The Toyota Sequoia is a Giant Tree In a Forest of SUVs . . . . .!

It was a busy week for Team Auto News and Jim Farley, Ford President, at Weather Tech Laguna SECA Race Track and Concours d’Elegance in Pebble Beach by Bill McCallum

It was another busy week for Team Auto News at this year’s Pebble Beach Concours d’Elegance. Our team arrived on Sunday this year to setup up for the thursday night Ten Year Anniversary of our Legends of Auto Gala Dinner. (See page 10 photos). 160 guests attended our Gala Dinner and listened to stories from current and previously honored Legends (Page 1 photo) Wednesday night we attended Gordon and Molly McCall’s Jet Center Party. Friday we spent the day at the Weather Tech Laguna Seca race track visiting old friends. Saturday we visited the Exotics on Broadway (Seaside) and Sunday we were also visiting old friends and checking out the cars on the 18th hole at the Pebble Beach Concours d’Elegance.

Both Saturday and Sunday I had a chance to visit with Jim Farley, President of Ford Motor Co. I have known Jim since his days as an executive with Toyota. Jim was Alan Mulally’s first executive hire when he (Alan) was brought in as CEO to save Ford Motor Company. Alan with Jim’s help turned Ford around, then Jim was sent to Europe as President where he helped turn around Ford of Europe. Then Jim was brought back to the U. S. as a President. His schedule during Concours week indicates how this multi-tasker is one of the best executives in the auto industry. Midweek testing his Shelby GTO on the Laguna Seca race track. Saturday between races speaking at a Shelby Corral lunch. Sunday up at 5 am for Dawn Patrol as they moved his concours car on the 18th hole at the Pebble Beach Golf Club. (see photo below) Then off to act as a Concours judge in the afternoon. “Jim, nice meeting your wife and daughter on Sunday at Pebble and hope to see you “down-the-road” as they say in the auto industry.”

Legends of Auto Honors Lyn St. James, Ed Justice Jr., Corky Coker, Barry Meguiar, Beau Boeckmann, Galpin Auto Group, Dana Mecum, Founder Mecum Auctions, Rita and Rick Case, Case Auto Group, Steve Saleen, Saleen Car Co., and Ryan Falconer, Engine Builder at Monterey Gala Dinner

The Toyota Sequoia was one of the first “Big Boy SUV’s” to hit American shores decades ago. This 3 row SUV has remained a popular seller for Toyota for decades with minor changes and upgrades. New for 2019 is a TRD Sport trim with black 20-inch alloy wheels.

My test drive was during the set-up for our Legends of Auto Gala 10 Year Anniversary event in Monterey, CA and the large cargo space came in handy. With seating for 8 the Sequoia served as the Team Auto News taxi for our Legends event. See - www.legendsofauto.com

With a 5.7L 381 hp V8 engine we had more than enough power to get us from Seaside, to Carmel, to Pebble Beach, and back to Monterey in a hurry as we set up for our event. With 10 standard safety features including: rear backup cameras, blind spot monitoring, front and rear parking assist sensors, and Anti-theft systems we felt safe as we picked up valuable silent auction items for our Legends of Auto Gala.

If your looking for a big 8 passenger SUV with lots of room for gear and packed with safety features you should test drive the Sequoia SUV at your nearest Toyota dealer.

Toyota Sequoia parked at Historic Monterey Wharf During Concours Classic Car Week (photo Auto News)

Jim Farley, Ford President with his wife Lia and daughter with his Concours Car at Pebble Beach

Top Row: Diane Fitzgerald (President, RPM Foundation for Lyn St. James), Ed Justice Jr., Corky Coker, Barry Meguiar Bottom Row: Beau Boeckmann, Dana Mecum, Rita and Rick Case, Case Auto Group, Steve Saleen, Saleen Car Co., and Ryan Falconer, Engine Builder at Monterey Gala Dinner (photo by Joyce Chow)
Two recent conversations with new car owners led to this editorial.

One with a doctor at a car show who just bought a new BMW and another with a pilot I sat next to who was “dead-heading” back to LA from Seattle who had just bought a new Range Rover. Both loved their new vehicles, but both said “I will never buy another new vehicle.” The reason “...... to much technology I never use and it takes to much time to understand.” (500 to 600 page technology manual included in each vehicle)

Two questions I would ask automakers. 1- Is this a growing trend? 2- Should Automakers in each vehicle (page technology manual included)?

I never use and it takes to much time to understand. Time will tell.

The new hybrid Corolla hatchback debuted in 2019 with promises of providing looks to remove the boring image of Toyota models. This is the first time the Corolla has offered a hybrid to complete the Corolla line to the expectations of customers that look forward to no less from the company that leads the world in hybrid vehicles.

I tested the 2020 Toyota Corolla Hybrid with the base LE trim. The base MSRP of this model begins at $22,950. Not bad compared to the best selling hybrid model in the world, the Prius, that begins at $24,700. It is powered by the same DOHC 16-valve 1.8-liter Atkinson-cycle inline four with a pair of electric motors like the ones used in the Prius. There is also a 1.3-kW battery stored beneath the rear seats. The system as a whole produces 121 horsepower and 105 lb-ft of torque.

The new hybrid comes with automatic climate control, an 8.0-inch touchscreen infotainment system and LED headlights. This base model LE doesn’t lack creature comforts to interfere with today tasks. With all the experience that Honda uses in hand, reviewing their favorite cars, and simply enjoying the moments walking the fairway. Overlooking the show field are suites including Aston Martin, Bentley, Genesis, McLaren, Mercedes-Benz, Porsche, Rolls-Royce with hospitality worthy of being southern hospitality.

Cars from around the world compete in 29 different classes including American Antique, European Antique, Packard Open, Duesenberg, rolls Royce Prewar, Mercedes-Benz Prewar, Ferrari Grand Touring and Historic Hot Rod Cover Cars. The cars are showcased on the show floor of the world in hybrid vehicles.

Row after row of elegant classic cars lined the fairway with the Monterey Bay as a backdrop. It was a picture perfect showbook day for the 69th annual Pebble Beach Concours d’Elegance, the world’s premier celebration of the finest automobiles at famed Pebble Beach Golf Course, the finale of Monterey Car Week in Monterey, California.

Seeing history before your very eyes, it’s as if you stepped into today’s Great Gatsby era as you walk along museum worthy car collections. It’s a leisurely day as people peruse with wine in hand, reviewing their favorite cars, and simply enjoying the moments walking the fairway.

Nineteen safety and security features include Traction Control Logic, Active Stability Control, Hill Start Assist, Tire Pressure Monitoring, Forward Collision Mitigation, Blind Spot Warning, Lane Departure Warning, Acoustic Vehicle Alert, and a sophisticated airbag system. The Outlander has a stable and particularly quiet ride and features a key passive entry system with push button start and panic feature. Spice up your summer with a test drive today!
In the second year of this generation Terrain, GMC is offering a Black Edition: taking advantage of the current popularity of blacked-out trim and wheels. GMC offers this package only on SLE and SLT trim levels. With it you get 19-in. gloss-black aluminum wheels, a darkened grille insert. The cars also feature a black surround, black mirror caps, roof rails and black exterior model and trim badging.

Beyond that, the car is similarly equipped to the other, more colorful, versions.

Looking at the Terrain from the outside, the current thinking on GM’s crossover design is clear. While these vehicles are reminiscent of sport utility vehicles, now they communicate that they are spacious vehicles which aren’t trucks. That’s what buyers want, and GM is ensuring that they know the Terrain should fit the bill.

It is a strong looking vehicle.

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Continued on page 7

Sally Hanson, Auto News feature writer, her visits to National Parks in press vehicles to give readers a view of new automotive offerings as well as an insight to our beautiful National Parks. Sally is scholarship co-chair of the Northwest Automotive Press Association, by Sally Hanson

After driving our Toyota RAV4 Hybrid around Washington State for almost a year, my husband and I headed to Colorado for a 10-day road trip to explore parts of the state we’ve wanted to see. It was the perfect opportunity to road test the RAV4 in the Rocky Mountains and check out its capabilities touring and carrying passengers with lots of luggage.

Last fall I reluctantly traded in my luxury sedan for my Electric Storm Blue RAV4 because the compact-crossover SUV was more practical for Eastern Washington living. In February, I became really glad I owned the RAV4 because we experienced six weeks of record-breaking snowfall.

Want a Jeep and a truck? That’s what the new Gladiator is — a midsize pickup built by Jeep with all the ability and attitude you expect from a Wrangler — and it’s here now.

Walking up to the Gladiator it’s instantly recognizable as a Jeep. The Jeep design team kept the Wrangler front-end in its entirety. Its only when you peak around the side that you see the bed. Of course from a marketing point of view the unique design of a Jeep is one of its greatest assets; so basing the truck on this iconic look is just good business.

