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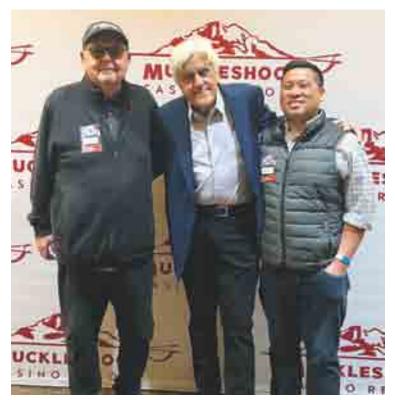


Auto News Publisher and Digital Editor meet with Jay Leno at Jay's NW Comedy Show

By Bill McCallum

As we "Spring into Summer" let's recap events of interest from last month. FIRST ... our second annual NW Legends of Auto event held at Griot's Garage and Scale Racing Center honored Richard Griot, Auto News Editor Sally Hanson, Doug Ikegami of Doug's Auto Group, and we re-honored Steve Saleen who traveled from Los Angeles to attend the event.

SECOND - Chris Chung our Digital Editor and I attended the Jay Leno Show at Muckleshoot Casino in April and had a short visit with Jay during a "Meet & Greet" before the show. (see photo below) Jay performed to a "packed-house" with his unique brand of humor. As I have said before "Jay Leno gave me the inspiration to grow Auto News" (see story on page 19) and FINALLY we presented 4 Auto News Foundation scholarships to students from Northwest Automotive Tech schools at our NW Legends of Auto Event. (see photos on page 18 &19) Have a nice summer!!



Bill McCallum (Left) & Chris Chung meet with Jay Leno at Comedy Show (photo Auto News)

Genesis GV70 Sport Prestige 3.5 T Adds New Features for 2026 Model Year



Genesis GV70 Sport Prestige (photo Auto News)

By Bill McCallum

During the last four decades there have been four standard OEM automotive brands that have introduced a luxury brand in the U.S. market. (Toyota w/Lexus, Honda w/Acura, Nissan w/Infiniti and Hyundai w/Genesis) The transition to a luxury brand has been a "rocky-road" for most of those OEM's who took this journey. Most industry experts agree that best "road to luxury" was created decades ago by Toyota with the Lexus Brand.

It's my opinion that Hyundai with their Genesis Luxury Brand is moving "down-the road" faster than those who took this journey before

Here are few reasons why:

1- Adding new "free standing" dealerships across the U.S.

2- Industry leading exterior design

3- Competitive pricing and adding new models .(see .. 2026 GV70 3.5T Sport Prestige AWD photo above) with industry leading

exterior design & interior design, base MSRP of \$ 70K, 3.5L Twin-Turbo V6 engine, 11 Advanced Safety Features, and an "industry first smaller/wider "DATA SCREEN) 5" tall x 27" wide, with all the basic driver features in front of the drivers "line-of-sight" reducing "driver distraction."

If your looking for a Sporty Luxury SUV, I suggest you "TEST DRIVE" the 2026 Genesis GV70 3.5T Sport Prestige AWD at your nearest Genesis Dealer.

Rick Case Honda Celebrates Number 1



(L to R) Lance Woelfer, Ryan Case, Kazuhiro Takizawa, Rita Case, Raquel Travaline, Takashi Imai (photo Rick Case Auto Group) Story on page 14 & 15

SEE 12 SHOWCASE TEST DRIVE REVIEWS ON PAGES 14 & 15



Monterey "Car Week" August 2025



Bill McCallum publisher

Monterey Car Week 2025, the second week in August, should be on your "bucket list" if you haven't already attended. As auto enthusiasts from around the world travel to Pebble Beach/Carmel/ Monterey, CA. the feature events of note start on

WEDNESDAY - 8/13/25 with the Hagerty Motorlux event held at the Monterey Airport.

THURSDAY - 8/14/25 ... The Concours Village at Pebble Beach Lodge (above) the Peter Hay Golf Course opens at 9:00 am to 6:00 pm all week, featuring automotive vendors, artists, a media center, and a LEGENDS OF AUTO pre-

FRIDAY 8/15 ... For those unable to get tickets to the auto maker supported Quail Automotive Event in Carmel Valley there are still tickets available for the Paddock International Car Show at the Bayonet Black Horse Golf Course 3 pm to 8 pm.

SATURDAY 8/16 ... The 40th Anniversary of Concorso Italiano, also held at the Bayonet Black Horse Golf Course, while downthe-road race fans can check out activities at Laguna Seca race

On SUNDAY 8/17 ... Auto enthusiasts will gather at the "WORLD FAMOUS" Concours d' Elegance held on the 18th hole of the Pebble Beach Golf Course. (See photo on page 12)

...We will be there ...Will You ???

RAM 1500 RHO Sweeps 3 Categories Drive In Hyundai's at Mudfest 2025



Digital editor

Mudfest 2025 wrapped up under the gray skies of Shelton, Washington — perfect weather for testing how today's crossovers, trucks, and SUVs really handle the muck. Now in its 31st vear, the Northwest Automotive Press Association's (NWAPA) annual event brought together 21 vehicles and 19 auto journalists for two days of side-by-side testing, both on pavement and off the beaten path.

The headline-grabber this year? Ram's new 1500 RHO Crew Cab 4x4. With a twin-turbo inline-six and serious off-road capability, it swept three major categories -Outdoor Activity Vehicle of the Year, Best Pickup, and Extreme Capability Vehicle. The RHO handles like a refined daily driver but absolutely devours the trail. It earned its wins fair and square.

On the electrified front, the Hyundai IONIQ 5 XRT took home Best Electrified Activity Vehicle and Best Two-Row Family SUV. Hyundai's ruggedized take on the IONIQ blends bold design with real-world utility, and its AWD system impressed the jury with both traction and tech.

Another standout? The 2025 Subaru Forester Touring Hybrid, which took Best Value. Subaru knows its audience in the Pacific Northwest, and this Forester delivers a solid mix of comfort, efficiency, and everyday

An Electrifying Ioniq 6



Sally Hanson editor

After introduction of many electric vehicles, the EV market continues to be a concept many consumers seem reluctant to embrace. When the Hyundai Ioniq 6 Limited came my way, I found my concerns were erased about this alternative fuel fulfilling all my driving needs.

The mid-size sedan is offered in three trims all of which can be single motor rear wheel drive or dual-motor all wheel drive. Front seating is comfortable, but rear seating headroom and foot space is tight. The driving range in the Ioniq 6 Limited is 270 miles.

After getting acquainted with the EV, I encountered an Ioniq 6 owner who had purchased the vehicle a year ago. Asking what he likes about the sedan began a rave review. His favorites are:

• The aerodynamic styling with active grille shutters funneling cool air to help keep the battery at an optimal temperature and side vents lowering resistance with a stream of fast-moving air around the front tires. Arear spoiler adds to the styling and creates downforce to add stabilizing grip.

• Dual color ambient lighting adds a soft glow throughout the cockpit. • In as little as 18 minutes, using a 350kW DC Fast Charger, it can charge from 10 to 80%. New Ioniq 6 owners receive two years of complimentary 30-minute charging

Chrysler Pacific Hybrid "Test Drive"



LA feature writer

"Why doesn't someone make an electric minivan?" is a question I've heard asked over the years. Well, someone does. Sort of.

The Chrysler Pacifica Hybrid is a PHEV, or plug-in hybrid vehicle. Top up the battery, and it lets you drive around for an estimated 32 miles with no gasoline involved. In theory, it could be used as an electric vehicle for pretty much all your local driving.

As an experiment, I wanted to see if I could spend an entire week with a 2024 Pacifica Hybrid and never make use of the V6 gasoline engine. I have a 240-volt (Level 2) charging station at my home, and I wasn't planning on doing any long-distance trips. For the most part, it worked.

I did have to plug the Pacifica in multiple times, of course, but that's what anyone living in a single-family home could do. When the battery state-of-charge got down to single-digit mileage, I topped it up. Since it's relatively small (16 kWh), the EV battery can be completely charged in two hours at 240 volts. Full battery; 30+ more miles of driving.

Of course, the Pacifica has the practicality of a minivan going for it. This particular one was the high-end Pinnacle trim, so the second row captain's chairs resembled business class seats in an airplane. Tons of room in the back for cargo, even without the

Kia Carnival Hybrid wins high praise from grandsons



SF feature writer

Sometimes, the best review is the reaction that you get from others in your family. In my case, it was my grandsons (ages 11 and 8) who said it best: "This is our favorite car!"

The car they were referring to is the 2025 Kia Carnival Hybrid SX Prestige, the latest iteration of Kia's not-so-mini stylish and versatile multi-purpose vehicle. The three-row Carnival has always been a family favorite, but with hybrid technology now in the mix, the Carnival is more fuel efficient than ever, sure to provide significant savings at the gas pump.

Defying the humdrum minivan image, the Carnival Hybrid features a bold, SUV-like design that draws attention everywhere it goes. From its sharp LED lighting to the bold fish-scale-like grille, the Carnival exudes a premium look that feels at home in upscale driveways. The SX Prestige trim elevates the exterior with stylish 19-inch alloy wheels and gloss-black accents, adding a touch of sophistication. My grandsons quickly dubbed it "the cool car" upon seeing it parked in the driveway.

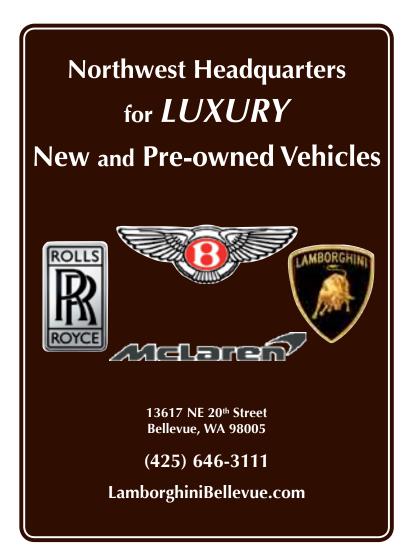
But it was the luxury interior that thrilled the boys the most. The cabin is a beautiful blend of comfort and technology, featuring plush leather upholstery, heated and ventilated seats (in the second row too!), and two sunroof panels that floods the space with natural light. The twin 12.3-inch displays for the driver and

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I guess you can call me Electric Jim.



Jim Trainor feature writer

It all started when my wife and I decided to leave southern California and build a home in northern Michigan shortly after ending our careers and almost 20 years in southern California. How we reached this decision is the topic for another article.

Building a new home comes with an almost endless number of decisions, everything from floors to the number of bedrooms to the design of the door handle to the closet. Oh, one more – should the garage be equipped with a 240volt outlet that would provide Level 2 charging for an electric vehicle? We opted in.

Besides, I had just bought a new battery-powered lawn mower to go with my electric leaf blower, electric trimmer, electric chain saw and the king of them all, electric snowblower. All battery operated so cords and extension cords were a thing of the past. And, more importantly, no more gas cans, spills in the driveway, mixing oil for two-stroke engines, and messy trips to the

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Northwest **Legends of Auto March Event**



Vicky Tran writer

I recently had the opportunity to attend the PNW Legends of Auto Event. This event is an annual event to honor legends in the automotive world and provide scholarships to help aspiring technicians reach their goals from the generous hearts of established leaders in the auto industry. To accomplish this, our Publisher Bill McCallum partnered up with Griot's Garage and the Scale Racing Center to host a wonderful evening for the legends, scholarship winners, friends, and family.

To start things off, Nick Griot gave us a tour of their car display showroom, this month's theme is Ferraris from 1964 to the recent 2020. Griot's Garage hosts Caffeine & Gasoline every first Saturday for the community to come together and share their passion and love for cars if you'd like to experience it for yourself.

Next up they showed us where they make all their content under bright lights, the YouTube tutorial started during Covid times and continued on. They have a team that travels year round to represent Griot's Garage on the road. Next, Nick showed us some of his dad's Richard's collection, the private

continued on page 18

2025 **RAM ProMaster EV**



truck writer

Ram is the latest brand to bring electrification to its utility van offerings with a new Pro-Master – all electric – for 2025. I recently had a chance to drive one of these at a demonstration in Michigan. It was everything I expected. Quiet, quick, and simple. In fact, electric service and delivery vehicles are an improvement for in this segment that, in my opinion, can't come fast enough. Because delivery vans run set routes – or work in stop/go short range urban service areas; the drawbacks of electric power are very few. These trucks will work all day and recharge over night. Their usage cases have way fewer charging variables than electric passenger vehicles. Also, from a business perspective, over time they will cost less to run, cost less to service and last longer

Arriving late this year are two EV models. The ProMaster EV delivery model and the Cargo model. The Cargo model is available as a 12-foot box – or as an extended 13-foot box. Both versions come with a 110-kilwatthour (kWh) battery pack that has a targeted range of 261

Blue Book Best Buy List

Kelly



Jordan Williams millennial writer

Kelley Blue Book and company recently published their 11th annual Kelley Blue Book Best Buy Awards, featuring their favorite cars, trucks, and SUVs.

Executive Editor, Brian Moody, states the awards span a range of vehicle sizes, prices and other financial considerations, such as reliability and the resale market.

Take a look at what made their 2025 Best Buy Awards list:

Best New Model 2025 Toyota Camry **Best in Class Subcompact SUV** • 2025 Hvundai **Best Compact SUV** • 2025 Honda CR-**Best Midsize SUV** 2025 **Best 3-Row EV** • 2025 Kia EV9

Best Electric Vehicle • 2025 Hyundai Ioniq 5 **Best Compact Car** 2025 **Best Midsize Car**

• 2025 Toyota Camry **Best Minivan** 2025 Toyota Sienna **Best Compact Truck**

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Slot Car racing in Europe compared to the USA



Allen Smith motorsports writer

In 1957 the Slot Car Racing Industry ignited when Fred Francis, owner of a miniature Model Car Company, electrified his tin plate model cars. His company was called Scalex, as while good models they were not to a specific scale.

