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Corvette ZR1 Will Pace Indianapolis 500 Race

INDIANAPOLIS – A 2012 Chevrolet Corvette ZR1 will lead the starting field of the 96th Indianapolis 500 to the green flag Sunday, May 27 at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

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This will be the 23rd time a Chevrolet has paced "The Greatest Spectacle in Racing" and the 11th time a Corvette is serving as the Pace Car. Both are event records. The 2013 model year will mark the 60th anniversary and the final year of production for the current generation Corvette.

"Corvette embodies pure performance, so the ZR1 is a perfect car to pace the most prestigious auto race in the world," said Jeff Belskus, Indianapolis Motor Speedway Corporation president and chief executive officer.

"Chevrolet is a great partner of the Speedway, and we share in the excitement of the upcoming 60th anniversary of the iconic Corvette brand. It's even more meaningful to see a Chevrolet pacing the field at Indy since Chevy has returned as an engine supplier for the IZOD IndyCar Series for the first time

since 2005."

"This is a truly momentous year for Chevrolet when it comes to performance, with our continued success on and off track, and especially with our return to the IndyCar Series, powering some of the fastest cars on the circuit," said Jim Campbell, GM vice president of Performance Vehicles and Motorsports.

"I can't think of a better way to mark the 60th Anniversary of Corvette than having it lead the starting field of the Indianapolis 500."

A supercharged, 6.2-liter LS9 engine generating 638 horsepower helps to create the ZR1's performance. Of all mass-production companies, Chevrolet is the leader in using carbon fiber.

The lightweight material is used for structural components, including the front fenders, hood, roof, front splitter, rocker panels and floor pans. With a curb weight of 3,353 pounds, the ZR1 features a power-to-weight ratio of just 5.2 pounds per horsepower.

The ZR1 also features advanced technology such as Magnetic Selective Ride Control, Launch Control system with Performance Track Management and much more.

OnStar's Suite of Services Includes 'First Assist'

DETROIT – First responders at a crash scene can be the difference between life and death for a critically injured person, but the time it takes to arrive can delay medical care. OnStar's specially trained Emergency Advisors can help bridge that gap with a service called First Assist.

First Assist allows OnStar Emergency Advisors to provide immediate advice and guidance to victims in distress while they wait for first responders to arrive. These Advisors are certified by the National Academies of Emergency Dispatch (NAED) to provide Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) to people in need.

Last Thursday evening, OnStar's First Assist service was named a Gold Edison Award winner in the Innovative Services, Personal Safety/Security category. OnStar FMV, the company's new aftermarket product, also won a Gold Edison Award for Best New Safety/Security Product in Transportation. First Assist is offered to both traditional OnStar and FMV subscribers.

"Not all 911 Call Centers have the capabilities to provide EMD advice to parties over the phone. So depending on where an incident takes place, those who are in need of medical



First Assist allows OnStar Emergency Advisors to provide immediate medical advice and guidance to victims in distress while they wait for first responders to arrive. OnStar's First Assist service was recently named a Gold Edison Award winner in the Innovative Services / Personal Safety / Security category.

help may have to wait for someone to arrive on scene," said Nick Pudar, OnStar vice president, Planning and Business Development. "With First Assist, OnStar Emergency Advisors can provide emergency advice regardless of where the callers are located."

OnStar Emergency Advisors are trained to obtain critical information on a crash victim's condition and use the information to provide important first-aid instruction to victims or those who may be assisting

them. While one Emergency Advisor is providing guidance to the victim(s), another Advisor is contacting local authorities to share information like vehicle location and specific crash details.

"I applaud OnStar for having the foresight and taking the initiative in providing EMD services, especially since not all 911 centers are EMD certified," said Jim Lanier, division manager at the Alachua County (Fla.) Sheriff's Office.

"It helps the person in need

by cutting down the delay of delivering specialized resources to them. It helps victims by giving them that human contact that is so critical in preventing a situation from getting worse."

OnStar deployed the service as a pilot in late 2010 and since has been averaging more than 1,200 EMD calls each month.

EMD guidance revolves around ensuring the general safety of the individual(s) involved. It can include advice related to bleeding control, airway management, coaching CPR or even helping deliver a baby.

