at Pikes Peak,” said Fardad Niknam, Yokohama’s senior director of consumer product planning and product marketing. “Yokohama’s return last year to the mountain was a resounding success punctuated by Travis’ incredible victory. We can’t wait to see what he and the other competitors can do again driving the Cayman GT4 Clubsport machines on ADVAN A052™ tires.”

Added Pastrana: “I had more fun at last year’s Pikes Peak Hill Climb than I have had at any event in a very long time. It’s a week of driving an historic and epic road in a fun class with some amazing drivers. This year is going to be even more fun because my friend and competitor Bilko Williams will be racing against me in the same division. This year is going to be one hell of a close race and I can’t wait!”

“We are very pleased to announce the continuation of the Porsche Pikes Peak Trophy by Yokohama,” said Dr. Daniel Armbruster, president and CEO, Porsche Motorsport North America. “The partnership with the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb Organization and Yokohama exceeded every expectation in 2018. It is only natural that all three partners are excited about this division returning in 2019 and, I hope, for years to come. This fits perfectly within the objectives of Porsche Motorsport North America in providing our customers an excellent platform with the Cayman GT4 Clubsport machines on ADVAN A052 street tires.”

Yokohama also confirmed that Travis Pastrana will defend his title in the newly-created Porsche Pikes Peak Trophy by Yokohama. The division will bring together Porsche’s Cayman GT4 Clubsport, which made its worldwide debut at the 2018 Goodwood Festival of Speed, and the newly-launched Porsche 718 Cayman GT4 Clubsport.

“Since the Porsche Pikes Peak Trophy by Yokohama was last run in 2018, we have continued to build on the excitement of the event,” said Dr. Armbruster. “This year, the division will continue to showcase the Cayman GT4 Clubsport, and the new 718 Cayman GT4 Clubsport will make its debut. We are excited to continue our partnership with Yokohama and look forward to seeing the competition on the mountain.”

“Yokohama and Travis Pastrana have a long-standing partnership,” said Fardad Niknam, Yokohama’s senior director of consumer product planning and product marketing. “We are proud to be part of this exciting division again this year.”

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Running in the Porsche Pikes Peak Trophy division, the recently debuted 718 Cayman GT4 Clubsport and the previous generation Cayman GT4 race car are both eligible to compete in the division.

Keith McCormick’s Palm Springs Collector Car Auction on Feb. 22-24 grossed $6,314,831, a gain of more than $600,000 over the previous auction last November. A total of 345 vehicles sold with 520 passing through the large auction tent during the three-day weekend auction.

The highest sales included a fully loaded 2018 Airstream Interstate 3500 RV camper van with 2,170 miles, which sold for $128,000. A 1987 Porsche 930 with 3.3 liter Turbo engine with 23,000 miles sold for $89,250. A 1963 Chevrolet Corvette split window coupe with a four speed manual transmission and a 327 engine sold for 81,908.

A 1991 Chevrolet Suburban sold for $28,350 at McCormick Collector Car Auction (photo McCormick’s)
Arnott Introduces New Rear Air Springs for Range Rovers & Range Rover Sport

- Arnott’s new air springs feature a high-impact resin top mount and bottom piston.
- The Arnott air springs are assembled with an OE-quality air sleeve.
- Arnott replacement air springs are designed, assembled and tested in the U.S.

Annuity, the industry leader in aftermarket air suspension products, has introduced new aftermarket replacement air springs for the 2013-2018 Range Rover and 2014-2018 Range Rover Sport.

Arnott’s new rear air springs A-3025 for the 2013-2018 Range Rover L405 chassis and A-3027 for the 2014-2018 Range Rover Sport L494 chassis feature an OE quality air sleeve, heavy-duty crimping rings and high-impact plastic top and bottom pistons. The Arnott replacement air springs are designed, assembled and tested in the U.S.