However, the 5-foot bed on this truck is not just welded onto the standard Wrangler frame. No, the Gladiator’s body-on-frame design offers the same four doors, but on a stretched frame 31 inches longer than the Wrangler. The wheelbase is also 19.4 inches longer and the rear axle and suspension setup borrows heavily from the Ram 1500. This engineering mix was necessary to hit the payload and towing numbers that the Jeep people envisioned.

About last year at the time, author Jessica Tyler of Business Insider introduced us to a 2 plus million dollar SUV designed in Beijing by IAT automotive technology that is — or can be — not only bulletproof, but cut like a diamond. It’s been described as a piece of art and showcases the peak of evolution combined with advanced technology in the auto manufacturing industry. Just look at the image!

Named the Karlman King, it was showcased at the 2017 Dubai Auto Show. A visit to the Karlman King website details that the inspiration for the top of the line automobile came from the falcon. Each Karlman is designed by a team of 1800 people and the company’s goal is to have a unique collection of these cars, 12 at first to be exact, throughout the world. Enough about the incredible exterior.

The interior looks like a recording studio, movie or sound room and is said to be luxurious and finely detailed. It has also been described as looking like the inside of a recording studio, movie or sound room and is said to be luxurious and finely detailed. It has also been described as looking like the inside of a recording studio, movie or sound room and is said to be luxurious and finely detailed. It has also been described as looking like the

In a game changing move, MAG Auctions of Nevada and Silver Auctions of Arizona have joined forces! Beginning this year, Silver Auctions of Arizona will do business under the MAG Auctions brand through a partnership between owners Mike Oberle and long time car dealer Emmett Rice.

About Motorsport Auction Group (MAG Auctions):

MAG Auctions is a Nevada auction company that has been in business since 2003, specializing in classic cars, special interest vehicles, and memorabilia. Its’ premier auction is the Collector Car Auction held during Hot August Nights in Reno. In total, MAG has been in business for 4 years and built itself to be a player in the auto auction industry through its reputation of honesty, integrity, and dedication to their clients.

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Toyota Highlander
Hybrid Ltd. Platinum Test Drive

Toyota’s Highlander was a pioneer in the midsize crossover SUV category 17 years ago becoming the class benchmark. The third-generation model entered its fourth last year, seating up to eight, with a choice of three powertrains and four model grades, all adding up to an ideal family vehicle.

The 3.5-liter DOHC, 24-valve V-6 delivers 231 horsepower and 215 pound-feet of torque. The Hybrid System is coupled to an electronically controlled automatic transmission with intelligence in three variants depending on the engine and drive configuration. The Hybrid features a Continuously Variable Transmission (CVT) with a planetary gear unit for gear reduction and power splitting; electronic all-wheel drive control system.

The 2018 Toyota Highlander Hybrid benefited from a premium interior design with advanced technological features, offering spaciousness for up to eight occupants, with an extensive array of standard comfort, convenience and technology features and equipment. There are no significant changes for the 2019 model year.

Infiniti Logo Represents the “Horizon” of New Products-To Come

Infiniti is in the midst of what it calls a “strategic restructuring,” which includes going all-in on electrification, withdrawing from Europe, axing the QX30 small

Lincoln MKC SUV Test Drive

2019 may be a big year for Lincoln. The new styling has made a huge difference in the Lincoln line-up. Adding new models this year will help move the needle at continued on page 9

Autoworkers Make Pet Safety A Top Priority

Subaru has clearly been on the forefront of pet safety and a trail-blazer in supporting pet-focused charities for years. In fact, pets are an integral part of the company’s continued on page 25

Electric Car (AV) Future Questioned with China Tariffs

Something strange is happening. Car manufacturers are issuing a flood of plug-in hybrid cars. You are spoiled for choice with Mini, BMW, Skoda, Volvo, Porsche, continued on page 5

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Research Says: More Models but “No Future for Plug-in Hybrids”

Mercedes and others joining in. The fundamentals are all against them. Those offering the most desirable pure electric cars – those with the longest range and three times the resale value – have long waiting lists but they will catch up. No long wait for a plug-in hybrid. GM abandoned its Volt plug-in hybrid. Many users report two types of range anxiety: a small battery and a small gas tank. The UK withdrew PHEV support because people never plugged them in, benefitting the environment, not at all. Consequently, although plug-in hybrid sales have been rising, their market share has been dropping since 2013 (IDTechEx and INET). Dr. Peter Harrop led the IDTechEx team producing a new report, “Electric Vehicles 2020-2035” with EV forecasts in 100 categories. He says “Traditional automotive companies wish to keep the internal combustion engine going for a long while. Many have revealed how far they are behind Tesla in pure electric by bringing out what are essentially copies of Tesla powertrains from six years ago but not all. Hyundai, Kia, for example, has one-year waiting lists for its excellent pure electric cars. They will clear that delay, releasing pent-up demand. Others will rapidly copy that success.”

“Well-funded start-ups go straight to pure electric. Tesla Roadster will have 1000 kilo- metres range matching gasoline: it will then become commonplace. Those buying internal combustion vehicles hope the city and country bans will not apply to hybrids, but they face increasing range anxiety from the number of gas stations plummeting – down 40% in the UK in recent years for example as charging stations increase. They have financial anxiety from dropping resale values.” Harrop concludes, “There is absolutely nothing to reverse the transition. The school was operational during World War II and the school will be open 7 days a week. For additional info contact: Bondurant Racing School.”

Bruce Besler and Partners Buy Bondurant Racing School

As Bob Bondurant retired after 50 years of running his racing school, and potential new owners entered their Blog for simple numbers. Bondurant’s ownership of the Bondurant School of Performance Driving, Florida resident Bruce Besler and his business partners delivered the winning bid. Bruce a former USAC NASCAR racing enthusiast has already moved to Phoenix and is on-the-ground at the racing school. The school was operational during the transition. In an interview at the Weather Tech Laguna Seca Race Track during Concours Week, Bruce said “……. we will continue the tradition Bob built over the last 50 years and add some new programs.” Bruce has added Drag Racing to the school’s portfolio of programs. They are also working on an off-road program. The school is adding new instructors including Mike McGovern and Danny Bullock both with over 25 years of experience. Bryan Shaifer a military and government affairs officer has also joined the team. FCA Dodge Challenger and Charger are still the official vehicles of the school and the school will be open 7 days a week. For additional info contact: Bondurant Racing School.

Polestar Press Event in Seattle (photo Auto News)

A New Breed of Electric Car is Coming to Seattle

Polestar, an electric car brand jointly owned by Sweden’s Volvo Car Group and China’s Zhejiang Geely Holding, will launch its second car and first all-electric vehicle in the city next year. Seattle was the first stop on Polestar’s road show with the new car Wednesday ahead of retail store openings nationwide. The four-door sedan will cost U.S. customers $55,500. The company is focusing its U.S. sales in California cities and in Seattle, Global Chief Operating Officer Jonathan Goodman said, though it will sell and deliver cars nation-wide online. The company aims to sell tens of thousands of Polestar 2 vehicles globally.

“We looked at what are the towns that we need to be in as a first start,” Goodman said. “So we looked at Los Angeles, San Francisco, Orange County, and the one on the east coast that we called was well as west was Seattle. When you look at the EV infrastructure, when you look at the way the town is embracing new tech and everything else, it seems an obvious place for us to come.”

continued from page 4
All-New Jeep Gladiator “First Drive” by Howard Elmer

Additional Jeep Gladiator Stories on: 9 & 21

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Payload is a hefty 1,600 lb and the tow rating is a class-leading 7,650 lb. These numbers should ap- ply to a recreational hauler as well as the Jeep enthusiast. This is a real truck, with all the right capa-bilities!

My first drive in the Gladiator came in Northern California; what didn’t add to the thrill was a workout – at least that’s what I thought when I was first invited. However, once there; three days of steady, cold rain turned the off-road site that Jeep had prepared into a nasty mud-pit.

Once on site the first thing I noted was the clearance. The Gladiator has 11.1-inches of ground clearance complemented with an under mounted spare tire that is tucked up above the rear axle. This is the reason for the rather shallow truck-bed. On the other hand this design makes it possible to reach the cargo bed anywhere along its length.

Because the Gladiator is available with the same trim pack-ages as the Wrangler (Sport S, Overland and Rubicon) it is progressively more aggressive in the off-road arena as you move up to the Rubicon outfit. These were the units we churned the mud with in California. These Gladiator/Rubicon trucks came with a Rock-Trac 4x4 system with a “4LO” ratio of 4:1; Dana 44 axles; Trac-Lok electric front and rear locking differentials, Trac-Lok limited-slip differential and sway-bar disconnect. The truck has standard rubicon rock rails, skid plates and steel bumpers that are winch-ready from the factory. The Rubicon version comes with 33-inch off-road tires giving it up to 30-inches of water fording ability.