This new line was then renamed Scalextric the "tric" because they were now motorized, with a small electric motor, and could be driven on a model race car track.

Sales took off as almost every little boy wanted to be a race car driver, and Model Car racing was born.

The by produce of that was a love and passion for Cars that was instilled in generations of children. They became enamored with racing and cars in general, and the real car Industry supported that with themed race sets for their brands.

Across the pond in the USA the first experiences most had with Scale Model Car Racing, or Slot Car Racing as it is known here, was Scalextric. But the cost of an imported toy from Europe and the construction methods was not well received

Scalextric cars were still tin

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Do We Have **An Endless** Supply of Oil



Larry Weitzman EV specialist

About a week ago I received a thoughtful email from a reader, Richard, who was worried about the world running out of energy, mainly petroleum. Richard remarked of traveling all over the U.S. by car and airplane and with all the tens of thousands of airline (and military) flights daily using tanker trucks loads of fuel, how long can we sustain this usage. And Richard is correct as even a late model Boeing 737 carries about 7,000 gallons, more than a single tanker truck.

All major airports have a fuel farm containing millions of gallons of fuel in mostly above ground tanks that is distributed throughout the airport via an underground system and trucks. Jet fuel use amounts to about 66 million gallons a day or about 8 percent of our daily consumption of petroleum products.

Automobiles consume nearly 43 percent of our petroleum production, or about 370 million gallons a day.

Diesel Trucks (along with some

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Alfa Romeo Stelvio Second Generation Quadrifoglio **AWD**



Ary Voss feature writer

"A Race machine in compact wagon or SUV Guise" OVERVIEW:

The Alfa Romeo Stelvio Quadrifoglio AWD first appeared as a 2019 compact wagon, or was it a compact SUV, or was it a race car in disguise? It's styling is unmistakably Italian with curvaceous, sexy lines. It's power is surprising as is its overall handling and performance.

In any case, it is a front wheel drive, four door set of hot wheels that seats five in comfort – at least in the front seats.

FERRARIESQUE MOTIVE FORCE:

The engine is a 2.9 -liter Twin Turbo/intercooled DOHC 24valve with Port Direct Injection V6 with Stop/Start. it is not a Ferrari power plant, but was designed by former Ferrari engineers.

Horsepower is 505 @ 6,500 rpm with 443 pound feet of torque @2,500 rpm. The engine mates to an 8-speed automatic transferring energy to all four wheels. It's capable of catapulting this Alfa from 0-60 mph in 3.3 seconds .The EPA rating is 17 mpg city, 23 mpg highway and 19 combined mpg.

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RIVIAN R1S and R1T



Texas feature writer

Rivian has a lot to offer, including three battery packs to fit the customer's needs. On my quick test drive, it featured high-tech features and great performance. The handling was excellent, and the ride was very comfortable. Pricing for the R1S starts at \$75,900 and jumps to \$99,900 for the dual tri-Motor Max Pack battery. The dual-motor has 533hp 610lb-ft. With a 0 to 60 mph at 4.5 seconds. The Quad Motor has 1,025 hp 1,198 lb-ft and 0 to 60 mph in less than 2.5 seconds.

There are many combinations to select from so visiting a showroom is recommended. The exterior is subject to one's taste and is different than most large SUVs on the market today. The nextgen R3 has much better styling for my taste. Some model configurations can be purchased in as little as 6 days. However special orders can take as long as six to twelve weeks EST.

The Interior is well laid out and crisp-looking. Craftsmanship is outstanding and the dash is well laid out. The Infotainment system is well-positioned and easy to use but the steering wheel knobs as small and hard to get used to.

continued on page 27

Cam Clark Features A Culture of **Community Service**



Lynn Rehn writer

The kindness of Canadians is renowned worldwide, a trait deeply embedded in the nation's culture and reflected in the actions of its citizens. Nowhere is this more evident than in the community service initiatives led by the team members at Cam Clark-owned dealerships. From its humble beginnings in Canada to its expansion into the United States, the Cam Clark Auto Group has built a reputation not just for exceptional customer service, but for fostering a deep commitment to community involvement and philanthropy.

To keep things personal I took guided tours and self guided snoops of 11 of these dealerships, it was a remarkable experienced based on my own past, when I had carved a niche in our families dealership through volunteering in our community - directions came from ownership to write my own job description with a small stipend for my efforts included. No negotiations - just saying. One of my favorite quotes from the interviewing process was with a Parts and Service Manager as he described the community they served and service this man had said "I am PROUD TO WEAR THE SHIRT" with its Cam Clark logo on it and he meant it!

2025 Honda **Ridgeline AWD Trail Sport**



Scot McCallum feature writer

Honda has made a cannonball splash with its 2025 Ridgeline AWD TrailSport mid-sized truck. My test drive was a Diffused Sky Pearl vehicle which is one of the most beautiful and exotic car colors available on the market! The trim lines and overall unibody design are appealing. The 280hp 3.5-liter VTEC V8 engine delivers power and 20mpg. The Ridgeline handles like a car but has all the "truck" you could want with its i-VTM4 AWD System. locking trunk space below the bed, and independent suspension.

The interior is spacious, comfortable and quiet. External visibility is exceptional, and inside the navigation, display. and 7-speaker audio system are intuitive. The Ridgeline is rich with Safety, Sensing, and overall Technical features. Best of all. you know the quality you will receive from Honda when you invest in this fantastic truck at an affordable price point. Holiday season is approaching, so treat yourself and test drive the Ridgeline at your nearest Honda dealer.







EV (Electric Vehicles) News and Strategies





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Climates Around The World Have Been Changing For Centuries: Global Warming Has **Been Causing Climate Change For Decades**

by Bill McCallum

Is the climate changing around the world? Yes!!

Of course it Is !! Is this global event some thing new? No!!

History tells us deserts around the world used to be green and loaded with vegetation and other areas around the world are turning into deserts because of lack of water caused by climate change. And yes the polarice caps have been moving up and down for centuries because of climate change.

The question of the day ... is the overall temperature around the world warming? The answer is yes. The question is why and what can we do about it!! The idea that we can solve the problem by "electrifying the U.S." is a "pipedream" created by idiots and it's time we come to our senses.

The fact is ... India, China and other Asian countries contribute over 35% to 40% of the global pollution and they have not indicated any willingness to change. While we are helping to fund climate programs in other third world countries the United States percentage of global warming cause and affect is closer to 30%. While EV's and other forms of transportation will always be part of the answer they will NEVER be all of the answer.

It's time we reach out to the uninformed climate change promoters with some facts and new ideas like 1-Eliminate U.S. dependency on plastics 2- Explore new fuel sources such as hydrogen. 3- Stop buying products from Global Polluters such as China 4- Stop giving our tax dollars to third world countries when in fact they are not part of the real problem. 5-Reopen and build more nuclear power plants. 6- connect U.S. grids ASAP.

Have a nice day!!..... and thank you for reading Global Auto News.

I guess you can call me Electric Jim.

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But, was I ready for the big step to an electric vehicle?

Honestly, when we made the decision to install the 240V outlet, the thinking was that down the road we might consider an EV. But the decision happened much faster than we anticipated. Part of this was due to leases expiring on our Hyundai Sonata Hybrid and Hyundai Santa Fe. After being treated poorly by the Hyundai dealer in town, we found ourselves at the local Kia dealership. We made the relatively easy decision to replace our Santa Fe with a Sorento Hybrid, rated at 37 MPG. Nice. Fuel economy is important to me.

But, what to do about the Sonata replacement? After a

few days of research (mostly YouTube) and a test drive -- not to mention a \$13,500 company rebate -- we were the proud lessees of an EV6 GT Line AWD in Runway Red and with 327-mile range. All for a lease price of about \$44,000,

Here's the six-month review.

For many northern Michigan residents, the idea of switching to an EV comes with a mix of excitement and hesitation. Harsh winters and rural living can make EV adoption feel like a leap of faith. But for me, the transition has been nothing short of exceptional.

The EV6 has the 300+-mile range that many today consider a minimum number. Of course, that number dips substantially in the winter due to the obvious reasons (although I've been a bit surprised by how much juice is used by the HVAC fan.) To this I say: "So what?" We live about eight miles out of town and the vast majority of trips are in the continued on page 7





AUTO NEWS® BYTES

"Words Matter" "DIGIPRINT" & "DATA DRIVEN" (dd)

As our industry moves closer to the total domination by technology we are still creating NEW WORDS that explain what we do in the publishing world. Therefore we have a new word "Digiprint", that we will be using to help explain how we have grown to the largest consumer Auto News paper in the U.S. and will continue to grow.

Starting in 2026 you will see the word "digiprint" on our online rate card and the printed version. The word will help explain how our advertisers can buy a combination of digital "e-mail fast blasts" and print ads.

In our next issue we will explain how the term "DATA DRIVEN" (dd) is being used by the tech industry to define "ai" which is just another "money-grab" by those inventing and building computer chips.

Stay tuned: Bill McCallum, Publisher

WORDS MATTER AND THEY ARE THE KEY TO INTELLIGENCE

by BILL McCALLUM, Publisher

A New International Hydrogen Partnership

As industry and mobility decarbonize, the demand for hydrogen is growing. In order to counteract the two main challenges involved in the widespread provision of the energy source, Purem by Eberspaecher is entering into a strategic partnership with AMBARtec AG. Their common goal is the efficient transport and safe storage of hydrogen.

Market analyses show that hydrogen demand will increase in the coming decades in mobility, industry, and the energy sector. The start-up AMBARtec concerns itself with the challenge of widespread availability. The Saxony-based company is bringing a process for transporting and storing hydrogen onto the market, known as HyCS® technology (Hydrogen Compact Storage Technology). A strategic partnership signed between AMBARtec AG and Purem by

Eberspaecher is intended to drive forward the scaling of the process developed by the start-up. The exhaust technology and acoustics specialist will take over the production of the storage containers in which the hydrogen is stored. "In our collaboration with AMBARtec, we see great potential for an emerging technology: thanks to our expertise in the area of materials science in relation to hydrogen and our competence in the area of industrialization, we provide considerable added value for the development of new storage and transport options for the energy source," explains Benjamin Brenkel, Executive Vice President Business Unit Europe. Uwe Pahl, Technical Director at AMBARtec, stresses that: "To implement our HyCS® technology, we need a partner with extensive practical expertise, particularly in continued on page 9

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Breaking News: Auto News scales readership reach (RR) to 1,000,000 per month. Reader reach (RR), a new terminology of the digital world that includes our national print distribution, direct mail, our print distribution via automotive retail locations located in 7 Western states in addition to our digital editions including email digital fast blasts, You Tube, X (twitter), Facebook,

Pinterest, Linkedin, Instagram, TikTok, and impressions from their 15 automotive writers across the United States.

Auto News intends to continue to build its readership reach with an aggressive expansion plan in 2024 for its print, digital and affiliate programs. Make sure to follow their progress at the link below or online at <u>autonewsonline.com</u>.



2025 RAM ProMaster EV "Test Drive Report"

continued from page 3

kilometers in city driving. Most owners will be using a Level 2 wall changer (which delivers up to 11 kw), however the ProMaster will also accept a Level 3 DC fast charger that delivers up to 50 kw. The charge port illuminates while the vehicle is charging and has an audible sound alert to confirm the connection.

This ProMaster architecture. has been designed specifically for electrification, featuring a unibody design that incorporates the battery pack. The battery is

positioned under the floor in the centre of the vehicle, maintaining a flat floor while cargo volume is unchanged from the gas-powered vehicles. The battery pack drives a 200-kilowatt (kW) electric drive module (EDM) which delivers 268 hp and 302 lb.-ft. of torque using the standard frontwheel-drive capability.

All versions have a 159-in. wheelbase, and an extended super-high-roof. Other new driver features include an available heated steering wheel and heated windshield. New available safety and security features include Park Sense with stop, white noise backup alarm and "normal" backup alarm.

Another new feature on this ProMaster is a rear roll-up door. Built of anodized aluminum its light weight yet durable. A passenger-side sliding pocket door is also now standard on the Ram ProMaster EV delivery vehicle. This will ease ingress and egress while making deliveries.

The handling of cargo is the number one consideration for continued on page 7



2025 ProMaster EV delivery van. Photos are all factory.

Kia Carnival Hybrid Wins High Praise from Grandsons by Keith Turner



Kia Carnival Hybrid (photo Keith Turner)

continued from page 2

infotainment system are seamlessly integrated, providing easy access to navigation, entertainment and hybrid system monitoring.

The second-row VIP lounge seats with leg rests are a game-changer, offering a level of comfort typically reserved for luxury sedans. My grandsons wasted no time declaring them "the best seats ever!" thoroughly enjoying the reclining function and bun warmers during our weekly trip to school and back. The rear entertainment system, with individual screens and wireless connectivity, kept them entertained, ensuring peace and quiet up front

for grandpa.

The Carnival Hybrid pairs a 1.6-liter 4-cylinder turbocharged engine with an electric motor, delivering a combined 242 horsepower. The hybrid system offers smooth acceleration, responsive handling, and an impressively quiet ride, even at highway speeds. What stands out most is its fuel efficiency-boasting an EPA-estimated 33 mpg combined, the Carnival Hybrid drastically reduces trips to the pump compared to its gas-only counterpart.

On the road, the Carnival feels nimble for its size, easily maneuvering through tight city streets and

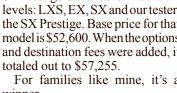
cruising effortlessly on the highway. The Heads Up Display is very informative and the high-definition digital rearview mirror is a stunning way to keep an easy eye on the traffic behind you. There's even a crystal-clear passenger camera monitor that allows me to keep an eye on the boys as they reclined in their comfy captains' chairs.