Arnott’s new universal Range Rover air springs fit either the left or right side of the vehicle and are backed by Arnott’s industry leading warranty.

For more information on the company’s extensive line of affordable, high-quality air suspension products for more than 150 automotive and motorcycle applications, visit www.arnottindustries.com.

Mercedes-Benz Metris Test Drive Review

A Handyman’s Dream

continued from page 3

It really is an all-in-one package if you need a mid-size commercial vehicle. Imagine the impact. 22 mpg could have on your bottom line instead of the 10-14 mpg older full-size vans and trucks get.

Driving Dynamics and Review:

The Metris is powered by a 2.0 liter inline 4 turbo engine. This little power plant pumps out 208 hp and 258 lb-ft of torque to the rear wheels. Mated with a 7-speed automatic, the Metris got up to speed plenty fast for a work truck. The steering in the Metris was very responsive and I feel like you’re driving a C500 instead of a cargo van. I was able to make u-turns, maneuver through traffic, and cut through tight alley ways with ease. Parallel parking was also simple with the standard equipped back-up camera.

One thing I did desire was larger side mirrors. A small factor, but one that was noticeable as I had the model with no side or rear windows. Another concern that many people have brought up is the required use of premium gas.

Mercedes has mitigated this issue with the 2018 model, as the Metris is now capable of taking any type of gasoline you use. Since the fuel tank is only 18.5 gallons, I was able to fill up the Metris with just 50.

Being a work van, the interior of the Metris is nothing extraordinary. The dashboard is made of standard plastic material, and the seats, while comfortable, are simply seats. If you live in a cold climate, heated seats are an option that is available and the steering wheel is made of high quality material that is nice to grip. The standard stereo has good acoustic, and does have Bluetooth capability which is a nice touch for calls between job sites. At the end of the day, though the main focus of the Metris design is functionality, and that is something it does well.

With regards to price, the Metris starts at just $26,870. A price-tag that I was shocked to discover was that low. From my perspective, if you’re looking at purchasing a new commercial vehicle, it doesn’t make sense to not consider the Metris! Make sure to stop by Mercedes-Benz of Lynnwood to check-out the 2018 model!

2019 Chevy Silverado Test Drive Review

continued from page 6

includes hitch guidance lines on the centre display and a choice of views. After the driver has lined up the hitch and shifted to park the parking brake sets automatically – avoiding that slight roll that wrecks the alignment. An optional feature is a trailer tire temp and pressure monitor. An industry first, this system allows the driver to keep an eye on the trailer tires.

A new trailer light check system runs the lights in sequence as you walk to the hitch. This feature can be activated from inside the truck or via a MYChevrolet TrailerApp on your smartphone.

The new 2019 Chevrolet Silverado will be coming to dealers this fall.

Siegfried & Jensen found that less than a quarter of Americans keep paper maps in the car, and only 11% have a sat nav, suggesting drivers are relying on cell phones and GPS devices. But the signal can drop in remote areas and phone batteries can die after several hours, this system can prove to be both unreliable and unsafe.

Just 6% of drivers keep an empty gas can in their car, while 9% have a small shovel. Other uncommon but useful items most drivers are choosing not to carry are a fire extinguisher (5%), tow rope (6%) and high-vis bib (1%).

“River’s efforts to show how gravely under prepared drivers are for accidents on the road,” says Ned Siegfried, President of Siegfried & Jensen. “Some 62% of respondents believed they would be prepared in the event of a breakdown, but this misplaced confidence suggests there isn’t enough being done to educate drivers about how to get their vehicles ready.”

“IT’s important to anticipate potential accidents, particularly amidst the holiday season. Temperatures and weather conditions will be dropping across much of the country, a significant number of drivers will be embarking on long journeys, and waits for breakdown services will likely be longer than usual.”