As rain bore down steadily, the runs on the off-road deepened till driving was more like running on train tracks. Once in the mud the Gladiator steered itself – I just keep the accelerator down negotiating the hills and rocks. Though it dragged its belly it never got stuck despite the ever worsening conditions. On the steep slopes I also got to use a new safety feature – a TrailCam that projects images from the nose of the truck – it let me peak over the lip of hills on-scene, while out the windshield all I could see was hood and sky.

Powering this truck is the long-block Pentastar 3.6L V6. Matched to a six-speed manual an upgrade to an automatic transmission gets you an eight-speed.

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Toyota Highlander Hybrid Test Drive

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Information Display, available in 3.5-inch black & white or 4.2-inch color display. Ambient lighting is available around the front dash, which makes for a relaxing environment.

The 60/40 second row offers bench seating for three pas-sengers or two captain’s seats that feature a collapsible side tray with cup holders for added convenience. The third-row has a standard recline function, enhancing comfort for up to three passengers.

My 2019 Toyota Highlander Hybrid tester came in Limited Platinum trim and AWD with a base sticker of $48,280 and a final total of $49,275 after factoring in options plus the Delivery processing and Handling fee. The exterior was sprayed a metallic Predawn Gray Mica, while the interior was done in Saddle and Charcoal tones Black with matte finished wood trim accents on the doors and dash.

SUMMARY: The 2019 Toyota Highlander Hybrid Limited Plati-num continues with its bold and sleek styling, accompanied by enhanced interior appointments with upscale comfort levels, pleasing performance and oper-ating efficiency. The Highlander Hybrid’s Hybrid Synergy Drive System operates seamlessly and is highly efficient, while accom-modating the entire family with seating capability for up to eight, with gear. A panoramic moonroof is also available.

The Highlander comes with a Backup Camera and Toyota’s Entune audio systems. Upscale models offer advanced safety technologies such as Blind Spot Monitoring with Cross Traffic Alert, Rear Parking Assist Sonar, and an available Driver Technol-ogy Package includes a Pre-Collision System with Dynamic Radar Cruise Control, Lane Departure Alert with Automatic High Beam Headlights and Safety Connect. Toyota Safety Sense P (TSS-P) driver-assist technology is now standard.

This latest iteration Highlander Hybrid handles spirited driving maneuvers deftly, and while not a sports car, it performs with surprising stability on the road, handling with an agile, on-center steering feel delivering a most comfortable ride quality.

Considering the wide grade range in terms of equipment and feature content, the 2019 Toyota Highlander Hybrid presents itself as an ideal mid-size, three-row SUV, providing several choices for a variety of consumers. Bottom line, the Highlander Hybrid fills the bill as an outstanding and luxurious Hybrid SUV.

Honda Insight Hybrid Test Drive

continued from page 2

place of blind-spot warning, is not great. It projects a picture on the screen when you turn on the right-hand turn signal, but there’s nothing for the driver’s side.

The Insight is one of the largest compact sedans in its class. The cabin is really roomy. This is most evident in the backseat, where even six-footers have plenty of legroom. Headroom is not as generous, but it’s adequate. The trunk is surprising large, about as big as that in a midsize car, at 15.1 cu.-ft., thanks to the battery pack being stored under the backseat.

Under the hood, Honda equips the Insight with a 1.5-liter gas engine, an electric motor and a battery pack. Honda calls it the “two-motor hybrid” system. It primarily uses the electric motor and battery for propulsion, not the gas engine. The gas engine generates electricity for the bat-tery pack, and comes into play when more power is needed. The Insight doesn’t use a conventional transmission, but relies on the hybrid system to provide the right amount of power when you need it. I found that the system worked just fine. My Insight accelerated briskly, and the cabin only became noisy when the gas engine cut in.

Behind the wheel, the Insight delivers predictable handling and a comfortable ride. The steering is nicely weighted, and provides decent feedback. The suspension, which is right out of the Civic, does its part by keeping the Insight well-balanced on twisty roads. Furthermore, this car smooths out bumps in the pave-ment like a higher priced vehicle. My only disappointment was with the regenerative braking system, that didn’t seem to do much.

Honda offers the Insight in three levels of trim, LX, EX and Touring. The entry-level LX ($23,725) is nicely equipped with LED headlights, Bluetooth connectivity, keyless ignition and the Honda Sensing safety system. Honda Sensing includes adaptive cruise control, lane-keeping assist and forward collision warning and mitigation. The EX ($24,955) adds an eight-speaker sound system, Sirius XM radio and remote start. The top-of-the-line Touring ($28,985) enhances the Insight with luxury touches like a moonroof, leather seats and a navigation system.

The Honda Insight does not sell in the numbers that the Toyota Prius does, but it offers traditional styling, fine driving dynamics and outstanding gas mileage. If you are shopping for a moderately priced hybrid, the Insight should be high on the list of cars you consider.
Karlman King, A Two Million Dollar SUV

continued from page 3

cabin of a galactic Sheikh’s personal space ship “HaHa” by a sort of critic, Loz Blain at newatlas.com, and available in various color schemes. It is outfitted with Playstation, satellite TV and a built-in fridge. - Champagne anyone? - If you employ a driver, of course.

For all this opulence, the engine is a Ford F550 commercial cab chassis, complete with a lightly warmed up version of the standard 6.8-liter V10 engine that boosts it up to 398 horsepower. The highest travel speed is 87 MPH - ya know all that bullet proof stuff.

So what do you think? Will the world only see 12 of these? Or many more? I have to say I was intrigued and LOVED the look, hence the story.

I would further love a test drive. Or even better, anybody want to buy me one? - Anybody? See you next time car aficionados!

I’ve enjoyed dreaming about my Karlman this edition.

See Photo on Page 26

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GMC Terrain Test Drive by David Schmidt

continued from page 3

which there is. The interior is typical of this segment. Since it is a compact crossover there’s not so much cargo and people space to keep buyers for looking up to mid-sized version. But for the market it serves, it offers a competitive amount of space.

The interior is comfortable and there’s an airy feel to the cabin. The center screen works well to control the infotainment and other systems, providing an intuitive process. Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, and an onboard Wi-Fi hotspot are all standard.

I wasn’t much of a fan of the transmission buttons, although in today’s world of electronically controlled trannies, putting a huge lever in the middle of the console isn’t all that meaningful. But I would prefer a more clearly isolated and specific layout, to make the transmission selection easy and positive.

The interior reflects what this vehicle is, a capable smaller crossover to serve small families. This isn’t a tiny vehicle, as it’s 182.3-in. long on a 107.3-in. wheelbase. It’s also 72.4-in. wide and 65.4-in. tall, putting it squarely in fighting size with its primary competition in the compact crossover segment.

This includes Chevrolet’s Equinox, which shares much with the Terrain. Others are the Toyota RAV4 and Honda CR-V, Mazda’s CX-5, Jeep Cherokee and the Ford Escape. Both Kia and Hyundai are fighters in this segment, perhaps the most competitive segment of the crossover market.

The model I tested was the Terrain SLT with all-wheel drive. My test car had the nice 2.0-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine. I would seriously recommend this engine. It produces 252 hp. and 260 lb.-ft. of peak torque. Its rated mileage is 26 mpg in the city and 30 mpg on the highway.

The base engine for the Terrain is a 1.5-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine. This motor produces 170 hp. and 203 lb.-ft. of peak torque. Fuel efficiency is rated at 26 mpg in the city and 30 mpg on the highway.

The power from either engine goes through a nine-speed transmission. This modern and capable tranny makes the best use of the continued on page 8

GMC Terrain  (photo David Schmidt)
there is not much to work out in this new model. The switch between battery and gas propulsion is smooth with the ability to pull away from a stoplight under electric alone. The powertrain occasionally makes a whirring noise when approaching a bend, which may irritate your attention with a low siren sound. No police vehicles in sight, however.

The new Corolla hybrid surprised the industry by returning impressive miles per gallon numbers. Long-hiway runs came back with what I consider record-breaking levels. My best was 58.6 mpg without any tricks or hyperdriving. Around town mpg numbers in the high 40's to low to 50s were easy. Total driving range can easily be in the 700 mile per tank range. This is an area where the game is all about what to expect from a well-done hybrid compared to a regular gas-powered vehicle. Safety and convenience features have not been overlooked. Toyota Sense is the 2.0 version of a co-sorption system with pedestrian detection, full range dynamic radar cruise control, lane departure alert with steering assist are some of the safety items that make this 2020 model carry over the latest technology available.

Electronic parking brake, star safety system, e-lert brake force distribution all add to the safety quotient. Fabric six way adjustable driver’s seat, four way adjustable front passenger seat complete the interior story. Eight inch touchscreen, six speakers, hands free, blue tooth, usb media port with one usb charge port are also included inside. Siri eyes free, with apple play compatible. 60/40 split fold down rear seat along with 7-inch color display.