Cargo space is generous, with 40.2 cubic feet behind the third row and up to 145.1 cubic feet with the second-row seats removed, and the third-row rear seats folded flat into the floor. However, the thirdrow legroom is a bit tighter than expected. While young children may not notice, taller teens or adults will find it uncomfortable for long trips. This minor shortcoming slightly diminishes its appeal as a full three-row family hauler.

The Carnival Hybrid SX Prestige passed the true test by winning the approval of my grandsons. They loved the spacious second row, the entertainment options, and the futuristic tech. Their only complaint? They didn't want the ride home from school to end.

The 2025 Kia Carnival Hybrid SX Prestige is available in four trim levels: LXS, EX, SX and our tester, the SX Prestige. Base price for that model is \$52,600. When the options and destination fees were added, it

For families like mine, it's a winner.



Slot Car Racing Europe vs. U.S.

continued from page 3

plate, and their track made of rubber so expensive to ship to America.

Several toy companies here in the USA sent sample to Hong Kong to be analyzed. They produced a cheaper version with plastic track and cars and Slot Car Racing started to boom in the

So much so that car Manufacturers commissioned Slot Car Sets to be given out to new buyers of cars so their children could play at car racing. This endorsed branding too where children as they grew became owners of real cars from the brands they played with in their childhood.

Americas fascination with Slot Car Racing saw an explosion in sales and from that a new Industry grew, and that was Commercial Slot Car Tracks. Across America somewhere between 3000 to 10,000 raceways appeared and the Slot Car crazed took off.

With this and the need for speed the industry of hopped-up cars grew rapidly with new motors, gear, tires and bodies arriving every Month or so. The speeds continued on page 19





in the Transition to EV's ".....We **Are Floating On** The Stuff (Oil)!"

by Larry Weitzman

continued from page 4

allocation for heating oil and power plants) burn up about 20 percent of our petroleum production or about 166 million gallons every day.

Next on the list is hydrocarbon gas liquids (propane, butane, etc.) which account for another 18 percent of our consumption. The rest (about 19 percent) is spread out for industrial and other small uses, including aviation gas used in light planes (0.012 percent) which amounts to less than a million gallons a day, a literal drop in the bucket of petroleum use. The United States uses about 20 percent of the world's oil daily at about 20 million barrels a day. China for example consumes 15 percent of the World's daily oil consumption which totals about 98 million barrels a day, worldwide. At 42 gallons a barrel, you can convert all these numbers to gallons. The U.S. uses 840,000,000 gallons a day. Seems like a considerable number, but total world consumption is about 4,000,000,000 gallons a day. And we have been doing this for decades, over a trillion gallon a year. Where does it all come from and when does it all run out? The short answer is not for several hundred of years.

First let us talk about proven reserves which are listed at about 1.7 trillion barrels or almost a 50-year supply at current rates of consumption which have remained at near current levels for the last 15 years. Experts, geologists, and oil engineers believe it could be more than 5 times that amount. We are floating on the stuff, and we are not running out for centuries.

First, there is now credible evidence that oil is not just from dinosaurs and rotten plants. Both the late Cornell professor Thomas Gold, an astrophysicist and the Russians have a different theory of oil as Cornell described it in his book "The Deep, Hot Biosphere,

the Myth of Fossil Fuels. Oil comes essentially from bacteria and gases from within the Earth.

Second, we should understand how little oil we have used since about 1950, a total of about 1.5 trillion barrels. Before 1950, the world was consuming about 10 percent of what we use today. In the scheme of things, very little.

Let me draw you a picture of how little oil we have used. Most, if not all, of my readers have seen Lake Tahoe. Lake Tahoe is a mere speck in relation to the Earth covering almost exactly just one/one millionth of the surface of the Earth (196 million square miles). Its average depth is almost exactly 1,000 feet. If Lake Tahoe were filled to the rim with oil (not Brim) it would hold one trillion barrels of oil. That is an amount that's about 2/3 of the entire proven oil reserves, just in the speck known as Lake Tahoe.

Alaska has oil producing areas amounting to tens of thousands square miles going as much as 20,000 feet deep. The Bakken oil producing area around North Dakota encompasses over 200,000 square miles. The Permian Basin located around Texas and New Mexico has about 100,000 square miles, and I haven't even mentioned Pennsylvania, Saudi Arabia and the middle east, Lake Maracaibo, and Russia.

We are not running out of energy, not even scratching the surface. But with the advent of the pebble bed modular nuclear reactor which I discussed in this column 15 or so years ago, nearly all stationary power should be nuclear, and petroleum should be used only for transportation because of its amazing energy density. That would even further extend the life of petroleum stocks out another century or two. The only risk to the scarcity of petroleum is government regulation by do-gooders and climate wackos.

The Balancing Act | Jim Trainor Reports On Buying An All-New Kia EV6

"Call me **Electric** Jim...."

continued from page 5

20 mile range. Often, heading to a golf course, or a winery (or two...), or a sightseeing excursion means might travel 50 to 100 miles or more. All super attain-

Further, I've been pleasantly surprised at how capable the EV6 is in the snow. "Snow Mode" gets us up our steep driveway and through 10-inches of snow without issue. The heated seats and steering wheel got warmer quickly and hotter than in any other ICE vehicle I've owned. Winter hasn't been an issue at all, including days with below zero temperatures and with snow almost every day.

I cut a deal with our local electric utility for a \$10 monthly rebate if I charge the EV6 from between 11 p.m. - 7 a.m. so that'swhat I do. It's easy to set a timer of simply plug in the car. We've gone weeks without having to charge while using the car every day. It's surprising how far 250 miles is when tooling around town. Even better, a full charge runs me about \$17 and I figure I'm saving about \$100 per month not having to buy gas. Plus, one gets great pleasure seeing folks at the gas pumps on 2-degree days fishing for their credit cards and filling up their gas cans for the snowblower. Plugging in at home feels like second nature now. For anyone on the fence

about EV ownership in places like northern Michigan and other cold parts of the country, I can confidently say it's worth it. The one "must have," though, is an EV charger at home. To attempt to do this while only being able to charge remotely would be foolhardy. But with at-home charging capability, and a second vehicle for lengthy road trips, it seems silly and oldfashioned not to.

Oh, did I tell you that my EV6 looks cool?

2025 RAM ProMaster EV "Test Drive Report" by Howard

Elmer

continued from page 6

van buyers. The ProMaster EV includes best-in-class features, such as 524 cubic feet of cargo space, standard best-inclass interior cargo height of 86 inches, a low load-floor height and max width between wheel wells. The cargo van features up to 3,020 lb of payload while the delivery configuration offers up to 2,030 lb of payload.

Ram Commercial is well known for providing upfitterfriendly offerings. The new Ram ProMaster EV continues this tradition. It has standard upfitter electrical connector and an integrated cab configuration for easy upfitter/conversion solutions. Adding to the new ProMaster design for adaptability, virtually all primary vehicle systems are packaged forward of the cargo area. This body can be upfitted for virtually every conceivable commercial need because of its unique front-drive system and body-integral construction. It has the most vertically oriented sidewalls in the cargo van category (nearly 90 degrees in relation to the cargo floor) combined with a best-in-class cargo width of 75.6 inches.

Two key considerations for prospective van buyers are visibility (this means, glass, mirrors and cameras) and safety systems (both for the driver and for pedestrians). Both of these important features have been addressed in the ProMaster EV. For instance, ProMaster features a standard high-resolution backup camera with dynamic grid lines. The available digital rearview mirror displays video in real time in all driving modes from a rear-facing camera and can be turned off to revert to a traditional reflective mirror. The digital rearview mirror is available on all ProMaster models and provides an unobstructed rear view. Also available on the Ram ProMaster is 360-degree Surround View camera. The system offers 360-degree, bird's-eye views of the vehicle and its surroundings, enhanced by dynamic grid lines displayed on a 10.1inch digital touchscreen.

For 2025 the safety and security list continue to grow and offers the following features:

Full-Speed Forward Collision Warning,

Crosswind Assist Rear backup camera with dynamic grid lines.

Post-collision braking, **Drowsiness Detection** Traffic sign information Auto high-beams

Cornering function fog lamps, Push-button starter,

Keyless entry (all doors) Electric parking brake.

Optional safety and security features include:

Intelligent Speed Assist, Lane Keep Assist,

Adaptive Cruise Control with Stop & Go

Front parking sensors

Rain-sensingwindshieldwipers. Ram ProMaster will also feature Secure Park, a feature that prevents the vehicle from being shifted out of "Park" unless a key is present.

Also of note is a continuing progression towards autonomous driving. ProMaster has an Active Driving Assist feature that provides Level 2 (L2) automated driving capability. This consists of hands-on-wheel and eyes-onroad automated driving using lane centring with adaptive cruise control. The system uses multiple sensors, including radars and cameras to dictate appropriate roads for the technology.

The 2025 Ram ProMaster EV is available for order now and should be on dealer lot's late this year.





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Tesla Drivers Have Highest Accident Rate, | Disrupting EV 2nd Year in a Row [LendingTree Report]

Tesla drivers are involved in more accidents than drivers of any other brand for the 2nd year in a row. Top 5 Worst Drivers by Car Brand (Driving incidents per **1,000 drivers)**

- 1. Tesla (37)
- 2. Ram (34)
- 3. Subaru (33)
- 4. Audi (32) 5. Mazda (32)
- LendingTree's auto insurance

expert and licensed insurance agent, Rob Bhatt, had this to say:

"It often costs more to insure a car with high crash rates. Regardless of your car's reputation, you will pay more for insurance if you have moving violations or accidents on your driving record. It's important to stay alert and responsible behind the wheel, regardless of the vehicle you drive.

No car makes you invincible. Not even a Tesla can protect you from getting into an accident or getting a ticket. Nor can a Subaru or Ram truck.'

Tesla, Ram and Subaru have the worst drivers in the nation, according to a Lending Tree analysis of 30 car brands. For the second year in a row, we found that Tesla drivers are involved in more accidents than drivers of any other brand.

Researchers calculated the number of driving incidents per 1,000 drivers for every brand to determine the best and worst drivers by car brand. The rankings include; accidents, DUIs, speeding-related incidents, and citations. Here is what we found:

• Tesla, Ram and Subaru have the worst drivers. Nationally, Tesla drivers had 37 incidents per 1,000 drivers — up significantly from 31 in last year's analysis. Ram and Subaru driver are involved in 34 and 33 incidents, respectively. Tesla drivers are the worst in nine states.

- Mercury, Pontiac and Cadillac have the best drivers. Mercury drivers had 19 incidents per 1,000 drivers nationally—about half the rate among Tesla drivers—making it the best brand two years in a row.
- Pontiac overtakes BMW as the brand with the highest DUI rate. Pontiac drivers had a DUI rate of 3 per 1,000 drivers — a massive jump from 1 in last year's analysis.
- Ram has the worst drivers in **16 states.** That means Ram drivers had the highest incident rates among the 30 brands analyzed in nearly a third of states.

LendingTree's auto insurance expert and licensed insurance agent, Rob Bhatt, had this to say:

"The data shows that those who drive practical vehicles like Subarus and RAMs are involved in incidents nearly as frequently as those in zippier models like Teslas. This is a good reminder of how important it is to drive responsibly, regardless of the vehicle you drive."

Tesla has worst drivers

Going fully electric may not mean as much if you're a menace on the streets.

In fact, from Jan. 1, 2024, through Dec. 31, 2024, Tesla had the worst drivers, at 36.94 incidents (accidents, DUIs, speeding and citations) per 1,000 drivers. When we conducted this study in late 2023, Tesla ranked second-worst with 31.13 incidents from Nov. 14, 2022, through Nov. 14, 2023.

The car brands with the most driving incidents per 1,000 drivers are Tesla, Ram and Subaru.

Speed can play a role here. The cheapest Tesla—a standard Model 3 with rear-wheel drive — can accelerate from zero to 60 mph in 5.8 seconds. Other packages of the Model 3 can accelerate from zero to 60 in 4.2 and 3.1 seconds.

Ram — which became a standalone brand in 2009 — follows at 33.92. That's an improvement from our last version's worst ranking, though it had a similar incident rate of 32.90. Subaru (32.85) remains third-worst, though it saw an uptick from an incident rate of 30.09.

What does that mean for drivers of these cars? According to LendingTree auto insurance expert and licensed insurance agent Rob Bhatt, it could affect insurance rates in a few different ways.

• The immediate impact is on the individual, *, he says. "Most of these incidents are going to make your rates go up. The insurance rates for specific models are more impacted by accidents than some of these other incidents. If Tesla drivers get into accidents at a higher rate than other drivers, insurance companies will probably spend more to insure them than other vehicles. This, in turn, may prompt insurance companies to charge higher rates to insure a Tesla."

Charging Chaos: **Bradford Crist's AI** Fix for a **Broken System**

Electric Vehicle (EV) adoption faces significant challenges due to inadequate charging infrastructure, leading to the growing issue of "charging anxiety." Bradford Crist, Co-founder and CEO of Chargemate, shares how his AIpowered solutions aim to make EVcharging as seamless as refueling a traditional car.

Electric Vehicle (EV) sales hit an all-time high of 1.3 million units in 2024, reflecting an impressive 7.3% growth compared to the previous year. (1) Yet, despite this milestone, the EV revolution faces a significant roadblock—charging anxiety. Nearly 20% of public charging attempts fail, leaving drivers frustrated and hesitant about the shift to electric. (2) On the latest episode of the Disruption Interruption podcast, Karla Jo Helms (KJ) welcomes Bradford Crist, Co-founder and CEO of Chargemate, a climate tech innovator helping drivers overcome these hurdles. Crist is rewriting the future of Electric Vehicle (EV) adoption by enabling AI to address real-time charging concerns while ensuring public charging systems operate efficiently.