Although getting lost without access to a map or being stuck on the side of the road for a couple of hours can be a minor annoyance, it’s crucial to prepare for more serious accidents for the safety of all road users.”
California Report Says Robot Cars Not Ready for Public Highways

continued from page 5

Reports from Uber and Mercedes-Benz showed much higher rates of intervention. Uber reported a whopping 70,165 interventions for only 26,899 autonomous miles tested, or 2.6 human interventions per mile driven. Mercedes reported 1194 interventions for only 1749 miles tested or one intervention for every 1.46 miles driven.

Details about the interventions include preclusion, location, software and perception problems arising from a variety of scenarios.

In addition to human intervention, State reports showed an increase in the amount of crashes involving the robot cars, which were reported to the DMV and posted on its website. Companies reported 75 collisions in 2018, compared to 29 reports in 2017. Cruise reported 22 crashes in 2017 and 36 in 2018.

While 62 companies are licensed to test autonomous vehicles in California, only those companies that tested on public roads reported disengagement numbers for 2018. Tesla claimed it tests on public roads around the world, but did not report any tests in California.

Consumer Watchdog praised the Department of Motor Vehicles for requiring and posting the disengagement reports and the crash reports. Other states where testing is being done, including Arizona, Washington, Michigan and Pennsylvania, have no such disclosure requirement.

“Besides the occasional tragedy, the public is in the dark about what’s happening in other states. It’s only because of California’s rules that the public can find out what’s happening when companies use public roads as their private laboratories,” said Scow. “The next step is to require that companies testing robot cars that are involved in a crash should be required to make public video and technical data about the incident.”

HAAH Automotive Holdings & Zotye USA Name Jan Thompson as Senior Vice President of Marketing

HAAH Automotive Holdings Chairman and CEO Duke Hale announced today that respected industry veteran Jan Thompson has been named Senior Vice President of Marketing for HAAH Automotive Holdings and Zotye USA. Susan Bland Norton has been named as Vice President of Marketing.

“HAAH and Zotye USA’s approach is one of disruption of the entire new vehicle marketing and sales process in the U.S. Jan’s career in marketing has been dedicated to finding new ways to communicate efficiently and effectively, throwing out many traditional approaches and taking every advantage of all that the digital world has to offer,” said Hale. “In addition, we’re fortunate to have great leadership in Susan and Jan. Susan’s deep experience in marketing combined with experience in finance and the retail auto business will be very important in supporting our dealers’ sales efforts,” said Hale.

Norton begins her duties immediately at the company’s Lake Forest headquarters. Thompson joins the company March 1, 2019.

“She has been impressed by those of us in the auto industry need to provide a new, better, no hassle, hassle, highly digital way of doing business for new vehicle buyers,” said Thompson. “I believe the vision that Duke Hale has is not just possible, but necessary for future success. I look forward to being part of the team that will bring that promise to reality.”

Thompson has been named one of the Top 100 Women in Automotive by Automotive News twice. She began her automotive marketing career at Toyota and went on to lead marketing activities for Nissan and Mazda.

She has also served as Executive Vice President for the marketing and media company, one of the largest marketing holding companies in the world, and held leadership roles at the Designory.

Chinese Automakers Bringing Brands to U.S. Who? When?

continued from page 4

For the last decade, Chinese automakers have been expand- ing in emerging markets in South East Asia, India and Africa. Even though you don’t see Chinese name brands in the U.S. and Western Europe. They have more presence than you think.

In a recent column, long-time China hand Michael Dunne, CEO ZO ZoGo, wrote that there are now more than 60 Chinese automobile suppliers in the U.S., making tires, glass, airbags, suspensions systems, batteries, drive trains and steering systems. While mostly concentrated in Michigan, they are in Ohio, Indiana, Georgia and South Carolina.

According to Dunne, 11 Chinese automakers have set up advanced R&D centers in California and Michigan to prepare future products for global markets, including Geely, Great Wall, Guangzhou Automotive, NIO, Zotye, Byton and Berkshire-Hathaway-backed BYD.