Automatic climate control with push button controls are a helpful addition. Some interesting stats include the saving of $3500. savings in fuel costs over 5 years compared to the average new vehicle. At the EPA mpg the average fuel cost is $800. compared to gasoline powered engines. Check out this as hybrids when done correctly are starting to make more sense. Many of the benefits of gas powered without the electric vehicle delays.

Toyota Corolla Hybrid “Test Drive” continued from page 2

GMC Terrain Test Drive

David Schmidt continued from page 7

power it gets. Unfortunately, in the base engine that isn’t a really effective amount of power. While it will work for around-the-suburbs trips, the Terrain makes up for that sluggishness by being quite comfortable and quite inside. The MacPherson front and multi-link rear suspension is tuned to make the ride smooth and calm, which it does. This isn’t a vehicle drivers are planning on throwing around the mall parking lot, so that suspension pliability is a good thing.

The Terrain’s offerings aren’t the least expensive of its competition, but GMC isn’t interested in being seen as a “value” product. As they say, they offer “professional-grade” vehicles. With that in mind, the prices for the Terrain start at $26,195 for the SL, $29,295 for the SLE, $32,095 for SLT, and finally $38,995 for the Denali. The Special Black edition costs $795. The 4WD tested was an SLT with AWD and plenty of options. Its list price was $40,500.

If you have any questions, comments or ideas, please send them to comment@AutoWriterslink.com.
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 driver behavior," says Edara, "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 provides information about driver, vehicle, roadway and environmental factors contribute to a crash. In other words, we reconstructed a driver’s actions and the

Lincoln MKC Test Drive continued from page 4

the luxury brand. The MKC has been a good success story and has delivered new customers to the brand. Up graded dealerships have also played a part in changing perception and special services like pick-up and return of your vehicle for service. The 2019 MKC has just been everything you could ask for.

Safety features include overall score of five stars. MPG on this vehicle ranges from 20 city and 27 highway and 23 combined MPG. The 2.0L Turbocharged engine is quick to respond to your needs. A six speed Selectshift automatic transmission is smooth and responsive. The color on the vehicle shown is an option called Rhapsody Blue for $695.00. The THX i/6 Audio Sound System is outstanding and with the ability to use a CD it gets even better. Keep in mind some manufacturers have discontinued CD players but offer high end sound systems obviously they have forgotten all the customers who have hundreds of CD’s the sound it is superb in high end systems.

Warranty on this Lincoln is 4 years/50k miles; pickup delivery service is also 4 years/50K. Powertrain is 6 years/70K. Ride and interior comfort is very good with heated and cooled seats with 12 way power. Sync 3 keeps improving and voice navigation is a great tool if you have no idea where you are. This model also includes a Panoramic Vista roof with power shade. This 2019 MKC Reserve model stickered out at $43,395.00. If you want LUXURY in a small package this is a good Candidate to look at and it fits in the garage with a truck next to it.

NWAPA (Northwest Automotive Press Assoc.) Announces “Mudfest” Event Winners

The Northwest Automotive Press Association named the 2020 Jeep Gladiator Rubicon 4x4 as the top vehicle at its annual Northwest Outdoor Activity Vehicle of the Year competition. The all-new 2020 Gladiator came out on top with its excellent on-road drivability, off-road prowess, and its impressive ability. This new pickup truck demonstrated an unbeatable combination of performance, features, capability, and technology during the NWAPA’s 25th annual Mudfest competition. NWAPA automotive media professionals spent two days driving 22 vehicles through a mix of on-road handling and off-road courses at The Ridge Motorsports Park in Shelton, Wash. Day one’s activities included on-road handling testing while the second day took journalists through a custom-made off-road course built at The Ridge to evaluate the capabilities of the sport utility vehicles, crossovers, and pickups.

Entrants in Mudfest competed in six categories: Subcompact and Compact Family Utility Vehicles, Midsize Luxury Utility Vehicles, Compact and Midsize Luxury Utility Vehicles, Compact Truck and Extreme Capability Vehicles. NWAPA members also selected an overall winner: The Northwest Outdoor Activity Vehicle of the Year.

While the competition was fierce, and the voting was close, there can only be one winner from each category. These vehicles earned the praise of the 25 NWAPA media professionals who evaluated the vehicles:

- Subcompact and Compact Family – 2019 Subaru Forester Sport
- Mid- and Full-Size Family – 2020 Kia Telluride SX V6 AWD
- Runner up – 2019 Toyota 4Runner TRD PRO
- Compact and Midsize Luxury – 2020 Mercedes-Benz GLE450 4MATIC
- Full-Size Luxury – 2019 BMW X7 xDrive50i
- Runner up – 2019 Mercedes-Benz G550
- Pickup Trucks – 2020 Jeep Gladiator Rubicon
- Runner up – 2019 Ram 2500 Power Wagon Crew Cab 4x4
- Extreme Capability – 2020 Jeep Gladiator Rubicon
- NW Outdoor Activity Vehicle of the Year – 2020 Jeep Gladiator Rubicon
- Runner up – 2020 Kia Telluride SX V6 AWD
Legends of Auto Gala Dinner Event returning to Monterey August 13, 2020

Legends of Auto Gala Dinner Event returning to Monterey August 13, 2020

Legends of Auto Gala Features Artists and Art from AFAS Members

Old Masters To Star at New Masters Gallery During Collector Car Week

The Automotive Fine Arts Society (AFAS) is expanding accessibility to member works by moving its legendary show during Monterey Collector Car Week to the New Masters Gallery in Carmel. The free exclusive art show, entitled, "Old Masters at the New Masters," will begin on Saturday, August 10 and continue through Sunday, August 18.

"For many years, AFAS member pieces were primarily available only for a few hours on the Pebble Beach Concours green during Collector Car week," said Ken Eberts, AFAS president and founding member. "With so many events now occurring across the Monterey Peninsula, it is difficult for patrons, fans and collectors to enjoy the show. Moving our show into Carmel and expanding the days it can be seen allows us to better feed the growing demand for automotive fine art. The ‘Old Masters at the New Masters’ show will make great art even more accessible to our global audience."

While the location may be new, the focus of AFAS’s show continues uninterrupted. Member artists will show pieces that transform many of the automobiles celebrated during Monterey Collector Car Week into the rarified realm of art.

"While there has been a great deal of reporting and speculation on new automotive technologies, automotive design continues to seduce consumers, both in showrooms and on the road," said William Motta, AFAS board member. "And within the global automotive market, design differentiation continues to be a prime motivator for many when choosing a vehicle. While countless cars and trucks have been sold on the merits of their appearance, only the finest designs can be appreciated and reinterpreted by the artist’s eye while filtered through the viewer’s imagination."

The AFAS show’s title, ‘Old Masters at the New Masters’, reflects both the years many AFAS members have been perfecting their craft and the show’s venue, the New Masters Gallery in Carmel. The gallery, opened in 1974 by Bill and Jennifer Hill, began in a small space featuring six local artists. That modest beginning and subsequent growth parallels AFAS history; it began with a handful of artists and has grown into an international membership satisfying a global demand for automotive art.

"This will be the largest exhibit of automotive fine art available to the general public to enjoy for free during Monterey Collector Car Week in history," said AFAS board member Richard Pietruska. "We love the synergy expressed in the show’s title and appreciate the efforts of Bill and Jennifer Hill in elevating the appreciation of art, in all of its many forms."

Artists showing pieces at the New Masters Gallery include:

- Dennis Brown
- Sandrine Blondel
- James Dietz
- Ken Eberts
- Peter Hearsey
- Yahn Janou
- Charles Maher
- Dan McCrory
- William Motta
- Richard Pietruska
- Stanley Rose
- Barry Rowe
- Tony Sikorski

While the AFAS show continues to reflect the collective passion for automotive history, the New Masters Gallery exhibit allows member works to be viewed by those visiting the area for the Pebble Beach Concours, auctions and vintage racing at their own pace. It also gives those residing in or visiting Carmel, long known as the West’s most established art communities, the opportunity to see the pieces without purchasing an event ticket.

Polestar Press Event in Seattle Kicks Off United States Product Launch

continued from page 5

Goodman said the company plans to open some small-scale West Coast retail spaces. He envisions 2,500-square-foot spaces amid downtown shopping centers that showcase two or three demo vehicles for customers to check out before they order.

In Seattle, Polestar is considering retail space in Ravenna, near Pike and Pine Streets and on the Eastside in Clyde Hill and Wilburton.

Goodman said there’s been a lot of interest in Seattle in terms of prospects, but he wouldn’t provide details.

Polestar will begin producing the car in the beginning of next year, and start delivering them to customers around the end of the second quarter.

Polestar acts as a standalone brand, but is trying to partner with Volvo dealers to invest in its retail spaces. Polestar has an investor in Seattle that Goodman declined to name.