"Our goal is a world where EV ownership is practical for everyone."—Bradford Crist, Cofounder and CEO of Chargemate

"Imagine pulling up to a gas station, only to find 20% of pumps out of order," Crist emphasizes. "We're tackling the same friction for EV drivers, empowering infrastructure providers and vehicle owners to bridge the confidence gap."

Charging Anxiety is Stalling EV Adoption

Despite its rise, EV adoption remains limited at approximately 7–10% of vehicle sales in the U.S., a figure projected to grow to 25% in a few years. However, the underlying Achilles' heel is charging anxiety, which stems from broken chargers, inconsistent payment methods, and the lack of a cohesive support system for public chargers.

"EV owners outside earlyadopter hubs like California face what we call charging deserts," Crist explains. "This creates regional disparity, with urban centers seeing adoption while rural or Midwest states remain reluctant."

Unlike filling up a traditional gas tank, EV charging requires precise coordination between hardware, networks, apps, and vehicles. The failure of any one component, like payment terminals or software handshakes between EVs and chargers, can derail an entire charging session. For new EV users, this complexity can feel overwhelming.

"Drivers shouldn't have to act as troubleshooting technicians," Crist states. "This complexity undermines the scalability of EV infrastructure, leaving prospective EV buyers skeptical.'

Chargemate's AI-Powered Roadmap to Simplify EV Charging

Chargemate offers a gamechanging solution to failed charging sessions with its AI-powered platform. Its flagship product, an AI agent, interacts with both infrastructure and drivers in real time, automating troubleshooting and restarting failed sessions in seconds. "At Chargemate, we solve two key problems," Crist explains. "First, educating drivers on proper charger use. Second, reducing friction by detecting and resolving failures with AI workflows."

No app downloads are needed drivers simply scan a QR code on chargers for instant assistance. For operators, this platform delivers valuable insights and diagnostics, cutting downtime and improving customer experience. "Imagine a road trip where EV charging is seamless," Crist says. "Our goal is a world where EV ownership is practical for everyone."

Chargemate's pilot programs span ten U.S. states, including California, Texas, and Illinois. "This is just the beginning," Crist concludes. "EV drivers and operators don't just need infrastructure—they need infrastructure they can trust."

INSIDE MALAYSIA AUTO NEWS BYTES

by Bill McCallum

Automechanika Kuala Lumpur 2025 advocates for green and innovative developments in automotive mobility for Malaysian and ASEAN markets

Automechanika Kuala Lumpur Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Malaysia, 15 - 17 May 2025

Malaysian government policies and a shifting market landscape towards AI, digitalisation, electrification, energy efficiency, and sustainability have resulted in the country becoming an attractive investment destination, driven by demand for sustainable products and solutions in the automotive industry. This year, Automechanika Kuala Lumpur 2025, taking place on 15 to 17 May, features an expanded showcase across six halls at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre. The exhibition will showcase the evolution of the Malaysian market through new zones, the return of specialised areas that spotlight new mobility solutions, the vibrant automotive culture at autoFEST@ KL, and green development throughout Southeast Asia, all around the fairground.

Under its Green Investment Strategy (GIS), Malaysia is targeting seven key areas of investment potential: bioenergy, carbon capture, circular economy, energy efficiency, green hydrogen, green mobility, and renewable energy. Nearly all of these areas intersect with the automotive sector, and green mobility, in particular, is gaining prominence in Malaysia. The drive for sustainable development has prompted leading automotive brands to enter the Malaysian market, further enhancing its appeal for auto investors and stakeholders.

Of late, Malaysia has attracted substantial investment and co-operation from global industry leaders. For instance, the Hyundai Motor Company (HMC) plans to invest USD 479 million in Malaysia over the next five years. As part of this initiative, around 30 percent of the company's vehicles that are manufactured in Malaysia will be exported to other countries in Southeast Asia[1], adding to the development of the industry and Malaysia's status as an automotive manufacturing hub for the region.

Building on this momentum, domestic leader Proton has also made significant strides by launching its first electric vehicle. With much of its stake held by Chinese manufacturer, Zhejiang Geely Holding Group, Malaysian firms such as Proton are presented with opportunities for growth and innovation as expertise is transferred through this collaboration.

Ms Fiona Chiew, General Manager of Messe Frankfurt (HK) Ltd, commented: 'Malaysia is gaining significant traction from foreign investments and government policies aimed at sustainable technologies. Together with Malaysia's ASEAN chairmanship for 2025, this positions the country to strengthen its leadership in the Southeast Asian automotive industry. However, the development spurred by these changes is rapidly reshaping the market, and local players must prioritise workforce training, skill development, and modern technologies to adapt effectively. The innovations at the 2025 edition of Automechanika Kuala Lumpur are vital for Malaysia and the global automotive industry in meeting the rising demand for charging technologies, electric parts and solutions, and automotive talent, fuelled by the energy transition.'

Answering the needs of the industry throughout the fairground

To address the new ideas, technologies, and innovations in the market, the Automotive Mobility Solutions Zone makes a return in 2025. The area will explore innovative solutions based on the latest advancements in green mobility as a response to the heightened focus on new energy efficiency, new materials, advanced technologies. and more. Exhibitors will cover topics such as AI and autonomous driving, automotive manufacturing and automation, connectivity, electrification and digitalisation, energy, logistics, and warehousing and supply chain.

INSIDE CHINA AUTO NEWS BYTES

by Bill McCallum

Auto Maintenance and Repair Expo 2025 concludes successfully, ushering in transformation for an innovative automotive aftermarket

The Auto Maintenance and Repair Expo (AMR) concluded successfully at the Capital International Exhibition & Convention Center (CIECC). Against the backdrop of the market shift towards intelligence, electrification, and green development, AMR returned to Beijing and welcomed industry peers from around the globe. The three-day event saw an increase in exhibitors, visitors and internationalism compared to the previous edition, reinforcing its role as a vital platform in the automotive aftermarket. With a diverse exhibition area and fringe events, the fair highlighted innovative technologies and emerging trends, fostering in-depth exchanges and garnering widespread acclaim from exhibitors and visitors.

Key figures from AMR 2025

- Visitor profile: 48,661 visits (7 percent increase) from 57 countries and regions (24 percent increase)
- Top ten overseas countries and regions include Malaysia, South Korea, Thailand, Japan, Poland, Belarus, India, Kazakhstan, Myanmar and the US (in descending order)
- Exhibitors: 1,186 from around the globe (12 percent increase)
- Scale: 80,000 sqm of exhibition space
- 39 fringe programme events

With over 40 years engaging in the automotive aftermarket, AMR has firmly established itself as a platform for business trading, information exchange and talent development. This year, the show covered key areas of traditional maintenance and repair, parts and components, new energy vehicles, green equipment, and smart transportation, as well as highlighted innovations in the full supply chain of the automotive aftermarket.

A glimpse of innovative technologies across the show

In the maintenance and repair sector, the show featured companies in diagnostics and repair, tyres and wheels, body and paint, car wash, and more, showcasing breakthroughs in smart technology, and efficient and precise services. Mr Sven Zhan, Sales General Manager of Shenzhen MAXLINK Technology Co Ltd, remarked: "As the exclusive distributor of SATA products in China, we decided to launch the latest spray-painting solutions at AMR because of the show's reputation in the market. For instance, as a result of higher environmental standards in China, SATA focuses on innovation and eco-friendly advancement, intelligent spray-painting technology, and working collaboratively with partners to achieve shared success. Therefore, we have reached our goals by being able to strengthen our connections with both longstanding partners and new clients while gaining deeper insights into trends like green and intelligent spray painting."



International Auto News



Hydrogen Partnership between Purem | Seattle Resident, by Eberspaecher and AMBARtec | Michael Shapiro announced in March 2025.....

continued from page 5

automated welding and generally in industrial series production. We have found such a partner in Purem by Eberspaecher.'

Efficient and safe

To store and transport the hydrogen, AMBARtec uses standard, commercially available 20-foot containers. In them, nuggets of iron oxide in vessels serve as a storage medium. During the loading phase, the nuggets are chemically reduced to iron through the addition of hydrogen. The resulting water vapor can be discharged from the vessels and channeled back in a self-contained, sustainable water cycle. During the discharge phase,

water vapor is fed into the pressure vessels. An oxidation process of the iron nuggets takes place, thus releasing hydrogen, which can be used for the purposes of energy supply or mobility. The functional principle used is both simple and efficient: initial demonstration systems confirm the high efficiency of the HyCS® technology of over 80 percent electricity to hydrogen. At the same time, the process is significantly safer, less complex and more cost-effective than transporting and storing hydrogen in liquid or gaseous form.

Expertise in flow routing and materials science

As the automotive industry

transforms, Purem by Eberspaecher concerns itself with emerging technologies, including outside the familiar automotive environment. The utilization and production of hydrogen is one of the most promising business areas. Alongside initial approaches to the development and production of high-temperature electrolyzers, the partnership with AMBARtec AG is a further step towards diversification. For the production of the storage vessels and the subsequent integration into the containers, Purem by Eberspaecher contributes its expertise in materials science as well as industrial series production and the process knowledge required for this.

Publishes Book On Cuban Car Culture.

For those of you that have been to Cuba or have followed the stories on why there are so many American cars of the 50's and 60's on the streets of Cuba today. This book will answer those questions. Seattle author Michael Shapiro made many trips to Cuba detailing these stories.

Shapiro gained his bachelor's degree from University of California Berkeley and Master's degree's in Latin American studies from the University of New Mexico. He is a lifetime member of REFORMA, the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking Community. Shapiro traveled regularly to Cuba between 1998 and 2002 to gather content for this book.

He and his wife Tanya and family currently live in Seattle, Washington.

The book is currently available from Books 4 Cars, Seattle, Washington (books@books4cars.com)

See page 23 for: Books 4 Cars information.

AStep in the Right **Direction: Rita Case** and Soles4Souls Foot the Bill for Brand Name Athletic Shoes

Nearly 500 students receive shoes

The nearly 500 students at North Fork Elementary School stepped up for a new pair of name-brand athletic shoes, socks and books through the 4EveryKid initiative led by Rita Case, president and CEO of Rick Case Automotive Group and Soles4Souls.

Volunteers from Rick Case Cares, UKG, Coach, Bealls, Broten Garage Doors, DSW, QTS Data Centers, JD Sports/Finish Line, Microsoft, Broward County Property Appraiser's office, the Mentoring Tomorrow's Leaders Team from Stranahan High School and others ensured that all students were properly fitted for the new shoes and received a pair thamatched their personality and style.

"Children outgrow shoes so quickly and 71% of students reported their ill-fitting and wornout pairs of shoes caused foot pain and discomfort that they found distracting. It's essential for students to concentrate and focus on school so they can graduate to the next grade level on time and earn their diploma," said Case, who with Soles4Souls, founded the 4EveryKid program in Broward County. "We want every student to get off on the right foot. A new pair of shoes helps them do that."

Rita and her husband Rick got involved with Soles4Souls in 2013. They began by providing coats and shoes for children at Boys & Girls Clubs in Broward County. Since becoming the founding sponsor and chief fundraiser for 4EveryKid Broward in Spring 2022, Rita has already raised nearly \$500,000 for the program with a five-year commitment to secure funding for years to come.

Soles4Souls is a global nonprofit that has provided more than 60,000 pairs of new athletic shoes to children through its 4EveryKid program. Since 2022, the organization has provided 12,960 pairs of shoes through the 4EveryKid program in Broward County in partnership with organizations such as Broward County Public Schools, the Homeless Education Assistance Resource Team (HEART) and the Boys & Girls Clubs.

After receiving new shoes, more than 94% of kids increased their physical activity, felt more equal to their peers and were more excited to participate in school. The free footwear helps parents and guardians allocate their budgets towards other essential expenses.

About The Rick Case Automotive

Founded in 1962, the Rick Case Automotive Group has been honored by Automotive News as the National All-Star Dealer and President and CEO Rita Case was named the 2024 TIME Dealer of the Year. Rick Case Automotive Group is the nation's largest female owned and operated automotive dealer group in America, offering Honda, Hyundai, Genesis, Ioniq, Volkswagen, Kia, Acura, continued on page 12



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Around the Track – Racing News



Steve & Liz Saleen Help Host the NW Legends of Auto Event as Steve is to be Honored at Monterey Car Week in August

(see story below)

The Paddock to Debut as New Highlight of **Monterey Car Week**

"Multi-Marque Event Offers Inclusive Platform for Automotive Enthusiasts"

The Paddock is set to make its inaugural appearance on Friday, August 15, 2025, at Bayonet Black Horse, on the Monterey Peninsula. Amidst the bustling schedule of Monterey Car Week, The Paddock offers a fresh, accessible venue for a diverse array of vintage, classic, race & rally, and exotic vehicles, providing a luxurious yet relaxed atmosphere away from the downtown crowds.

Tanya Kosta, Chairman of the event, commented: "For years, Concorso Italiano has offered a non-Italian marque display, and now, our parent company International Car Week is offering an expanded version through The Paddock where owners of European, Japanese, American, and other automotive pedigrees can display their prized vehicles. This new platform allows us to embrace a wider range of car enthusiasts and showcase a richer diversity of automotive excellence."

Attendees can enhance their car week experience by renting one of the limited culinary VIP cabanas, perfect for friends, families, car clubs and other groups to gather while enjoying cars and music. These exclusive spaces can be customized with amenities such as food service and a private bar, providing a perfect gathering spot to socialize and enjoy the show in comfort.