With every new model year, the quality of Chinese vehicles improves and the design gets sexier, as Chinese auto makers are tapping in to global resources like Italian design house Pininfarina and quality experts like JD power.

According to Dunne, Chinese firms are hiring top global talent to develop stunning electric, autonomous and connected vehicles. One example: Swedish designer Pontus Fontaueus appeared in Detroit to introduce us to Guangzhou Automotive’s Entranz concept car.

The US trade war with China is of course in the background of Chinese companies discussing anything about the rise of Chinese vehicles in the U.S. As the tariffs have happened on both sides, an unintended consequence is that U.S. plants that export SUV’s to China (Mercedes in Alabama, BMW in Spartanburg, Volvo in South Carolina) will be forced to reconsider from where they provide vehicles to China.

More than one international automaker has increased local production (jobs, investment, etc) in China as a result, potentially taking away any advantage the U.S. companies have in vehicles designed and manufactured in the U.S. Some high-end models may even be built in China.

Byron and Berkshire-Hathaway-backed BYD has a factory in California.

So when will Chinese brand cars be sold in the U.S.? The answer is, they already are. “Karma automotive, owned by Wanxiang, is selling high-end electric vehicles in a small factory in California. BYD has a few dozen vehicles operating in cab fleets and many more buses and other commercial vehicles operating in the U.S. as well. And Volvo - well - Volvo is owned by Geely. So the answer is that the Chinese have a foothold here already, but most people don’t notice it because it is veiled in non-Chinese brands,” said Mike Ramous, automotive analyst, Gartner, Inc.

There have been a number of promises about Chinese companies bringing their brands to the U.S., and that could happen in the next several years until one can see a Chinese car on the streets.

Chinese automakers are making investments in the U.S. and creating opportunities for a range of American companies. The Chinese definitely need local industry partners, banks, tech firms, engineering firms, insurance companies, legal advice, to design plants, warehouses, car maintenance and service centers.”

Ultimately, as all business, competition will be more about choices for consumers. It may be several years until one can see a Great Wall dealership in American suburbbs, but the Chinese are already here in the form of R&D, joint ventures and brands like Volvo and Karma.

In Bellevue, Pre-Owned Cars are just BETTER.

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Come in and experience the world’s greatest luxury dealership and see our entire inventory of first-quality, pre-owned vehicles.

Remember, there are just BETTER pre-owned cars in Bellevue!
Yokohama Tire Returns as Porsche Pikes Peak Challenge Sponsor

continued from page 18

Appropriate performance balancing will assure an equal field.

Yokohama will provide tire technical support throughout the week.

Along with the Porsche Pikes Peak Trophy by Yokohama, Yokohama’s extensive list of 2019 North American-based motorsports activities (both on- and off-road), includes the IMSA Porsche GT3 Cup Challenge USA by Yokohama, the Porsche GT3 Cup Challenge Canada by Yokohama, Global Time Attack and Super Lap Battle USA, 24 Hours of Lemons, Spec MX-5 Challenge, TrophyLite, One Lap of America, Yokohama NORRA Mexican 1000 and Yokohama Sonora Rally.

About Yokohama Tire Corporation

Yokohama is a global manufacturing and sales company of premium tires since 1917. Servicing an extensive sales network throughout the U.S., Yokohama Tire Corporation is a leader in technology and innovation. The company’s complete product line includes tires for high-performance, light truck, passenger car, commercial truck and bus, and off-the-road mining and construction applications.


Connect with Yokohama Tire Corporation:

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www.twitter.com/yokohamatire
www.instagram.com/yokohamatire

Yokohama is a strong supporter of the tire care and safety guidelines established by the U.S. Tire Manufacturers Association and the National Highway Transportation and Safety Administration. Details can be found at the “Tire Care & Safety” section at www.yokohamatire.com.