Polestar will initially sell the new car in eight other countries: China, Canada, Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

"We see the U.S. as a really key market for us," Goodman said. "I think China will be the biggest market globally, but you’ve already got an established market in the U.S. and people embracing EVs."
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Joyce Chow Covers 2019 Concours d’Elegance at Pebble Beach

continued from page 2

Pebble Beach Concours d’Elegance was awarded to a 1931 Bentley 8 Litre Gurney Nutting Sports Tourer, owned by the Hon. Michael Kadoorie, Hong Kong. Crowds surrounded the line of the Best of Show honors for the 2019 Pebble Beach Concours d’Elegance was awarded to a 1931 Bentley 8 Litre Gurney Nutting Sports Tourer, owned by the Hon. Michael Kadoorie, Hong Kong. Crowds surrounded the line of the Best of Show nominees including 1938 Talbot-Lago T150C-SS Figoni & Falaschi Teardrop Cabriolet, 1936 Mercedes-Benz 540K Erdmann & Rossi Special Cabriolet, and a 1962 Aston Martin DB4GT Zagato Coupé. Outside the Pebble Beach Lodge, the Concept lawn gives a glimpse into the future with the visions including Bentley, BMW Vision M Next, De Tomaso P72, Ford GT Mk ll, Infiniti Project Black S, and the undeniable crowd favorite according to security of the Volkswagen ID.Buggy.

If you’re a fan of historic cars, looking to buy a car at auction, Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion at Laguna Seca, motorsports gatherings - The Quail, Legends of the Autobahn, Japanese Automotive Invitational, Concorso Italiano, Concours d’Lemons, searching for the latest luxury car and want to test drive it or if you want to meet your favorite legend at Auto News’ Legends of Auto Gala. It’s simply as good as it gets.

Joyce Chow Covers 2019 Concours d’Elegance at Pebble Beach

Curing Kids Cancer-An Update on this 14-year-old Charity

Back in 2005 when Curing Kids Cancer (“CKC”) was founded – it was just two parents at their kitchen table grieving the loss of one of their twin boys. But these parents knew they had to act because as their 9-year-old son Killian was battling leukemia they learned about a new drug. At the time, this specific drug was stuck in the lab and was too underfunded to get into treatment. This knowledge inspired the Owens to start CKC, because they did not want any other families to go through the same loss they did. Grainne and Clay Owen began fundraising one year after losing Killian. That was 14 years ago. Since then the “CKC” team has grown to have five full time employees in three locations across the United States, and has raised more than $15 million.

Much of CKC’s success can be credited to its partnerships, especially the one with Mecum Auctions. More than seven years ago, Grainne and Clay Owen had the opportunity to meet Dana Mecum at an auction after a donated motorcycle crossed a Mecum Auction block in Kissimmee, F.L. After some time getting to know the Mecums and the Mecum family getting to know the Owen family, a partnership was formed. Now, Mecum Auctions customers, staff and partners have helped CKC raise more than $6 million for childhood cancer therapies.

The relationship with Mecum Auctions involves the world’s largest auction house donating a neon sign or clock to raise money to find cures for all childhood cancers. This has blossomed into countless customers and companies becoming involved by donating cars, motorcycles and memorabilia.

This partnership is so much more than just raising money, CKC also has the opportunity to share these auctions with patient families. Kids from local children’s hospital attend the auction and have the chance to drop the hammer for CKC. It is a great time for all as their families enjoy a fun day looking at cars and meeting the Mecum Auctions team.

If you are interested in learning more about Curing Kids Cancer, visit curingkidscancer.org or email Mikaela Hopkins, Partnership Manager, at mikaela@curingkidscancer.org.

2019 Pebble Beach Concours d’Elegance Best of Show Nominees (left to right): 1962 Aston Martin DB4GT Zagato Coupé, 1938 Talbot-Lago T150C-SS Figoni & Falaschi Teardrop Cabriolet, and 1936 Mercedes-Benz 540K Erdmann & Rossi Special Cabriolet, 1931 Bentley 8 Litre Gurney Nutting Sports Tourer (photo Joyce Chow)

2019 Pebble Beach Concours d’Elegance Best of Show 1931 Bentley 8 Litre Gurney Nutting Sports Tourer, owned by the Hon. Michael Kadoorie, Hong Kong (photo Joyce Chow)

Ella with Dana Mecum
**Sally Tours Great Sand Dunes Natl. Park in her New Toyota RAV4**

continued from page 3

Snow. The RAV4 performed like a champ descending our hilltop location and brought us back up the hill effortlessly. After the spring thaw and a summer of fun, we headed to the Rocky Mountains in Colorado. Our first real test of the RAV4 was the drive to the top of Pikes Peak — a National History Landmark located west of Colorado Springs. Pikes Peak is one of two mountains in the Colorado Rockies that are over 14,000 feet in elevation (14ers) and accessible by automobile. The remaining 56 14ers in Colorado are for foot traffic.

WOW! I was very impressed with the power and handling offered by my RAV4. The 2.5L 4-cylinder engine delivering 194 horsepower with CVT climbed the 19 mile road and all its switchbacks effortlessly. From Colorado Springs’ elevation of 6,035 feet, we climbed over 8,000 feet without pause to reach the 14,115 foot summit of Pikes Peak where a new Summit Complex is under construction with the opening expected in the fall of 2020. Spectacular 360 degree views are the reward once you reach the top of Pikes Peak.

My decision to purchase a hybrid was based mostly on the advantage of fuel economy. I could almost feel the savings in my pocketbook as we descended the mountain. Driving in low gears and occasionally braking, the hybrid’s battery was charging up and increasing the mpg. I have been exceeding the EPA’s estimated miles per gallon of 34 mpg in the city and 30 mpg on the highway since purchase.

After getting to the lower lands, we headed south on Interstate 25 and then west to the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve. The dunes sit on a large area of high desert land just west of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains in the Rocky Mountain range. The dunes are the tallest sand dunes in North America rising to a maximum height of 755 feet. The field of sand dunes covers more than 30 square miles. The park and preserve includes part of a national forest and property that helps preserve the ground water of the valley and the ecological integrity of the dunes. Medan Creek flows along the eastern edge of the dunes and its moisture is a vital part of the dune-system environment. Snow boards and plastic sleds make sliding down the dunes a fun activity when the sand is slightly wet.

Night in the dunes offers fantastic views of the night skies. The park’s elevation of 8200 feet makes it a favorite with stargazers and the park offers special astronomy programs May though September.

The forest wilderness, alpine lakes and mountain summits surrounding the dunes offer excellent hiking, backpacking, fishing and the opportunity to observe wildlife, wild flowers, and many species of birds. Two 14ers border the park — one on the north and another on the southeast.

After spending 10 days on the road, I was extremely pleased with how comfortable the seating is. I was glad I had the front windows and windshield tinted before we went on our trip because the sun in the higher elevations is intense. (The lack of window tinting on the RAV4 has been my only disappointment.) Overall I found the RAV4 to be a great touring vehicle with easily accessible storage for everything we needed to blaze new trails.
Las Vegas Concours d’Elegance Adds Concours-Winning 1953 Ferrari 250 Europa Vignale to Field

*Best of Show winner in 2019 Concours d’Elegance Suisse cruises into Las Vegas*

This October, the inaugural Las Vegas Concours d’Elegance (LVCE) is bringing world-class vehicles to Las Vegas, including previous Concours winners from around the world. For its first appearance in the city of Las Vegas, the 1953 Ferrari 250 Europa Vignale will be judged in the inaugural car show. Originally unveiled at the 1953 Paris Auto Show, the 1953 Ferrari 250 Europa Vignale was the first pure road Ferrari to receive a 250 GT motor and was the first car to feature the three-liter V-12 engine that would power the rest of the sports and grand touring cars for the next 12 years of Ferrari production. In creation, Ferrari provided the engine and chassis, while Italian coach builders, Pininfarina and Vignale were tasked with creating the body of the vehicle. Only 22 of the 1953 Ferrari 250 Europa cars were built, but more specifically only four of the 22 manufactured were created by Vignale. In June of 2019, this car took home the President’s Choice Award and was voted Best of Show by the international multidisciplinary jury in the fourth Concours d’Elegance Suisse. Held at the Château de Coppet on the shores of Lake Geneva, this car stood out among more than 90 other vehicles. “We are thrilled to have the 1953 Ferrari 250 Europa Vignale in our inaugural show,” said Stuart Sobek, Founder and Chairman of LVCE. “This year’s Las Vegas Concours d’Elegance will feature vehicles of high authenticity and history and the 1953 Ferrari Vignale is the perfect fit.”

LVCE will be held Oct. 25 through Oct. 28 and will feature a curated collection of approximately 120 vehicles at Dragon-Ridge Country Club at MacDonald Highlands. In addition to the car show on Saturday, Oct. 26, the four-day event will include an opening night gala at the Keep Memory Alive Event Center on Friday, Oct. 25, a Tour d’Elegance down the Las Vegas Strip on Sunday, Oct. 27 and a celebrity golf tournament on Monday, Oct. 28.