Clarence Habovstak, Director of Business Development, shared his excitement about upcoming developments: "We are on the brink of announcing some thrilling additions to The Paddock that will truly enhance the experience for our attendees. Over the next few weeks, we will unveil several specialty displays and unique features that are sure to excite automotive enthusiasts and collectors alike."

Among the early show highlights, Presenting Sponsor Saleen will hold their 25th anniversary celebration of the S7 at The Paddock, gathering several dozen owners and their vehicles in an expansive display on the show field.

Joining the excitement at The Paddock will be RADwood, the premier 80s and 90s automotive lifestyle event celebrating music, fashion, and all things "RAD." Created in 2017 as a gathering for friends in the San Francisco Bay area, RADwood quickly became a success thanks to a community of passionate enthusiasts and the power of social media.

"We are stoked to participate in The Paddock's inaugural Monterey Car Week event with a curated display of the best the RADwood era has to offer. This will include a live DJ, to set the vibe, and many icons including supercars, domestics, and imports alike," said Art Cervantes, cofounder and Director of RADwood. RADwood is more than just a vehicle display. Everyone is encouraged to dress in periodcorrect attire, and to flaunt their memorabilia. Vehicles from 1980-1999 are welcome to apply for this special showcase at the core of The Paddock event.

Keeping the event accessible is also a priority for the organizers. The ticket prices for The Paddock are set to be affordable, encouraging families to attend and support the "Take a kid to a car show" initiative, which aims to foster a love for automotive culture among younger generations.

Event Details:

When: Friday, August 15, 2025, from 3 PM to 8 PM

Where: Bayonet Black Horse, 1 McClure Way, Seaside, California, 93955

Features: Live entertainment, food & beverages, elevated VIP experiences, and a vendor village with top-tier automotive and lifestyle brands.

About The Paddock:

Launched in 2024 by International Car Week, The Paddock was established to provide a premier platform for car owners and aficionados to display their vehicles against the stunning backdrop of the Pacific Ocean. The event promises a serene retreat at the Bayonet Black Horse, known for its beautiful landscape and peaceful environment. The Paddock is a multi-marque companion event to the Concorso Italiano event which is celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2025. It is designed to serve a broader audience of car owners and enthusiasts in a fun, relaxed, yet upbeat atmosphere. The Paddock is the second event in a one-week series of events to be rolled out at Bayonet Black Horse by parent International Car Week, ultimately maximizing the use of the Grand Hyatt Resort currently underway on the property with an expected completion in three years.





Steve Saleen welcomes Kim Ray and her husband at NW Legends Event (photo Auto News)



Alan Smith presents Liz Saleen a trophy for winning a Slot Car Racing Event (photo Auto News)



Paige Iden rehonors Steve Saleen at NW Legends of Auto Event (photo Auto News)

Alpha Romeo Stelvio Quadrifoglio "Test Drive" Review by Arv Voss



Alpha Romeo Stelvio Quadrifoglio is (photo Arv Voss) (See story on page 4 and 22)



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From Around the U.S.





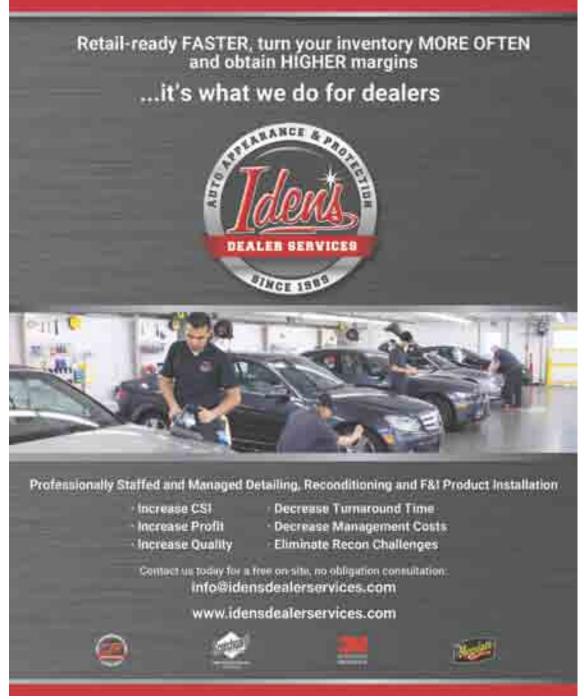
TIRE CENTERS FAST FACTS

Les Schwab Tire Centers (www.lesschwab.com) started in 1952 with just one small tire shop in Prineville, Oregon.

After more than 70 years of building on our founder's belief in honesty, service, and hard work, Les Schwab Tires is one of the leading independent tire dealers in the United States. Now, more than 8,500 employees in more than 590 locations across 15 states take pride in doing the right thing every day. That shows up in our unique tires—those we crafted specifically for the roads our customers drive on. It's in the best tire warranty in America. It's in how we stand behind the promise to do more for customers and communities, every step of the way.



Mudfest participants (Photo Credit: Doug Berger) - Story on same page



Rick Case Auto Group Donates Tennis Shoes for

Students...!

continued from page 9

Audi, Mazda, Maserati, Fiat, Alfa Romeo, Honda Motorcycles and E-Z-Go golf carts. Celebrating more than 60 years in business, the Rick Case Automotive Group has 12 dealerships in South Florida and Georgia. The South Florida dealerships are known for holding national sales records, consistently ranking among the top performers in markets they serve. Rick Case Automotive Group is headquartered at 14500 W. Sunrise Blvd. in Sunrise, Florida. For more information, visit www.RickCase.com.

About Soles4Souls

Soles4Souls turns shoes and clothing into educational and economic opportunities. Our programs, 4Opportunity, 4Relief, 4EveryKid and 4ThePlanet, aim to make a positive difference on the planet and in people's economic, educational, physical, and psychosocial well-being. Since 2006, more than 103 million pairs of shoes and pieces of clothing have helped create opportunities for people across 138 countries. Soles4Souls is headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee, with Regional Donation Centers and warehouse locations around the world. Visit soles4souls.org for more information.

Chris Chung Reports on 2025 "Mudfest" Winners !

continued from page 2

AWD confidence — a reminder that you don't need to drop six figures for a capable adventure companion.

Vehicles were tested at The Ridge Motorsports Park, with Day One focusing on road manners and Day Two throwing down the mud, ruts, and elevation changes. The result? A lineup of winners that don't just look good in a brochure — they perform where it matters.

Full Categories & Winners Below:

• Two-Row Family SUV: 2025

Hyundai IONIQ 5 XRT

- Three-Row Family SUV: 2025
 Jeep Wagoneer Series II Overland
 Luxury SUV: 2026 Genesis
- GV70 3.5T Sport Prestige
- Pickup Truck: 2025 Ram 1500
- RHO Crew Cab 4x4
- Electrified Activity Vehicle: 2025 Hyundai IONIQ 5 XRT
- Extreme Capability Vehicle:
- 2025Ram1500RHOCrewCab4x4

 Best Value NW Outdoor
- Activity Vehicle: 2025 Subaru Forester Touring Hybrid
- NW Outdoor Activity Vehicle of the Year: 2025 Ram 1500 RHO Crew Cab 4x4



RAM 1500 RHO (Photo Credit: Doug Berger)





From Around the U.S.



Concorso Italiano Adds **International Paddock** on 8/15/25

We're proud to welcome Saleen as a Presenting Sponsor of Concorso Italiano 2025. Known worldwide for engineering excellence, dramatic styling, and raw performance, Saleen has spent more than four decades redefining what American automotive innovation looks like. Under the direction of racer-turned-builder Steve Saleen, the company has consistently delivered vehicles that turn heads and push boundaries—and none more so than the legendary Saleen S7.

While Saleen is not an Italian marque, they have participated in Concorso Italiano for many years. Our audience has always appreciated exceptional automobiles—cars that deliver stunning design, captivating presence, and extraordinary power. The Saleen S7 fits seamlessly into that tradition. Its carbon-fiber bodywork, butterfly doors, and mid-mounted 7.0-liter V8 engine earned it a global reputation as one of the most compelling supercars ever produced.

This year, Saleen has chosen Concorso Italiano as the stage for the official 25th Anniversary Celebration of the Saleen S7. Attendees will have the rare opportunity to view several examples of the S7, meet Steve Saleen himself, and learn more about the car's remarkable design and development. The display will serve as a highlight within our world-renowned show field-one that represents the convergence of innovation and beauty.

In addition to their presence at Concorso, Saleen is also sponsoring The Paddock, our multi-marque sister event held on Friday, August 15, from 3 PM to 8 PM at the same Bayonet Black Horse location. While The Paddock showcases an eclectic mix of enthusiast cars and brands, Concorso Italiano remains the definitive celebration of Italian automotive excellence.

Celebrating 40 Years of Passion, Design, and Community

This year marks 40 incredible years of Concorso Italiano. For four decades, our event has been a destination for collectors, enthusiasts, designers, and fans of Italian motoring and lifestyle. More than just a car show, Concorso is a reunion of old friends, a stage for new ideas, and a vibrant celebration of craftsmanship, performance, and culture.

From the earliest Ferrari and Lamborghini models to the most modern Alfa Romeos, and Fiats, Concorso has always brought together the most breathtaking examples of Italian design. If you've ever dreamed of showing your car, this is the year to do it. If you've walked the fairways with friends and family in the past, we invite you to return and celebrate this milestone with us. If you've never experienced Concorso before, there has never been a better time to attend.

We are also accepting a limited number of non-Italian cars in our curated special display area. If your car represents outstanding style, racing history, or coachbuilt craftsmanship, we encourage you to apply. Each entry is reviewed to ensure it fits within the spirit and atmosphere of Concorso Italiano. Now is the Time - Secure Your Place on the Show Field

Whether you're a passionate car owner, a dedicated vendor, or a returning guest, now is the time to act. Spaces are filling quickly, and advance registration ensures you don't miss this landmark cel-

Register Your Car: We are accepting Italian makes of all eras, along with a limited number of special display vehicles. Be part of a legendary show field.



Chris Chung, Auto News Digital Editor pictured at Monterey Car Week 2024 at Pebble Beach (photo Auto News)



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Rick Case Honda **Celebrates** #1 Ranking

Rick Case Honda in Davie brings a number one ranking to South Florida as the dealership recently celebrated that number one ranking as the top Honda dealership in the United States. The most awarded and largest volume Honda dealer in the country, Rick Case Honda led all dealerships nationally in 2024. No other dealer in South Florida has ever accomplished this epic milestone.

"This is a truly a special day for us and for our team here at Honda, without whom we would not be celebrating these incredible milestones," said Rick Case Automotive Group President and CEO Rita Case. "We are number one, and we are ready to break records in the U.S. again in 2025. We just completed a brand new, beautiful, state-of-the-art facility just for our customers, and we are excited to share it with them."

In a league of its own, Rick Case Honda also received the President's Elite Award for the 17th consecutive year, a feat no other volume Honda dealer in the U.S. has ever achieved. The award is based on overall dealership performance including volume, operational excellence, customer satisfaction and facility. President's Award status is reserved for approximately 15% of Honda dealerships annually. To this day, Rick Case Honda remains the world record holder for the greatest number of new Hondas sold in one month with 1,222 sold.

Kazuhiro Takizawa, President, CEO and Director of American Honda Motor Co., Inc. and an executive officer of Honda Motor Co., Ltd., addressed the Rick Case Honda team. "I am impressed by the history of Rick Case Automotive," Mr. Takizawa said. "You take care of our customers. Since we've been here you all are here selling cars, servicing cars and taking care of customers for us. Thank you very much for all of your decades-long efforts. I really appreciate it."

American Honda Motor Co. Vice President of Automobile Sales Lance Woelfer congratulated Rita and her team on an amazing year. "We couldn't be prouder of our association and relationship with Rick and Rita and all that has been accomplished," Woelfer said. "Leadership drives a great experience, but it's also about the interaction they have each and every day with the Honda team here and their customers. You can't win the President's Award 17 years in a row without really taking care of the customer."

In addition to Mr. Takizawa and Mr. Woelfer, Case was joined in the celebration by 427 associates and 15 executives from American Honda Motor Company. In addition, Rick Case Honda officially introduced the brand-new "Blue Stage" Honda facility, designed to enhance and elevate the customer experience, and the grand opening of the Honda Power of Dreams Store. Serving as a one-stop for everything Honda including recreational vehicles as well as side continued on page 15

SHOWCASE REVIEWS

Genesis GV80 Coupe MHEV



Genesis continues to grow the brand across the U.S. and the GV 80 MHEV 4 door SUV has helped fueled that growth while competing with other luxury SUV's

BASE PRICE: \$85,750 * TYPE: 4 door SUV ENGINE: 3.5 L Turbo V6 **HORSEPOWER:** 375 hp TRANS: 8 speed AT MPG: 22 highway

Hyundai Santa Fe Hybrid Calligraphy



Hyundai market share continues to grow in the U.S. and the 4-door Santa Fe Hybrid SUV helps fuel that growth.

BASE PRICE: \$49,050 * TYPE: 4-door SUV ENGINE: 1.6T 4 cvl. **HORSEPOWER:** 231 hp TRANS: 6-SPEED AT **RANGE:** 34 mpg. combined

Lexus LX 700 h



The Lexus LX 700h is considered to be the "the best" luxury SUV in the market with more room, comfort & technology. **BASE PRICE:** \$121,105 * TYPE: 4 door SUV **ENGINE:** 3.4L V6 Hybrid HORSEPOWER: 409 hp TRANS: 10 speed AT MPG: 22 highway

LEXUS TX 350 AWD



The Lexus luxury brand success in the U.S. is based on design, quality, value & new models like the TX 350 AWD

BASE PRICE: \$64,210 * TYPE: 4 door / 3 row SUV **ENGINE:** 2.4L 4 cyl Turbo HORSEPOWER: 275 hp TRANS: 8-speed AT **MPG:** 26 highway

TOYOTA Corolla CROSS HV



The Toyota Corolla Cross is another one of Toyota's entry level models that helps the brand maintain its LARGEST BRAND in the WORLD title.