Nexen Tire Announces Free Trial of Roadian MTX Extreme Off-Road Tires

Nexen Tire Announces Free Trial of Roadian MTX Extreme Off-Road Tires

As a Blue-Chip Choice for Off-Roaders

Nexen Tire USA. “In just one year, some of the top customizers and builders have chosen Roadian MTX tires for their builds which has really taken our tire to an all new level. We are proud to stand behind our product and this offer firmly communicates that to our customers.”

For more information, please contact nexen@godriven360.com or call 310-374-6177.

About Nexen Tire:

Inspired by Nexen’s global family of drivers to engineer superior performing tires – from championship-winning Formula DRIFT drivers, rock-climbing off-road enthusiasts to everyday commuters – Nexen Tire utilizes proprietary technology and the highest quality standards in the industry to guarantee world-class products backed by unrivaled customer support for the life of each tire. As a worldwide leader in high-performance, passenger, SUV / light truck and winter offerings, the company is second-to-none in research, development and state-of-the-art manufacturing.

And as part of a select group of tire manufacturers worldwide whose products are specified as standard fitment on original equipment vehicles, Nexen ensures every product at a sensible price. Find out more about how Nexen has your back at nexentireusa.com – and join us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. #WeGotYou #NexenTire #NexenRacing

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Go to discounttire.com to shop & make an appointment!
Carmel Valley residents, Rob and Heather Gardner have turned a classic car collecting hobby into business. The business, Monterey Touring Vehicles (MTV) uses the Gardner’s 30 classic cars as a rental fleet for tourists and local residents to tour Carmel, Monterey, Big Sur and the world famous Pebble Beach 18 mile drive. The Gardner’s said “...we thought these cars need to be driven and why not let our clients have fun driving them.”


You can rent a classic car for 1/2 a day (4 hrs.) or a full day (8 to 24 hrs.) Prices range from $200 (1/2 day) to $800 (full day).

For more information or reservations, visit www.montereytouringvehicles.com
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U.S.A. of Yesterday is a unique business that specializes in the brokerage of special interest automobiles from the ‘30s, ‘40s, ‘50s and ‘60s. Located in a restored 1940s Premier Auto Dealership in downtown Tacoma. U.S.A. of Yesterday recreates the exciting era of the ‘30s through ‘60s. The dealership, an architectural showplace, complete with large circular glass showrooms and turntables for the cars, is a true essence of the past. U.S.A. of Yesterday. The company specializes in antique, classic and collector car sales, consignment sales, financing, classic vehicle insurance, on-site appraisal, service department, nostalgic decorator items, site rental for parties, auto detail service and both private and public tours. If you are an auto buff or have an interest in old cars, be sure and stop by for a tour. Look for the U.S.A. of Yesterday ad in the AUTO NEWS service directory.

PHX CAR GUYS

With 25 years experience selling new and pre-owned luxury cars Howard “Howie” Kulman has opened his own dealership in Phoenix, Arizona. The PHX CAR GUYS, his pre-owned luxury car dealership, is located in Phoenix on East University Drive near Sky Harbor Airport. Howard was a manager for a Jaguar, Land Rover, and a Mercedes Benz new car dealer in the Northwest before moving to Arizona. In Arizona he worked for Benz & Bimmers and Porsche of Chandler before opening The PHX CAR GUYS.

The PHX CAR GUYS is locally owned, selling quality hand selected luxury cars with zero pressure and with a fully transparent sales process. “Howie” likes to say “... if a car is not good enough for my driveway how can it be good enough for yours?” See ad below.
Thank You To All Our Legends of Auto Gala Partners - See You Next Year!
McCurley Integrity Subaru In Pasco Builds Dog Park at Dealership

The Barkley family of Subaru-driving golden retrievers and labs who appear in Subaru’s television commercials are so real the dealership wants to allow customers to bring their own dogs to the park. The dog park at the dealership is open during the dealership’s hours.