For additional event information, or to buy tickets, please visit lasvegasconcours.com. To stay up-to-date with LVCE, follow us on Facebook and Instagram at @lasvegasconcours. To get a feel for what is to come, please watch here. For press inquiries or for credentials during the event, please reach out to the media contact below.

### SHOWCASE REVIEWS

**ACURA RDX SH-AWD A-SPEC**

This popular SUV from Acura is built on a new platform. With new seat designs and new infotainment system you are “styling” inside the cabin.

**BASE PRICE:** $38,295  
**TYPE:** SUV  
**ENGINE:** 2.0-Liter  
**HORSEPOWER:** 272 hp  
**MPG:** 21 city / 26 hiway

**HONDA CIVIC 4D TOURING**

This value based Honda is loaded with new safety features and above average MPG. With new designs and more room it’s a “winner”.

**BASE PRICE:** $27,300  
**TYPE:** Sedan  
**ENGINE:** 1.5 Liter  
**TRANS:** CVT  
**HORSEPOWER:** 174 hp  
**MPG:** 30 city / 38 hiway

**KIA SOUL-LINE**

The Kia Soul is classified as a hatchback, but most consider it as a small SUV. Lots of room, nice value good mpg and fun to drive.

**BASE PRICE:** $17,000  
**TYPE:** Hatchback  
**ENGINE:** 1.6 Turbo  
**HORSEPOWER:** 201 hp  
**MPG:** 27 city / 32 hiway

**SUBARU CROSSTREK HYBRID**

With a 480 mile total range and Subaru’s StarDrive technology this plug-in hybrid has been a winner for Subaru. Also a MOTOR TREND Comparison TEST winner.

**BASE PRICE:** $22,870  
**TYPE:** SUV  
**ENGINE:** 2.0L Turbo I-4  
**TRANS:** CVT  
**HORSEPOWER:** 152 hp  
**MPG:** 35 city / 90 hiway

**RAV4 ADVENTURE AWD**

A major redesign for Toyota’s all-time best seller. Shares an engine with the Camry and lots of room for road trips and packed with safety features.

**BASE PRICE:** $26,500  
**TYPE:** SUV  
**ENGINE:** 2.5L 4 cylinder  
**TRANS:** 6-speed AT  
**HORSEPOWER:** 203 hp  
**MPG:** 25 city / 33 hiway

**VOLVO S60 T6 R-Design**

The Volvo S60 T6 is a premium offering from Volvo loaded with new safety features, above average MPG and an elegant interior.

**BASE PRICE:** $38,000  
**TYPE:** Luxury Sedan  
**ENGINE:** 2.0L Turbo I-4  
**TRANS:** 8A  
**HORSEPOWER:** 316 hp  
**MPG:** 26 city / 36 hiway

***all information on vehicles as tested***
Mecum Unveils Bullitt Mustang Hero Car to be Auctioned at Kissimmee 2020

The 1968 Mustang GT Driven by Steve McQueen in Classic Film “Bullitt” to Cross the Block During the World’s Largest Collector Car Auction

After more than 40 years spent so well hidden that most believed it had been destroyed, the hero car from the Warner Bros. movie “Bullitt” reemerged in January 2018 at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit, and it’s now slated to cross the Mecum auction block at the world’s largest collector car auction this coming January in Kissimmee, Florida. Known simply as “Bullitt” after its namesake motion picture, the original Highland Green 1968 Mustang GT was driven by the “King of Cool” Steve McQueen at dangerously high speeds through the busy streets of San Francisco as the hero car in one of his most memorable motion pictures, and it is now on the fast-track to joining the ranks of the most valuable American-made collector cars ever sold at auction.

One of just two Mustangs used to fill the role in the 1968 action/thriller “Bullitt,” named after main character Lt. Frank Bullitt played by McQueen, this car was the film’s “hero” car and was driven by McQueen in countless scenes throughout the movie, including in the infinitely famous car chase scene, which went on to become the most influential car chase scene in all of film history. After the filming of “Bullitt” concluded, this car was sold to a private buyer and was thought lost to history until its unveiling for the 50th anniversary of “Bullitt” just last year. The car—considered by many to be the world’s single most recognizable and celebrated vintage Mustang—remains in original condition and retains many distinguishable and unique elements from the movie.

The announcement of the car’s upcoming offering at the Jan. 2-12 Kissimmee 2020 auction was made at Mecum Monterey 2019 with auto and entertainment reporters, photographers, social media influencers and others looking on as the Bullitt Mustang was presented under tight security in a one-car “glass house.” Longtime owner, Sean Kiernan, was present alongside Mecum Auctions President and Founder Dana Mecum for the reveal and announcement of the car’s impending sale, and it proved to be an emotional unveiling for the second-generation caretaker who originally inherited the car from his father. Last seen at LeMay—America’s Car Museum in July, the 1968 Bullitt Mustang will be exhibited at various automotive events around the country leading up to the Mecum Kissimmee 2020 auction in January. For interview and photo requests, please contact dmorton@mecum.com.

For more details on upcoming auctions, to consign a vehicle or to register as a bidder, visit Mecum.com, or call (262) 275-5050 for more information.
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 of 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

Previously Featured: “WOMEN IN THE AUTO WORLD”

Chanterria McGilbra – Prancing Ponies Foundation
Lyn St. James – Indy Race Driver
Felicia Fields – Ford HR VP
Michelle Christensen – Acura Design
Lisa Copeland – FCA Dealer
Monika Kalenski – MEK Magnet
Chanterria McGilbra – Prancing Ponies

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
Toyota of Marysville – Ladies at Work

How to Order A Pencil Drawing of Your Special Vehicle:

* Email 3 Photos (Front, Side, Angle) To: SDeccio357@hotmail.com

* Mail (Snail) $175 Check To: Sarah Deccio c/o Auto News • P.O. Box 3327 • Bellevue, WA 98009
McCormick’s 67th Auction Scheduled for November 22, 23, & 24 in Palm Springs

Breaking Classic Car News - 1969 Jaguar XKE Roadster Heads To McCormick’s Auction Block In Palm Springs, California...this vehicle has had the same owner since 1970, he purchased the car when it was two months old from fellow Navy fighter pilot friend and it has been his pride and joy ever since. 27-time driven class winner in local/regional events. In addition to the 27 Driven class trophies, this car was also National Jaguar Club of North America winner in the Driven class in 1998 and 2004. San Diego has been home to this car throughout its life. The car received a total engine and drive train overhaul in 1989, and total restoration of the remainder of the car followed immediately thereafter. This included new wire wheels, replacement of windshield, convertible top, side windows, chrome, gas tank, and interior upholstery. In 1990 I had the car repainted to my favorite Jaguar color & Opalescent Blue. In February of 2018 extensive rework was done by Classic Showcase (cost $13,123), and additional rework was accomplished in 2019, including new clutch and installation of a brand new five speed transmission (cost $16,810). All maintenance and upgrade receipts are available.

1969 Jaguar XKE to be sold at McCormick’s Auction
SALEEN Cup Delivers Single-Make Exotic Racing

The Saleen Cup is the first-ever “arrive and drive” racing series. Drivers apply to rent a race car, and all 20 cars are kept in track-ready status by Saleen. This series based on Saleen cars, offers prospective drivers and a turnkey, once-in-a-lifetime racing opportunity where all cars are equal—allowing the best driver to showcase his or her skills.

The Saleen Cup Series takes place during the second half of the 2019 Blancpain GT World Challenge America series. This race in Portland is the inaugural round of the Saleen Cup. After this, the series heads to Watkins Glen, Road America, and then a finale at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

The Saleen Cup series includes two 50-minute races at each event. Two driver are permitted behind the wheel of each of the 20 cars. The series includes two separate categories: Young Drivers (less than 23 years old), and Gentlemen Drivers (23 and older). At the conclusion of the five-race series, the top driver from each category will secure a paid ride in Saleen’s GT4 America entry for the entire 2020 season!

The cost to drive in the Saleen Cup series is $42,000 per weekend, or $170,000 for the season. Because the Saleen 1 Cup series features two-racer teams, the cost to participate can be split between two drivers. That makes a per driver cost of only $21,000. Contact the Saleen Cup staff at this event if you’re interested in signing up.

Saleen 1 Cup Car Technical Specifications
• Racing version of the new Saleen 1 supercar
• Engine: 2.2-liter turbo four-cylinder
• Horsepower: 450
• Weight to power ratio: 3 Kg/HP
• Holinger sequential gearbox with paddleshift
• Adjustable racing suspension
• TM Performance racing brakes
• Front: 6-piston calipers, 380mm disks
• Rear: 4-piston calipers, 355mm disks
• 18-inch racing wheels
• Advanced racing aerodynamics designed via CFD analysis
• Front splitter
• Rear diffuser
• Rear wing
• Safety equipment according to the FIA international specifications
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.
- Arnott, the industry leader in aftermarket air suspension products, has introduced new aftermarket replacement air springs for the 2013-Range Rover and 2014-2018 Range Rover Sport.