BASE PRICE: \$30,640 * TYPE: 4 door SUV ENGINE: 2.0L, 4-CYL, Hybrid **HORSEPOWER:** 196 hp TRANS: Sport Drive Mode,

MPG: 42 combined

Grand Highlander Nightshade Hybrid



The Toyota Grand Highlander has been upgraded for this model year and is "bigger" and "better" with more room & additional safety features.

BASE PRICE: \$52,610 * TYPE: 4 door SUV **ENGINE:** 2.5L 4-cyl HORSEPOWER: 362 hp **TRANS:** AWD w/Trail Mode MPG: 34 combined

* All information listed "AS TESTED"

autonewsonline.com/showcase reviews



SHOWCASE REVIEWS

Honda Accord Hybrid TRG



Honda's all-time best selling Accord sedan, hybrid model continues gain market share as

BASE PRICE: \$39,300 * TYPE: Sedan

ENGINE: 2.0 Liter Direct Injection **HORSEPOWER:** 204 hp customers look for economy **TRANS:** 4-Mode Drive System

MPG: 46 city

HONDA Civic 4D Hybrid SP TRG



The Honda Civic continues to be a "best seller" for Honda offering "best value" and "best combined MPG" of 49 mpg.

BASE PRICE: \$31,750 * TYPE: 4-door sedan **ENGINE:** 2.0 liter 4 cyl. HORSEPOWER: 158 hp TRANS: 4 Mode Drive System MPG: 49 mpg combined



MAZDA3 Premium PLUS HB AWD



Mazda has been upgrading their lineup with value based models offering new safety and security features.

BASE PRICE: \$36.950 * TYPE: 4 door SUV

ENGINE: 2.5 liter SKYACTIV Turbo HORSEPOWER: 227 hp TRANS: SKYACTIV Drive 6 speed

MPG: 31 highway

MAZDA MX-5 Miata Club



Summer is here !! Time for a convertible ?? The Miata MX-5 Club is a favorite & the "best value" on the market today.

BASE PRICE: \$30,640 * TYPE: 4 door SUV ENGINE: 2.0L, 4-CYL, Hybrid HORSEPOWER: 196 hp TRANS: Sport Drive Mode, ECVT MPG: 42 combined

Toyota Prius XLE



Toyota still leads the industry in the hybrid segment with the Prius. With an all-new design the Prius is still the leader.

BASE PRICE: \$35,592 * **TYPE:** 4-door hatchback hybrid **ENGINE:** 2.0L DOHC 4 cyl. **HORSEPOWER:** 196 net HP **TRANS:** Electronic All-Wheel Drive MPG: 50 highway

TOYOTA RAV 4 Hybrid XSE



The Toyota RAV 4 combines Value, Economy, and Toyota's Safety Sense 2.5 w/ Pre collision features to make it an overall "best seller' for the brand.

BASE PRICE: \$37,560 * TYPE: 4-doorSUV ENGINE: 2.5L 4 cyl. Hybrid HORSEPOWER: 219 hp **TRANS: EVCT** MPG: 39 combined

* All information listed "AS TESTED"

autonewsonline.com/showcase reviews

Rick Case Honda #1 Ranking

from page 14

by sides, ATVs, motorcycles, dirt bikes and generators, the new store combines Honda vehicles and power sports in one facility.

Also joining the celebration was Lateefah Dooling. When Rick Case Honda opened its doors in Davie in 2002, Dooling, then 11 years old and a member of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Broward, sang the National Anthem. Twenty-three vears later, she returned for an encore performance.

"It feels wonderful just coming back in, seeing the growth from when I was given this opportunity 23 years ago," said Dooling, who is a special education teacher with Broward County Public Schools and who grew up as a member of the Boys & Girls Clubs. "Although the years have gone by, I feel truly amazed and very honored to come back and be part of this celebration.'

Rita and Rick Case have supported Boys & Girls Clubs for decades. Together, they created, developed and led fundraising initiatives that raised more than \$120 million for organizations in South Florida, a legacy that continues today. For the Boys & Girls Clubs, Rita and Rick were instrumental in building 15 clubs, serving 12,000 members. Since 1982, Rick Case Bikes for Kids has distributed more than 120,000 gently used bicycles donated by the community to children in need, including members of the Boys & Girls Clubs, during the holidays.

Case also has a storied history with Honda that dates back to her childhood in Santa Rosa, California, where her parents owned a small foreign car repair shop. Her family later added Honda motorcycles in 1959, the first year Honda was introduced in the U.S. In 1968, Honda approached her parents about selling their Honda car in the U.S. when it was to be introduced, and they became the first Honda auto dealer in America. In 1970, when the first cars came in, customers were skeptical because they were so small. Case sold Honda cars after school each day and managed to convince customers that Hondas got better gas mileage and were easier to maneuver than other cars on the market. After she married Rick Case, she moved to Ohio where he also owned Honda motorcycle and car dealerships, before relocating to South Florida.

About The Rick Case Automotive Group

Founded in 1962, the Rick Case Automotive Group has been honored by Automotive News as the National All-Star Dealer and President and CEO Rita Case was named the 2024 TIME Dealer of the Year. Rick Case Automotive Group is the nation's largest female owned and operated automotive dealer group in America, offering Honda, Hyundai, Genesis, Ioniq, Volkswagen, Kia, Acura, Audi, Mazda, Maserati, Fiat, Alfa Romeo, Honda Motorcycles and E-Z-Go golf carts. Celebrating more than 60 years in business, the Rick Case Automotive Group has 12 dealerships in South Florida and Georgia. The South Florida dealerships are known for holding national sales records, consistently ranking among the top performers in markets they serve. Rick Case Automotive Group is headquartered at 14500 W. Sunrise Blvd. in Sunrise, Florida. For more information, visit www.RickCase. com.





Women in the Auto World



Previously Featured: "Women in the Auto World"

Lyn St. James - Indy Race Driver Felicia Fields - Ford HR VP Mary Barra - GM CEO Michelle Christensen – Acura Design Lisa Copeland – FCA Dealer Sandra Button - Pebble Concours Courtney Kramer - Auto News **Amber Geissler – Reaction Motorsports**

Monika Kalenski - MEK Magnet Chanterria McGilbra - Prancing Ponies Foundation Nancy LeMay - LeMay Family Collection Muffy Bennett - Car Collector Jennifer and Abbie Biggs - Repair Shop Owner Carolyn Jackson - VP Brand Strategy Barrett-Jackson Monterey Touring Vehicle (MTV) Heather Gardner Pam Nelson - Nelson Auto Group

Joyce Chow - Social Media Mogul in Hollywood Sarah Deccio - Distribution Mgr. Valerie Thompson – Motorcycle Racer Ashley, Courtney & Brittany Force - Drag Racing Champions Toyota of Marysville - Ladies at Work Dana White - Chief Comm. Officer - Hyundai N. America Rita Case - Rick Case Auto Group Connie Peters - Automotive Writer

Rick Case Automotive Group and American Heart Association Donate 250 CPR Anytime Kits to ...

Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital and Broward Health Infant, child and adult kits were distributed

"Our goal is to make sure that every family can go home with one of these CPR kits so they can save their child's life if they needed to because they'll have the equipment, tools and training right at home," said Rita Case, President and CEO of Rick Case Automotive Group. "What inspired me are the facts that 90% of people-infants, adults, children—all ages that have a cardiac arrest outside the hospital die. If they're administered CPR within the first few minutes, it doubles and triples the chance of survival. Up to 80% survive, so when you go from 90% passing away to 80% survival with a 30-minute training kit, I said, 'I have to be involved in this."

The self-facilitated CPR Anytime Training Kits allow for learning basic lifesaving skills in about a half hour in the comfort of one's home. Kits were recently distributed at Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital to the families of hospitalized children to take home with them, so they can confidently and successfully learn to administer CPR to their children, other family members, friends or strangers anywhere, anytime.

"Learning CPR can be very intimidating, but there's not one of us who doesn't have someone in our families or in our lives that's impacted by heart disease. By having a kit at home, you can practice and learn not to be intimidated," said Caitlin Stella, CEO of Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital and Pediatric Services. "You never know when you're going to save somebody's life. It could be any one of us, anytime, anywhere. I want to thank Rita for being so forward thinking and open to being able to give this gift to our community."

In support of Nation of Lifesavers, AHA's campaign is designed to turn bystanders into lifesavers by encouraging more people to learn CPR and act in emergencies. In total, over the next three years, 750 kits, including infant, child and adult kits, will be distributed throughout Broward County hospitals and NICUs. Each year in the U.S., more than 23,000 children experience cardiac arrest outside of the hospital and 350,000 cardiac arrests occur outside of the hospital.

"Thanks to the generosity of supporters like Rita Case and Rick Case Automotive Group, we are one step closer to achieving our goal of equipping communities with the tools and knowledge needed to save lives during times of emergency," said Marisol Vera, Executive Director, American Heart Association Greater Miami/ Fort Lauderdale.

Broward County's average infant mortality rate of children under the age of one remains at five per 1,000 births and this number is higher among underresourced populations, so it's crucial to empower people to act quickly and effectively in critical situations. Over the years, the American Heart Association has distributed more than 2,300 CPR Anytime Kits to individuals and local organizations throughout Broward County.

Since launching the Nation of Lifesavers initiative two years ago, the American Heart Association has seen a 6% increase in bystander confidence to perform any type of CPR—from 33% to continued on page 21



Photo 1- (L to R) Ryan Case, Raquel Case Travaline and Rita Case donate CPR in Schools Training Kits to Cypress Bay High School (Credit: American Heart Association)

2025 Chrysler Pacific Hybrid by Dave Kunz continued from page 2

third row folded.

The key to using this as a defacto EV is to be reasonable with the accelerator pedal. If you push the throttle too hard (for example, when entering a fast-moving freeway) the gasoline engine will come on, as the electric system can only do so much in terms of acceleration. Even if you back off

immediately, the engine remains on for 30-60 seconds, presumably in case you might need more power again. But then the system returns to EV mode.

I also did once manage to run the battery down to 0 when I was about a mile from home, so I used gasoline to get the rest of the way. other brief engine runs, at the end of the week the needle on the fuel gauge was still pretty much pointed to the full mark.

So yes, if you want a minivan that runs around purely on electricity, Chrysler has one. At least for local trips. The 2025 Pacifica Hybrid starts at \$51,055 before





Chrysler Pacifica Hybrid (photo Dave Kunz)





Car Collections



43rd Mustang Roundup & All Ford Picnic Celebrates 60 years of the Shelby GT350 July 19th & 20th....!

July 19th-20th, 2025, Mustangs Northwest will host the 43rd Annual Mustang Roundup & All Ford Picnic. This year's event is sponsored by the Northwest Ford Dealers and will be celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Shelby GT350, 70 years of the Ford Thunderbird, and 20 years of the Ford GT.

This year's event consists of a "Pony Trails" Road Trip Cruise starting in Bellevue, WA and ending at "LeMay - America's Car Museum" in Tacoma, WA. A Saturday Evening event, and Sunday, "Mustang Roundup & All Ford Picnic" People's Choice Show at Bellevue College in Bellevue, WA.

The Sunday event will offer those who attend the chance to see the latest offering from Ford, a chance to meet special guest Steve Saleen of Saleen Performance and see all years of collectible Fords.

AllFordenthusiasts are welcome to participate in all events. For more information go to: MustangsNorthwest.org

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Over 100 Collector Motorcycles on Display at Drager's

NW Legends of Auto Event by Vicky Tran

continued from page 3

room which included the beautiful McLaren M23.

Then guests crossed the street over to Scale Racing, the largest slot car racing facility in America, where they participated in a fun racing event after the scholarships and awards were handed out. The Owner of Scale Racing, Alan is passionate about slot car racing and made it fun and exciting for all. Racing slot cars gave the excitement of being on the track, but without the danger of possibly getting injures, the cars however, took some spins, jumps, and wipeouts. It was a great way to end the Gala. Everyone got a chance to participate, scholars, kids, and even the legends got in on the fun!

If you didn't get to attend this year's PNW Legends of Auto Gala, I'd highly recommend attending next year!

NW Legends & Schlorship Winners Compete in Slot Car Competition



Alan Smith, Scale Racing Center Owner presents Fabian with Racing Trophy (photo Auto News)

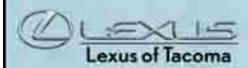


Alan Smith, Scale Racing Center Owner presents Bill Smallwood with Racing Trophy (photo Auto News)

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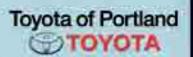




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From Around the U.S.



Kelly Blue **Book Best Buy** List by Jordan Williams millennial writer

continued from page 3

- 2025 Ford Maverick
- **Best Midsize Truck**
- 2025 Toyota Tacoma Best Full-Size Truck
- 2025 Ford F-150
- Best Electric Truck • 2025 Ford F-150 Lightning
- Check them out! Click onto the links to learn about each model

www.kbb.com/awards/bestbuy-awards-2025/

Let us at @global auto news know what you think!

Happy Summer and car shopping, everyone!



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by Bill McCallum

When you start on a journey sometimes you have no idea when or where it will the idea of an auto newspaper was born. name change to Auto News of America. firms, OEM's and car collectors.

I was publishing 2 weekly newspapers at auto newspaper with Jim Hammond, the in person. (See photo below) founder of the Puget Sound Auto Dealers Association and the original organizer of the Seattle Auto Show. He said "go for it" and you can count on my support. Thus in four more states. (Arizona, Nevada. Puget Sound Auto News was born. A few years later we expanded to Eastern WA, and Oregon and changed the name of the paper to Northwest Auto News.