Carlos Bermudez, sales manager at McCurley Integrity Subaru, says, “Our customers tend to be outdoorsy, trail-setters, eco-friendly, explorers, and dog owners. We encourage them to bring their dogs to play at the park while they are having their car serviced or just stop by to let their dogs play.”

McCurley Integrity Subaru’s growing franchise moved to its present location on Sandifur Parkway off Broadmoor in Pasco two and a half years ago.

Subaru Leads Industry In Promoting Pet Friendly Features

continued from page 4

Subaru loves pets and they want you to know it.

As I stroll through the Los Angeles Auto Show past the expansive displays of the latest vehicles, the newest technology and all the ways the automotive industry is constantly changing, something more alive calls out the me... “Ruff”! No, it’s not another vehicle debut or keynote speaker talking about autonomous driving or the electrification of cars, but a cuddly, utterly adorable pup at the Subaru display. “Ruff”. I instantly put down my journalist notebook and show schedule to start playing with the pups.

As I sat down with Subaru Manager of Product Communications, Jessica Tullman, she enlightens me to all of the things Subaru does to spread the love of pets, and I must admit that it’s quite impressive.

Evidence of Subaru’s dedication to pets is everywhere including their support of the ASPCA for the past 11 years. Subaru is spearheading a number of ongoing national and local pet initiatives and partnerships across the United States. Subaru also collaborates with the National Ski Patrol with avalanche rescue dog demonstrations. If consumers visit the Subaru display at auto shows across the country, they are likely to be greeted with loving, yet sloppy kisses at the “kissing booth” from prospective canine adoptees at the live adoption events. The booth features a live-feel ‘puppy cam’, so prospective adoptive parents can watch the hilarity unfold in action. In addition to the adoptable dogs, there are several canine friends’ homes from the auto show, attendees will be given the chance to make rope toys as a donation to the shelter, as well as be able to create custom pet tags using the Subaru Loves Pets engraver.

Even their advertising for the all-new Subaru Ascent is pet-centric. “Meet the Barkley’s” commercial series is both creative, funny and geared to tie consumers’ emotions to their vehicle purchase decision making process and fall in love with Subaru as a company. I highly recommend watching them online- the videos will put a smile on your face.

For details on how Subaru supports pets please visit Subaru.com/pets

Bruce Titus Tacoma Subaru uses Outdoor Billboards to Promote his Pet Friendly Subaru Dealership (photo Auto News)
Sarah Deccio, who was featured in a previous “Women in the Auto World” special has added another chapter in her portfolio of automotive related activities. Sarah joined Auto News seven years ago as a spokes model. Within a few years she was appointed Distribution Manager and has helped expand the Auto News distribution network in Northern CA, Nevada, and Idaho.

Sarah has been a practicing artist specializing in pencil drawings for a number years. She is launching her own company “Drawings by Sarah” and will be displaying her pencil drawings of cars, trucks, and pets at Northwest Car Shows. (see photos on this page) If interested in a original one-of-kind pencil drawing of your car, truck, or pet - send a photo with your CONTACT INFO to AUTO NEWS - P.O. Box 3327 - Bellevue,WA 98009 or bill@autonewsonline.com

Sarah Deccio Auto News Dist. Mgr. Launches Another Career with Her Pencil Drawings

Two of Sarah’s Pencil Drawings (photo Auto News)
Mecum’s $39 Million Arizona Auction Smashes Record At State Farm Stadium in Glendale

The Auto Shows Continue at West Coast New Car Dealers with large selections and great values
DANA MECUM'S
32nd ORIGINAL SPRING CLASSIC » INDY
INDIANAPOLIS, IN • 2,000 VEHICLES
MAY 14-19

PORTLAND
PORTLAND, OR • 600 VEHICLES
JUNE 21-22

DENVER
DENVER, CO • 600 VEHICLES
JULY 12-13

HARRISBURG
HARRISBURG, PA • 1,200 VEHICLES
JULY 31-AUG 3

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