All-New Jeep Gladiator Test Drive
continued from page 6
This automatic was what I drove and it works flawlessly whether on the freeway or handling 5,000 rpm in low-range off-road. This V6 makes 285 hp and 260-lb-ft of torque – adequate for driving with an engine stop/start fuel saving feature.

“Infiniﬁt’s Logo is meant to represent a horizon”... of exciting New Products
continued from page 4
SUV and moving its global headquarters back to Japan in order to gain more synergies with its parent Nissan.

This is good news for loyal Infiniti fans who were devoted to the G and loved the FX, as this means new products are coming, presumably with more help from the Nissan stable.

To be sure, Infiniti’s latest offering, the QX50, is one of the best-looking luxury SUVs in the mid-size segment, sporting the first series production engine that can vary compression ratios on the fly for both power and efficiency. The QX50, however, is built on a unique platform, not currently shared with any other vehicles in the Nissan (or for that matter Renault) portfolio. While it’s a cracker of a chassis, delivering a smooth, capable ride, gone are the days when automakers can continue to grow deploying single-use platforms.

The soon-to-be-a-collector’s item QX30 is a great looking SUV introduced e-Power on the compact.

“Infiniti’s Logo is meant to represent a horizon”... of exciting New Products
continued from page 4
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The soon-to-be-a-collector’s item QX30 is a great looking SUV introduced e-Power on the compact.
Hagerty Publishing “Never Stop Driving” Book

McKeel Hagerty in a recent telephone interview explained to me how he got the idea for publishing Never Stop Driving. He said, “......I was attending a global conference on the auto industry in 2017 when the CEO of an AI Tech company working on driverless technology said to me ‘......I am sorry what we are doing is going to put you out of business.’” That started me thinking on how we needed to counter that misconception. Thus the idea for Never Stop Driving was born along with other programs Hagerty Media Properties LLC is developing.

The fact is, everyday, countless millions of Americans still find relief from their over-connected stressed out lives by just going for a drive, or simply working on their cars.

In fact, everyday, countless millions of Americans still find relief from their over-connected stressed out lives by just going for a drive, or simply by working on their cars.

With glorious photography and sharp writing, Never Stop Driving: A Better Life Behind the Wheel author and auto journalist Larry Webster – along with an A-list cadre of other top automotive journalists - presents the case for the mental and social benefits of driving and engaging with automobiles. It also shows you – from dreaming about a car to living with it - how to jump in and get the most from your machine. “The book is essentially a love letter to the art and act of driving,” says Webster. “With driverless cars on the horizon, it’s worth celebrating the fact that for many people there are enormous benefits to simply taking a drive in the country or getting dirty under the hood.”

The book celebrates the many benefits and pleasures of driving, racing, finding, owning and tinkering with cars, from the sense of freedom and adventure they offer to the sheer rush of commanding an object that represents a high point of human ingenuity and design. “When you see that green flag wave, you immediately undergo a sort of reversible lobotomy,” writer/racer Sam Posey muses. “Everything from your mortgage payment to your lingering self-doubts about your ability–it all vanishes.”

For some, there’s even a meditative aspect to cars. To them, owning, driving and maintaining a car is an intentional act of being “in the moment,” a form of mechanical Zen, as it were. That focus drives out the distractions of modern life and demands that we be “present”.

Never Stop Driving even offers practical, how-to advice on choosing and buying that perfect weekend car from collector and dealer Colin Comer, who has bought and sold thousands of vintage cars over the past 33 years: “I think I have enough deals under my belt to know one thing: It doesn’t matter how many or what kind of cars you buy, there isn’t one of us who hasn’t screwed up at least once.”

Like no other book out there, Never Stop Driving shines a light in a new and profound way on why we find these machines so captivating and why, as a nation, our love affair with cars and car culture is certain to thrive long after the advent of the autonomous age.


We also set up tracks for hire for Car Shows and other Events. We have hosted Slot Car Events for charity at the Indy 500, Reunions, Pepsi 400 and can set up anywhere you want a fun event.

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Nexen Tire America, Purple Heart Foundation Team Up to Give Away 2020 Jeep Gladiator

- Following Nexen Tire’s successful “American Muscle for American Heroes” program in 2018, the “Nexen Hero” program provides a deserving Purple Heart Medal recipient a custom 2020 Jeep Gladiator Sport S equipped with 35-inch Nexen Roadian MTX Extreme Off-Road Mud Terrain Tires.

- Program designed to honor combat-wounded service members’ sacrifice to nation and bring awareness to Purple Heart Medal recipients.

- The Nexen Hero program runs May 15 to July 24 and winning recipient to be announced on National Purple Heart Day, Aug. 7.

Last year, Nexen Tire showed its gratitude for the safety and security provided by U.S. service members through the “American Muscle for American Heroes” program by providing a deserving Purple Heart recipient with a 2018 Dodge Challenger R/T 392 Scat Pack equipped with Nexen Roadian HP All-Season radial tires. Purple Heart recipient and retired Marine Cpl. Steven Diaz was selected to receive the custom Nexen Tire Purple Heart Dodge Challenger. He was selected by representatives from The Purple Heart Foundation from thousands of nominations across the country.

Diaz was severely wounded by an IED (Improvised Explosive Device) explosion while conducting combat operations in Iraq in 2005. The incident left him with the permanent effects of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Post Traumatic Stress (PTS) and a seizure disorder. Since medically retiring from the military, Diaz has dedicated himself to helping other veterans suffering from similar injuries by co-founding Hidden Wounds, an organization that helps “Heroes battle the invisible war at home” where he currently serves as its chief operating officer and program manager.

This year’s campaign continues Nexen Tire’s commitment to show its appreciation to America’s combat-wounded heroes for their incredible sacrifices while defending the nation’s safety, while also maintaining a commitment to keep drivers safe on the road by manufacturing some of the industry’s most reliable and highest-quality tires. The program is also designed to help bring awareness to the Purple Heart Medal and its recipients to ensure their devotion to the nation does not go unnoticed.

The Jeep Gladiator, which is being customized by legendary car builder Kenny Pfister of Zero 60 Designs in Corona, CA, will feature several Mopar aftermarket parts and other customizations, in addition to one-of-a-kind Nexen Tire and Purple Heart graphics. Pfister and his team at Zero 60 Designs were the customizers behind the 2018 Dodge Challenger R/T 392 Seat Pack for the “American Muscle for American Heroes” program.

“Last year, Nexen Tire dedicated itself to bringing awareness to America’s combat wounded veterans, and after the amazing success of the ‘American Muscle for American Heroes’ campaign, we are thrilled to continue our relationship with the Purple Heart Foundation and kick off an all new program to give a Jeep Gladiator to a very deserving combat-wounded veteran,” said John Hagan, executive vice president of sales for Nexen Tire America Inc. “Our heroes’ dedication to providing safety and security to the nation naturally aligns with Nexen Tire’s commitment to creating the safest and most reliable tires on the road, so was very important for us to continue this program and work to bring even more awareness to the sacrifice of these combat-wounded heroes.”

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“Our motto has always been to honor their sacrifice with our service, and we will continue to support the Nexen Tire’s Nexen Hero campaign in any way we can.”

The nomination period runs May 15 to July 24 and the recipient will be announced August 7, National Purple Heart Day. Nominees must be a member of Military Order of The Purple Heart and the winning veteran will be selected by members of the Purple Heart Foundation based on a variety of factors including heroism, sacrifice and an ongoing commitment to their community. For more information, visit https://purpleheartfoundation.org.

“American Muscle for American Heroes”

About Purple Heart Foundation:
The Purple Heart Foundation is a 501(c)3 Veteran Service Organization that fundraises for programs, scholarships, the Purple Heart Foundation has funded academic scholarships, the MOPH National Service Officer program, research efforts and resources regarding veteran issues such as Post-Traumatic Stress and Traumatic Brain Injury, grants for service dogs, and much more. The Purple Heart Foundation’s Mission is to holistically enhance the quality of life for all veterans and their families, providing them with direct service and creating an environment of camaraderie and goodwill among combat wounded veterans.

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 engineering. And as part of a select group of tire manufacturers worldwide that are specified as standard fitment on new vehicles, Nexen delivers premium products at a sensible price.
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

Daisywagen Service has served the Seattle area since 1980. Daisywagen is a family run business and Larry Dreon’s daughter Candace Hopkins recently took over the company. Daisywagen is the premier independent Volvo service specialist in the Northwest. With six employees and seven service bays, Daisywagen can work on 20 to 25 cars a day.