With California being the largest new car market in the U.S. that was the next out e-mail "fast blasts" reaching over end. That's where I was 40 years ago when big step in our expansion and another 1,000K auto enthusiasts, media & PR

Enter Jay Leno. I first saw Jay at a the time "Uptown News" in Bellevue WA comedy club on Sunset Blvd. shortly and the Coal Creek Newcastle News to after we started circulating our paper in the South. Both papers had a small auto LA. Jay was the "car guy" that inspired section and were growing. I wasn't a car me to expand our reach to include car guy but I grew up in the business with collectors and collector car auctions. family members involved with new car I watched Jay's first TONIGHT show dealerships. I discussed the idea of an and attended his last TONIGHT show

Next chapter. From our launch in California we build a network of over 1,000 retail automotive distribution locations Idaho, and Montana) and changed the name of our paper to GLOBAL AUTO NEWS and launched our online program. (www.autonewsonline.com) Currently we have added a digital platform sending

Slot Car Racing in Europe Compared to the United States

continued from page 6

at these Commercial Raceways were more than a plastic car could withstand, so the bodies changed to less detail butyrate bodies and finally Lexan.

The cars got faster, and lower and less scale appearing, the branding was gone, no longer were they Fords and Ferrari cars, these were Asp, Manta Ray etc. and the scale cars were gone. Personally, I believe this was part of the end in America of the boom of Model Car (Slot) Car Racing.

It took a while but eventually the love of cars, and the excitement of racing a Ferrari, or Ford etc. at least for now was gone.

Back in Europe, speeds stayed more scale appearing, the cars stayed models of real cars, and the hobby continued and still is going on to this day.

Model Car racing inspires children of all ages, the thrill of racing, the excitement with almost no chance of injury, except maybe to your ego.

There are tournaments where 100's will attend, races are staged some even as long as 24 hours. Where racers young and old can pit their skills against each other and the clock.

The Hobby of Model Car racing has grown again in North America, first from Scalextric, and then other brands being reintroduced here.

This hobby has created many famous real race drivers and Team owners, but that is another story.

Hopefully we will see you at



Bill McCallum, Auto News Publisher (far left) Art Gould next to Bill and with Jay Leno after Jay's Last Tonight Show (photo Tonight Show Staff)

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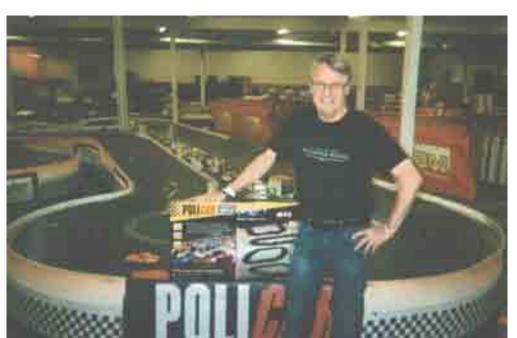
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Alan Smith, Scale Racing Center Owner, Demonstrates PoliCar Slot Car Starter Kit at his Center in Tacoma



Chris Chuna digital editor

After years of anticipation, I finally experienced the excitement of Mudfest, an event

A Thrilling Test of the Latest Off-Road Vehicles

dedicated to testing the latest trucks, SUVs, and crossovers in a uniquely challenging environment. Hosted by the Northwest Automotive Press Association in Shelton, Washington, Mudfest 2024 brought together automotive enthusiasts and professionals to evaluate a variety of vehicles

across both on-road and off-road courses.

Dynamic Testing and Diverse Winners

The event, which took place over two days at The Ridge Motorsports Park, featured a series of comprehensive tests designed to assess everything

to off-road capability. The 2024 Lexus GX 550 Overtrail emerged as the Northwest Outdoor Activity Vehicle of the Year, praised for its luxurious features and impressive off-road ability. On the rugged end of the spectrum, the 2024 Jeep Wrangler 2-Door Rubi-

from acceleration and handling con X was crowned the Extreme Capability SUV of the Year, continuing Jeep's legacy of off-road excellence.

Personal Highlights from Mudfest 2024

As an avid automotive enthusiast, here are some of my personal takeaways from the event:

Subaru Solterra: This electric vehicle was a revelation, proving that EVs can indeed tackle tough terrain. Despite my initial reservations about taking an EV through water, the Solterra handled it with aplomb, demonstrating both nimbleness and capability off-road.

Chevrolet Colorado ZR2 Bison: Chevy's 2024 redesign of the Colorado ZR2 Bison did not disappoint. Its robust features and strong performance made it stand out among the contenders, justifying its win in the Pickup Truck category.

Ram Rebel: The Ram Rebel was pure fun to drive off-road. Its power and handling made navigating the challenging courses feel effortless and thrilling.

Toyota Tacoma: The 2024 model impressed with its crawl mode, allowing me to ascend steep inclines with the same ease as if I were ordering at a drivethrough—truly a testament to its design and technology.

Jeep Wrangler Rubicon: The 2024 Jeep Wrangler Rubicon provided a surprisingly comfortable ride compared to its predecessors, both on and off the road, enhancing its appeal as a versatile off-roader.

Kia EV9: The battery life on the Kia EV9 was exceptional. After a full day of testing, it still had 91% charge, showcasing its efficiency and resilience in demanding conditions.

Lexus GX 550 Overtrail: The winner of the event, this vehicle provided luxury comfort on rugged terrains at a price point that makes it a standout choice for those seeking both opulence and functionality in an off-road capable vehicle.

INEOS Grenadier: Perhaps one of the most talked-about highlights was the INEOS Grenadier, which captured everyone's attention with its starkly utilitarian look. This vehicle, born from Jim Ratcliffe's vision of a rugged, traditional off-roader akin to the original Land Rover Defender, stood out for its cool styling and robust build, directly appealing to purists who favor practical design over modern sleekness.

Looking Forward

Mudfest 2024 was more than just a test of vehicle performance: it was a celebration of automotive innovation and adventure. The event provided invaluable insights into the latest advancements in vehicle technology and design, especially in terms of electrification and offroad capability. As the automotive industry continues to evolve, Mudfest remains a pivotal event for experiencing firsthand the cutting-edge developments in the world of SUVs, trucks, and crossovers. I look forward to seeing how these vehicles progress in the years to come and am already excited for what Mudfest 2025 might bring.



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58th Annual Edition

Rick Case Automotive Group and American Heart Association Donate 250 CPR Anytime Kits to Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital and Broward Health Infant, child and adult kits were distributed

continued from page 16

39%. This progress is largely due to their emphasis on Hands-Only

About The Rick Case Automotive Group

Founded in 1962, the Rick Case Automotive Group has been honored by Automotive News as the National All-Star Dealer and President and CEO Rita Case was named the 2024 TIME Dealer of the Year. Rick Case Automotive Group is the nation's largest female owned and operated automotive dealer group in America, offering Honda, Hyundai, Genesis, Ioniq, Volkswagen, Kia, Acura, Audi, Mazda, Maserati, Fiat, Alfa Romeo, Honda Motorcycles and E-Z-Go golf carts. Celebrating more than 60 years in business, the Rick Case Automotive Group has 12 dealerships in South Florida and Georgia. The South Florida dealerships are known for holding national sales records, consistently ranking among the top performers in markets they serve. Rick Case Automotive Group is headquartered at 14500 W. Sunrise Blvd. in Sunrise, Florida. For more information, visit www.RickCase.com.

An Electrifying Drive In Hyundai's Ioniq 6

continued from page 3

sessions on Electrify America's DC fast-charging network. On a recent round-trip to California from Washington State, he spent \$11 on fuel using this free charging • And the Ioniq 6 is fun to drive. Four driving modes satisfy your driving style or the road condi-

If all these points did not give you a jolt to give an Ioniq 6 a chance to change your attitude about electric vehicles, maybe you need to check your pulse!

More Than One Lap Record Per Year For Pirelli At The Nürburgring **Nordschleife**

The Most Recent Records Set This ${\it Year With The Audi RS 3 And Audi}$ RS Q8 Performance

From 2019 up to now, Pirelli has set more than one lap record per year on average at the legendary Nürburgring Nordschleife in Germany. These records have been established with all sorts of

vehicles, ranging from electric supercars to SUVs to compact hatchbacks, yet Pirelli has been a constant when it comes to lowering the Nordschleife lap times across every category of car.

All the tires in the P Zero range but the novelties introduced recently can boast a lap record around the Ring in the last five years: P Zero Trofeo R on the Audi RS 3 and P Zero on the Audi RS Q8 performance in 2024; P Zero Trofeo RS on the Porsche Taycan Turbo GT in 2023; P Zero Corsa on the Porsche Taycan Turbo S in 2022; P Zero Corsa on the Porsche Cayenne Turbo GT and P Zero Trofeo R on the Audi RS 3 in 2021; and finally P Zero on the Audi RS O8 in 2019.

The most recent records have come this year with the Audi RS 3, set on the P Zero Trofeo R - asemi-slick tire specialised in circuit use-and Audi RS Q8 performance equipped with the PZero: the Ultra High Performance tire most frequently chosen by manufacturers to equip their top models. The Audi RS 3 record of 7m33.123s lowered the benchmark for compact cars by more than five seconds, while the RS O8 performance became the fastest production SUV ever to lap the Ring, in a time of 7m36.698s that broke the existing record by more than two seconds. The same models had previously established the class records in 2021 and 2019 respectively, again on PZero Trofeo R and P Zero tires.

The Nürburgring Nordschleife, one of the most challenging circuits in the world, serves as a key testing ground for Pirelli, where the company rigorously evaluates its tires and latest developments on high-performance vehicles, particularly in partnership with German carmakers. A standout example is the P Zero Trofeo RS for the Porsche Taycan Turbo GT: the most sporting tire in the P Zero range, designed for track use but fully approved for the road.





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Alfa Romeo Stelvio Quadrifoglio "Test Drive" Review by Arv Voss

continued from page 4

INTERIOR AMBIENCE AND CARGO SPACE:

The Stelvio Quadrifoglio is well appointed with intuitive switch gear thoughtfully placed and the front seating provides an ideal driving position for performance maneuvers. The comfortable rear seat is limited in space and headroom is short with the sloping roofline. CONNECTIVITY AND INFOTAINMENT:

Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, a wireless phone charger, built-in navigation and a Wi-Fi Hotspot are available. A 12-speaker, 900-watt Harmon/ Kardon sound system will satisfy discerning audiophiles.

DRIVER-ASSISTANCE AND SAFETY FEATURES:

The Stelvio Quadrifoglio comes equipped with a host of standard driver-assistance fare - automated emergency braking, blind-spot monitoring, Adaptive Cruise Control with stop and go, Lane Departure Warning, Lane-keeping Assist and automatic high-beam headlights.

AS TESTED:

The base price of my tester was \$87, 370.00 while options such as the Verde Montreal tri-coat exterior paint, Quadrifoglio AWD,

dual pane sunroof, 5-hole aluminum alloy wheels and destination charge elevated the final sticker to \$95,360.

WARRANTY AND MAINTE-NANCE COVERAGE;

Complimentary maintenance is covered for one year or 10,000 miles. A limited Warranty and Powertrain warranty covers four years or 50,000 miles. PERFORMANCE:

The Red Start/Stop button on the steering wheel and the drive mode selector knob with Dynamic, Natural, Advance Efficiency and Race settings allows the driver to choose the level of performance for the engine, transmission, steer-

ing, suspension and brakes as well

as accelerator response. OUR FINAL ANALYSIS:

The Alfa Romeo Stelvio Quadrifoglio is not for everyone's taste as a daily driver. It is exceptionally well balanced, but may be too firm for some. The nimble steering and aggressive braking are admirable. The Race exhaust note alone is worth the price of admission.

SPECIFICATIONS:
Alfa Romeo Stelvio Quadrifo-

Vehicle Type: Front engine AWD

5-passenger Four Door wagon or SUV

Base Price: \$87,370.00
As Tested Price: \$95,360.00
Motor Size and Type: 2.9-liter
Twin Turbo/ intercooled DOHC
24- valve with Port Direct Injection V6 with Stop/Start.

Horsepower(bhp): 505@6500rpm Torque (lb.-ft.) 443@ 2500 rpm Transmission: 8 speed automatic Drive Train: Front mounted engine – AWD

Brakes: Power-assisted Brembo high-performance four wheel cross drilled vented ceramic discs with ABS.

Suspension: Front double wishbone and Rear multilink control arms with front and rear anti-roll

Tires: Pirelli P Zero PZ4 – Front – 255/45 R20 101Y AR Rear 285/40 R20 104Y AR mounted on Graphite finish 5-Linked loop alloy wheels.

Wheelbase: 110.9 inches Overall Length: 185.1 inches Width: 77.0 inches Height: 66.3 inches Curb Weight: 4,309 lbs Fuel Capacity: 16.9 gallons EPA Mileage Rating: 17 mpg city / 23 mpg hwy combined 19 mpg 0-60 mph: 3.3 seconds

RBB Law Group Partners with Amazon to Transform Car Buying and Ensure Fair Rebates Nationwide

RBB Law Group partners with Amazon to ensure fair car buying, transparent rebates, and a nationwide network of service centers for consumers.

RBB Law Group, a leading consumer protection law firm, announced a groundbreaking partnership with Amazon to ensure transparency and fairness in the car buying process. This collaboration comes as Amazon prepares to launch its innovative new car buying service, designed to empower consumers with a seamless and trustworthy online purchasing experience.