OnStar subscriber Marvin Sponaugle recently used his emergency connection to report an elderly driver who had slowed to an idle speed and was unconscious, slumped over the wheel. Sponaugle stopped to help and began administering medical assistance per the OnStar Advisor's instructions, which included clearing the man's airway.

"I gave the [Advisor] my [cell phone] number and he called me back so I could get closer to the man in need," said Sponaugle. "He gave me instructions to check if he was breathing and so [OnStar] should be in every vehicle because it could possibly help save more lives."

OnStar launched as a GM service some 16 years ago.

UD Mercy's New EV Car Charging Station Is Open

by Gerald Scott
News Dept.

As part of an ongoing and growing local trend, the University of Detroit Mercy's McNichols campus opened its first such EV car charging station last week.

This is notable because the first wave of public EV car chargers across metro Detroit and Southeast Michigan have been offered by utilities, city halls and airports.

Now EV charging stations are coming to more dispersed retail and educational sites.

Of late, everybody from Walsh College in Troy to the Partridge Creek mall in Macomb County to the Kohl's department store in Chesterfield Twp. have all established charg-

ing stations that offer two-to-six car sites at a time.

All of which brings us back to the U of D campus on Detroit's near west side, McNichols and Livernois area.

School officials and supporting suppliers like DTE Energy gathered to cut the ribbon on a new EV charging station located on the west side of Calihan Hall, the university's athletic facility.

UDM Engineering Dean Leo Hanifin explained the genesis of the university's new EV car charging station.

"We were looking at a project, where it started, I was talking with (DTE's) Steve Kurmas when he was on our honorary Centennial committee," Hanifin recalled.

"We were talking about the different things we were trying to do, and the fact that we needed a partner for a new charging station. . . he said 'we can help you get that.'"

Added Shuvra Das, associate dean of UDM's College of Engineering and Science, "The grant that is making this possible came from the Department of Energy, through GM, and sub-contracted to DTE, so it's basically the same DOE grant money (used via the earlier Recovery Grant).

"The charging station is open for use by student and staff, but also anyone from outside (campus) who wants to come in and use it. There are smartphone apps out there where users can locate where the nearest charging station is located at – and even whether it's



PHOTO: GERALD SCOTT

U of D Mercy President Antoine Garibaldi, left forefront, led the ceremony to officially open the first EV car charging station on the U of D McNichols campus in Detroit last week.

occupied at the time you're checking at a given point in time.

"We hope people from outside come and use it, they'll see our campus, find out more about us."

Das said that for now, at least, recharging on campus will be free for the user such that the university will absorb the cost of the electricity sent into the car batteries. (Curiously, federal laws governing the re-sale and distribution of electricity have been preventing most such public stations from charging cus-

tomers for the juice, such as requiring them to swipe a credit card or to put cash into the charging machine).

Meanwhile, the event was important enough that new UDM President Antoine Garibaldi oversaw the ribbon-cutting, such that this was the very first time he'd plugged in an electric car as well.

Big Three plug-in vehicles owned by DTE that participated in the kickoff event included a Ram PHEV pickup truck, A Ford Escape PHEV and the Chevrolet Volt.

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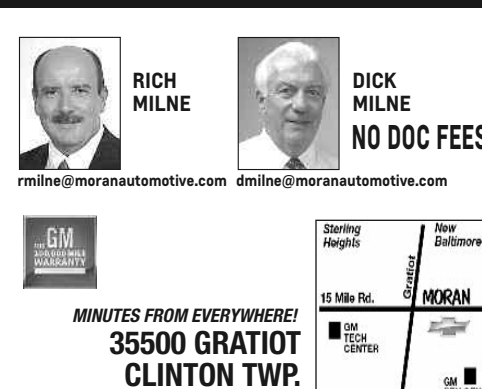
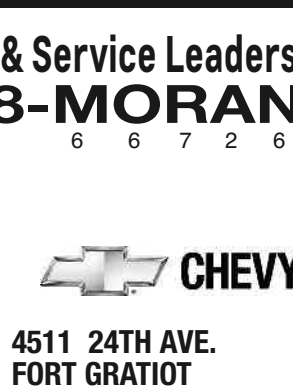
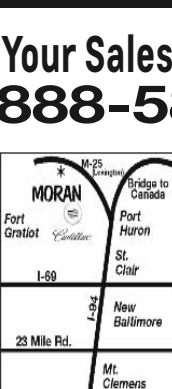
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