Daisywagen is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Appointment are recommended, but walk ins are welcome. All work is guaranteed for 24 months. Look for the Daisywagen Service, LLC ad in the Auto News Service Directory.
Conveniently located at 12700 Bel-Red Rd. in Bellevue, Washington, Biggs Eastside can serve the entire Seattle metropolitan area. They specialize exclusively in Land Rover and Range Rover service, and you can expect the best quality of service available for Land Rovers in the entire northwest.

The shop has an Autologic diagnostic system with all the latest software, capable of everything the Dealer’s TestBook can do and more, even on the newest models. Unlike many independent shops, they also carry a full line of factory equipment and replacement parts. All the technicians are Land Rover factory, ASE and ASA certified.

Biggs Eastside is truly the “dealer alternative.” For more information, log onto www.biggsrovers.com and look for the Biggs Eastside Automotive ad in the Auto News Service Directory.

Jeri Drager, owner of Drager’s Classics, has been in the collector car business for over 30 years. Jeri’s dad opened Drager’s Harley Davidson in 1950 on Dexter Avenue, and Jeri eventually converted the store to a classic car show room. He also maintained a location on Aurora for years.

In 2001, Jeri moved his operation to 18805 Aurora Ave. North where he has converted a warehouse into a classic car and motorcycle show room and museum featuring ‘30s, ‘40s, ‘50s and ‘60s American cars, old motorcycles, pedal cars, toys, old bikes, signs, automobilia and stuff. We suggest you call ahead (206) 533-9600) and Jeri will take you for a trip into the past.

Drager’s Classics has over 100 classic cars, motorcycles, and bikes on display. Jeri calls his place “Drager’s Club House” and rents it out to friends and customers for parties, meetings and special events. Drager’s Classics is open by appointment only, and you can check out the inventory online at www.dragers.com. Look for the Drager’s Classics ad in the Auto News Service Directory.
Thank You To All Our Legends of Auto Gala Partners - See You Next Year 8/13/20
Automakers Promote Pet Safety Programs

continued from page 4

DNA. Now, we are starting to see other manufacturers follow suit. Here are just a few examples of what car companies are doing to keep our furry friends safe on the road.

Hyundai - A long trip or a trip to the mall are made easier with Hyundai pet safety and travel accessories. With Hyundai pet seat covers your seats stay clean and your pet will be much more comfortable. Hyundai also makes pet ramps help small or elderly pets climb in and out of your vehicle with ease. And Hyundai pet liners keep your floor clean and dry. Toyota – Toyota has a full line up of vehicles built for adventure with your pets. The Rav4 features a 60/40 split, reclining, fold-flat second-row seat which is a perfect place for your pet. The Toyota Tundra is a great vehicle because it boasts plenty of room for the kids and your pets. In addition, the Toyota 4Runner is another pet-friendly vehicle that you can explore. This model has 40/20/40 split reclining and fold-flat second-row seat to give you more space for your luggage and the gear for your pet.

Mazda – Mazda cars are for pet lovers too! The Mazda 5’s fold-flat rear seats, rear lift gate, low ride height, spacious cabin and handy under floor storage make it an ideal vehicle for a dog owner. In addition to producing pet-friendly vehicles, Mazda also has an ongoing partnership between the Mazda Foundation and the SPCA.

Honda – How about those Helpful Honda People? Many Honda dealerships participate in an annual Helpful Honda Pet Adoption to help dogs and cats find their forever homes. By hosting pet adoptions at dealerships, they provide new pet parents with free dog washes, leashes, food bowls and doggy bags.

These are just a few examples of what car companies are doing to keep our pets safe. Here are a few helpful hints on pet safety for car travel.

• Pets should have their own space in the vehicle, preferably in the cargo area or restrained in the back seat using a leash and harness
• Don’t ever leave your pets in a hot car
• Don’t let your pets distract you or risk getting injured during sudden stops
• Make your pets comfortable, give them a blanket or chew toy to help them relax on the road

As Pet Industry Expands – Services Expand (photo Auto News)
This Season’s Guests:
Eddie Murphy, Seth Rogen, Ricky Gervais, Matthew Broderick, Jamie Foxx, Sebastian Maniscalco, Martin Short, Mario Joyner, Melissa Villaseñor, Bridget Everett, and Barry Marder.

About Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee:
Jerry Seinfeld’s roving talk show combines coffee, laughs, and vintage cars into quirky, caffeine-filled adventures with the sharpest minds in comedy. This season’s guests include: Eddie Murphy, Seth Rogen, Ricky Gervais, Matthew Broderick, Jamie Foxx, Sebastian Maniscalco, Martin Short, Mario Joyner, Melissa Villaseñor, Bridget Everett, and Barry Marder.

Previous seasons of the series are currently streaming on Netflix.

A New Season of Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee Comes to Netflix on July 19, 2019

Jerry Seinfeld on his way to get coffee with fellow comedian Eddie Murphy on Jerry’s show Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee (photo Netflix)

Karlman King 2 Million Dollar SUV (Story on pages 3 & 7)
Mecum Monterey 2019 Daytime Auction Approaches $40 Million

Mecum’s recent collector car auction, held Aug. 15-17 in Monterey, California, brought $32.2 million in overall sales by auction close, and totals have since reached $38 million with the addition of successful post-auction Bid Goes On deals and sales of vehicles within the Blackhawk Exposition offering. As negotiations continue, Monterey totals are still growing and quickly closing in on the $40 million mark. Leading the live auction’s top-selling vehicles was a magnificent 1967 Ferrari 275 GTB/4 (Lot F119) that brought in a strong $2.75 million.

The GTB/4 was far from the only Ferrari to demonstrate a strong demand at the Monterey auction. In fact, top sales were dominated by Ferrari’s finest, with the top two high sellers both of the Prancing Horse brand and the top 10 list including a total of four Ferrari factory creations. While it was a vintage Ferrari that came out on top, the second-highest seller hailed from modern-day Maranello in the form of a 2014 Ferrari LaFerrari (Lot S102) that sold for $2.64 million. Other seven-figure sales included a 2015 Porsche 918 Spyder (Lot F91.1) with low miles and the desirable Weissach Package, which sold for $1.43 million; a one-of-200 1966 Ferrari 275 GTS (Lot F122) that brought $1.1 million; and the last 289 Cobra sold to the public (Lot F139), CSX2588 (Lot F139) at $1,045,000. 1936 Crocker Small Tank (Lot S103) at $825,000. 1935 Auburn 851 SC Boattail Speedster (Lot S131) at $742,500. 2015 Porsche 918 Spyder (Lot F91.1) at $1,430,000. 2014 Ferrari LaFerrari (Lot S102) at $2,640,000. 2015 Porsche 918 Spyder (Lot F91.1) at $1,430,000. 2016 289 Cobra (Lot F122) at $1,100,000. 1966 289 Cobra (Lot F91.1) at $1,430,000. 1965 Shelby (Lot F122) at $1,100,000. 1965 Shelby 289 Cobra (Lot F91.1) at $1,430,000. 1966 Ferrari 275 GTS (Lot F122) at $1,100,000. 1965 Shelby 289 Cobra (Lot F91.1) at $1,430,000. 1966 Ferrari 275 GTS (Lot F122) at $1,100,000. 1936 Crocker Small Tank (Lot S103) at $825,000. 1935 Auburn 851 SC Boattail Speedster (Lot S131) at $742,500. 2015 Porsche 918 Spyder (Lot F91.1) at $1,430,000. 2015 Porsche 918 Spyder (Lot F91.1) at $1,430,000. 1936 Crocker Small Tank (Lot S103) at $825,000. 1935 Auburn 851 SC Boattail Speedster (Lot S131) at $742,500. 1967 Ferrari 275 GTB/4 (Lot F119) sold at $2,750,000. 2014 Ferrari LaFerrari (Lot S102) sold at $2,640,000.

The complete top 10 collector-car sales at the Mecum Monterey 2019 auction include:

1. 1967 Ferrari 275 GTB/4 (Lot F119) at $2,750,000
2. 2014 Ferrari LaFerrari (Lot S102) at $2,640,000
3. 2015 Porsche 918 Spyder (Lot F91.1) at $1,430,000
4. 1966 Ferrari 275 GTS (Lot F122) at $1,100,000
5. 1965 Shelby 289 Cobra (Lot F91.1) at $1,430,000
6. 1936 Crocker Small Tank (Lot S103) at $825,000
7. 1935 Auburn 851 SC Boattail Speedster (Lot S131) at $742,500
8. 2015 Porsche 918 Spyder (Lot F91.1) at $1,430,000
9. 2014 Ferrari LaFerrari (Lot S102) at $2,640,000
10. 2015 Porsche 918 Spyder (Lot F91.1) at $1,430,000

1967 Ferrari 275 GTB/4 (Lot F119) sold at $2,750,000.

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