RBB Law Group will play a crucial role in ensuring that all manufacturer rebates and incentives are applied legally and transparently throughout the United States. This partnership addresses a growing concern among consumers who often face challenges in obtaining the full rebates and incentives they are entitled to when purchasing a vehicle through traditional dealerships.

"We are thrilled to partner with Amazon on this game-changing initiative," says Serena D. Aisenman, attorney at RBB Law Group. "This collaboration reflects our shared commitment to consumer protection and transparency. By working together, we can ensure that car buyers receive all the benefits they deserve and enjoy a hassle-free purchasing experience."

Amazon's new car buying service will enable customers to purchase new vehicles from participating manufacturers directly through the Amazon platform. The service will also include a comprehensive suite of offerings, including financing options, extended warranties, and service plans, all managed under Amazon's trusted umbrella.

In addition to the online purchasing platform, Amazon plans to establish a nationwide network of service centers to support its car buying service. These centers will provide maintenance and repairs for both new and preowned vehicles and will also offer services for Amazon's extended warranty programs. The first test facility has already opened in San Diego, California, with plans to expand across the United States.

This innovative approach promises to revolutionize the car buying industry by providing:

Transparency: All rebates and incentives will be clearly disclosed and applied, eliminating the hidden fees and deceptive practices that often plague traditional dealerships.

Convenience: Customers can purchase a vehicle from the comfort of their homes, avoiding the pressure and hassle of negotiating at a dealership.

Trust: Amazon's reputation for customer service and reliability provides peace of mind throughout the purchasing process.

Flexibility: The service will reportedly include a generous return policy, allowing customers to return a vehicle within 48 hours of purchase, although the exact terms are still being finalized.

"This partnership marks a significant step towards a fairer and more transparent car buying experience for consumers nationwide," adds Aisenman. "We are proud to be a part of this transformative initiative."





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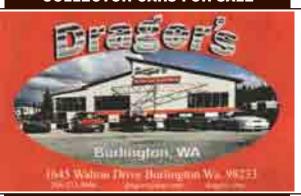
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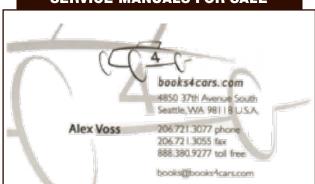
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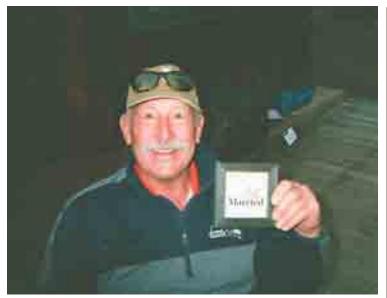
(See Story on Page 25)





Auto News Foundation





Dave Lane Non-Profit Foundation Expert at Auto News Event (photo Auto News)



Steve Saleen presents Fabian Jimenez a Scholarship with Murray Ruggles, Tech School Instructor (photo Auto News)

History of the Automotive Technology Program at Columbia Basin College (CBC) Helps Sally Hanson in Building a Foundation

by Sally Hanson

When the Auto News Foundation was beginning to take shape, I was told by dear friends about the amazing accomplishments that their friend had achieved in his life after completing the Automotive Technology program at Columbia Basin College (CBC) located in the Tri-Cities in Washington State. His success story resonated with me over the past few years as we formed the foundation to invest in education and innovation at automotive technology schools and to encourage passion for automobiles and technological advancement in that field.

Now it is my pleasure to introduce you to John Strege. He graduated in 1970 from Columbia High School in Richland, Washington a dozen years before the school was renamed Richland High School. His grades in high school were poor, he had no clear direction or plans for the future and doubted any college would accept him based on his high school transcriptions. What he did have going for him was the encouragement of his girlfriend, Terry, who inspired him to apply and enroll at CBC in the Automotive Technology classes. (John and Terry have now been married 53 years.)

After acceptance into the twoyear associate degree program at CBC, Strege attended general studies classes the first half of the day and classes in the automotive shop in the afternoon. The general studies classes serve to complement the automotive technology career by including reading improvement, psychology, and mechanical drawing. Upon completion, he received an Associate degree in Applied Science with a 3.96 GPA. Strege then began a long career using the knowledge, mentorship and hands-on experience that CBC offers in the automotive technology program.

The final quarter of his last year in the program, he was sent to work at Al's Repair Shop in Pasco, where he continued to work for two and a half years after graduation servicing automobiles, trucks and a wide variety of farm machinery. Then he put in a stint at a lube shop before becoming a mechanic at a service station in Richland.

continued on page 25

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About the Auto News Foundation

The Auto News Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit foundation that was created with the intention of empowering the next generation of automotive technicians while supporting community colleges and tech school automotive programs.

Donation Tiers

All donations are tax deductible. 100% of donations shall go towards starting the Auto News Foundation Scholarship Fund to help aspiring youth join the automotive industry.



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		*Special Acknowledgement at 2025 Legends of Auto Gala	*Special Acknowledgement at 2025 Legends of Auto Gala
		*Article about you or your Business on Auto News Website	Article about you or your Business on Auto News Website and *Print Publication
			*Supercar Driving Experience in Seattle

*Denotes Added Benefits

All donations are tax deductible. 100% of donations shall go towards starting the Auto News Foundation Scholarship Fund to help aspiring youth join the automotive industry.





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Four Scholarships Awarded at **NW Legends of Auto 2024 Event**

Auto News Introduces All-New QR Code





Sylvee Madson a Schlorship Winner accepts Trophy for also Winning Slot Car competition (photo Auto News)

Shoreline COMMUNITY COLLEGE Automotive Service Technology Associates of Applied Arts and Sciences





Building A Foundation by Sally Hanson

continued from page 24

In 1976, he was offered a job at the Hanford Site as an industrial mechanic using skills he had learned at CBC working on fans, bearings and pumps. Four years later he moved up the ranks to become a planner/scheduler with a contractor at Hanford. Later he became a manager of an insulator crew and then manager of various maintenance crews. Strege has been retired for ten years.

John Strege could be a poster person for CBC because he has plenty of rave reviews about what the Automotive Technology program and related courses provided to create his successful career. "I became excited about learning at CBC," Strege states, "Everything I learned there, I can apply to everyday life in order to excel. My entire life is a direct result of my education at CBC." And this includes the person who encouraged him to attend - John and Terry have been married 53 years!

The Auto News Foundation is exciting as we grow and continue to offer scholarship opportunities and educational resources designed for students, apprentices and young professionals who plan to enter automotive technical training. It is our mission to nurture passion in the industry and encourage students like John Strege.

If you would like to learn more about the Auto News Foundation. please visit our website: autonewsfoundation.org.

Top 4 States With Automotive Tech Programs

1. Michigan

- 1. Baker College of Owosso
- 2. Delta College
- 3. Ferris State University
- 4. Kalamazoo Valley Community College
- 5. Lansing Community College
- 6. Macomb Community College
- 7. Monroe County Community College
- 8. Northwest University 9. Oakland Community College
- 10. Schoolcraft College
- 11. University of Northwestern Ohio
- 12. Washtenaw Community College
- 13. Wayne County Community College District
- 14. Western Michigan University
- 15. WyoTech

2. California

- 1. Cerritos College 2. Chaffey College
- 3. Citrus V
- 4. College of Alameda
- 5. College of San Mateo
- 6. Cypress College
- 7. Diablo Valley College
- 8. Los Angeles Trade Technical College
- 9. Miramar College 10. Palomar College
- 11. San Diego Miramar College
- 12. Santa Barbara City College

- 2. California continued 13. Skyline College
- 14. Universal Technical Institute (UTI)
- 15. WyoTech

3. Ohio

- 1. Cincinnati State Technical Community College
- 2. Clark State Community College
- 3. Columbus State Community College
- 4. Cuyahoga Community College
- 5. Lorain County Community College
- 6. Northwest State
- Community College
- 7. Ohio Technical College 8. Owens Community College
- Sinclair Community College
- 10. University of Northwestern

4. Illinois

- 1. Black Hawk College
- 2. College of DuPage
- 3. College of Lake County
- 4. Danville Area Community College
- 5. Lincoln Land Community College
- 6. Lincoln Technical Institute
- 7. Moraine Valley Community College
- 8. Parkland College
- 9. Prairie State College
- 10. Universal Technical Institute (UTI)



"Thank You" To Those Who Attended Our 2nd **Annual Northwest Legends of Auto Event**









Auto News Foundation



Akio **Toyoda Family**to be honored as a "Legend of Auto Family" on August 14th **During..... Monterey Car** Week 2025





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by Bill McCallum

When you start on a journey sometimes you have no idea when or where it will end. That's where I was 40 years ago when the idea of an auto newspaper was born. I was publishing 2 weekly newspapers at the time "Uptown News" in Bellevue WA and the Coal Creek Newcastle News to the South. Both papers had a small auto section and were growing. I wasn't a car guy but I grew up in the business with family members involved with new car dealerships. I discussed the idea of an auto newspaper with Jim Hammond, the founder of the Puget Sound Auto Dealers Association and the original organizer of the Seattle Auto Show. He said "go for it" and you can count on my support. Thus Puget Sound Auto News was born. A few years later we expanded to Eastern WA, and Oregon and changed the name of the paper to Northwest Auto News.

With California being the largest new car market in the U.S. that was the next big step in our expansion and another name change to Auto News of America.

Enter Jay Leno. I first saw Jay at a comedy club on Sunset Blvd. shortly after we started circulating our paper in LA. Jay was the "car guy" that inspired me to expand our reach to include car collectors and collector car auctions. (see back page ad) I watched Jay's first TONIGHT show and attended his last TONIGHT show in person.

Next chapter. From our launch in Calif. we build a network of over 1,000 retail automotive distribution locations in four more states. (Ariz, Nv. Id, & Mt) and changed the name of our paper to GLOBAL AUTO NEWS and launched our online program. (www.autonewsonline.com) Currently we have added a digital platform sending out e-mail "fast blasts" reaching over 500K auto enthusiasts, media & PR firms, OEM's and car col-







Auto News Foundation to present Awards at **Monterey "Car Week"** August 2025



Legends of Auto Gala Event attendees at dinner during presentations at previous event.

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Rita Case Auto Group C.E.O. was honored as a Legend of Auto in 2024



Rita Case with Legends of Auto Award at Rick Case Auto **Group Headquarters**

Tim McGrane Racetrack C.E.O. was honored as a Legend of Auto in 2024



Tim McGrane - M1 Concourse CEO is honored as a "Legend of Auto" Member

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.

Auto News Introduces Foundation QR Code



Second Generation RIVIAN R1S&R1T "Test Drive Review" by Harold Allen

continued from page 4

The R1T truck starts at \$75,900 and tops out at around 105,900. I felt the truck had lots of features like the storage bin that would hold a golf bag was genius. The color pallet for the Rivian is bland but there is a color option called canyon red, and it looks great on both vehicles that costs an extra \$2,500. Standard AWD makes it great for areas with weather issues. They offer a battery charging option and it's well worth it.

There are so many combinations to choose from, it's almost mind-boggling and too many to list. Down the road, there will be an R3, a smaller version, and more palatable pricing for most customers with availability in 2026.

Harold Allen -MPG Member and TAWA Member



Rivian R1T (photo Harold Allen)

Battle of Ponies: EcoBoost Mustang vs. Mustang GT 5.0

by Keith Turner

If Ford Mustangs were siblings, the 2025 EcoBoost and the 2024 GT 5.0 would be the classic "brain vs. brawn" rivalry. Both are flashy, loud (in their own ways), and both definitely want you to notice them. But which one is the better pick when you're standing at the dealership, keys jingling in your hand like you're about to take home a tiger?

Let's start with the 2025 Ford Mustang EcoBoost. Under the hood, you've got a 2.3L turbocharged four-cylinder — a downsized powerhouse that's all about efficiency and fun. It punches out around 315 horsepower, which isn't bad at all for something that could technically be called "ecofriendly" without anyone laughing too hard. Plus, it's lighter up front, so it handles with a little more grace. More like a gymnast than linebacker.

The EcoBoost is the smart kid

who shows up to the party with a clever joke and an energy drink instead of a 12-pack. It's a Mustang for people who appreciate a good twisty road and aren't trying to wake up the neighbors every time they leave for work. Also, with rising gas prices, it doesn't hurt that it can sip fuel instead of guzzling it like a pirate drinking rum.

Then there's the 2024 Ford Mustang GT 5.0—the loud, rowdy big brother who still thinks pro wrestling is real. This beast comes with a naturally aspirated 5.0L V8 that belts out 480 horsepower (or more, depending on the trim). Revving this engine isn't just a sound — it's an event. Small children cover their ears. Grown adults look around in envy. Car alarms down the street may spontaneously go off.

The GT is all about raw power, tire smoke, and "because I can" energy. It's heavier than the EcoBoost, sure, but who cares when you're blasting from 0 to 60 in under 4 seconds and grinning like a fool? Handling is still solid—especially with the optional Performance Pack but make no mistake: this car is built for straight-line speed and showing off at stoplights.

Inside, both Mustangs share the new digital cockpit that looks like Ford borrowed a fighter jet's dashboard. Big screens, better materials and seats that hug you tighter than your grandma at Christmas.

So which one should you buy?

If you want a Mustang that's a little more "I went to college", the EcoBoost is a seriously excellent choice. It's quick, nimble, and it won't destroy your wallet at the gas station.

But if you think the best soundtrack ever made is a 5.0 V8 at full roar, and you don't mind paying extra for fuel (and maybe tires), then the GT 5.0 is the clear

Either way, you're getting a Mustang and that means one thing: you're automatically cooler than you were before you bought that powerful pony.

Keith Turner is an auto journalist based in Northern California. You can check out his automotive video reviews at Carguy Drives



Ford Mustang EcoBoost vs. Mustang GT 5.0 (photo Keith Turner)



