

Cars & Places Magazine

Cars & Places eNews

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Hello from Cars & Places! Welcome to eNews, our weekly update on the automotive world and area happenings. If you are a new reader, welcome! We hope you enjoy our tidbits of news as we ramp up our new magazine.



Porsche will soon introduce the new Cayman, a coupe that follows along the lines of the Boxster roadster. The new coupe features a slightly larger and more powerful version of Porsche's famous mid-mounted flat six engine. At 3.4 liters, it is rated at 295 horsepower and boasts 251 lb-ft of torque. This moves the Cayman smartly off the line to 60 at just a tick over 5 seconds. Just as

important to the travelers among us, the new Cayman boasts quite a bit of luggage space for a mid-engine car. The hatchback design gives over 9 cubic feet of space in the rear area plus there's the front trunk of 5.3 cubic feet. No Porsche report would be complete without mentioning the handling, this is what makes the car a Porsche! The crisp and secure character of the Boxster is carried over to the Cayman with the added rigidity of the fixed roof giving a greater feeling of precision than ever before. The price of entry for all of this performance will be just under \$60K when the Cayman hits our shores in the Spring of 2006. See <http://www3.us.porsche.com/cayman/pcna.asp> for the first bit of details from Porsche.

INSURANCE INSTITUTE FOR HIGHWAY SAFETY We were able to hear the Chief Operating Officer of the **Insurance Institute for Highway Safety** (IIHS), Dr. Adrian Lund, speak this week in Washington, DC. The IIHS is an independent, non-profit organization funded by the automobile insurance companies. Their goal is to save lives and reduce injuries in vehicle crashes while reducing insurance costs for all of us. They are most visible for their work on offset frontal crash testing that is regularly seen on NBC's Dateline or your local news. But they are also involved in many other areas of vehicle safety. An up and coming issue is side impact protection. Automakers are starting to get serious about side

impacts such as the type that occur at intersections. While not as common as head-on collisions, a side impact crash can be much more devastating, due to the lack of crush space available in the door or side of the vehicle. Aggravating the problem is the fact that many trucks and SUV's have a higher front end, making safety design more difficult. Efforts are concentrating on energy absorption in doors and side airbag systems. The IIHS's most recent testing was requested by two automakers to gauge their work on improved side impact protection systems. Both the Audi A6 and the Infinity M35 were tested and earned a "Best Pick" rating from the institute for their performance in the side impact tests. Other tough issues being studied by the IIHS include, teen drivers, cell phone use while driving and stoplight cameras. They have extensive crash test data available on their website to allow consumers to see if the new vehicle they are considering did well in testing. Visit the IIHS website at www.iihs.org and check out all of the information.



Places to Be!



Philadelphia is a great historic city for a weekend visit. One attraction that looks interesting is the Ride the Ducks Tour. An 80 minute land and sea tour uses the unique amphibious World War II vintage Duck vehicle to cruise the streets and visit Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell, Ben Franklin's grave and more. Then on to the waterfront for a splash into the Delaware River for a cruise, all in the same vehicle! See their website at www.phillyducks.com for times, rates and complete details.

A couple of weeks ago we mentioned the car show the Mid Maryland Ford Club and the **Maryland Sheriffs' Youth Ranch** were holding. Well, rain delayed the show until this Saturday, July 23 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Registration is from 9:00 a.m. to noon.) The Ranch is located on Maryland Route 80 in the beautiful Frederick County countryside. There is a \$10 entry fee, but lots of trophies will be awarded. All proceeds will benefit the Youth Ranch (www.msyr.org). Contact Larry (301-620-0326) or Dave (301-570-2077) for more information. It's a great organization to support so check it out if you are in the area. Be sure to tell them you heard about it from Cars & Places!



Also in the Frederick, Maryland area this weekend is the 9th annual **Frederick Blues Festival**. Competitions began last night and run also occur tonight. The main festival is Saturday, July 23 at the Holiday Inn at the intersection of US 15 and US 40. Things kick off at Noon and run through 10 pm. Some of the bands attending will be Skyla Burell Blues Band, Flat Foot Sam and the Educated Fools and Last Dog Standing. Always looking out for the car nuts among us, there is a classic car show in the parking lot from 1 to 4 pm. Admission will be charged to the Festival, see www.frederickbluesfestival.com to check out information on discounts and purchase

locations.

We're always looking for great places to visit. Send us info on your favorite spot and if we feature it in a future issue, you'll receive a free Cars & Places polo shirt.

Thanks for reading this edition of eNews! Please forward this to your friends and car buddies! If this was sent to you by a friend, just go to www.carsandplaces.com and sign up for your personal copy. Be sure to stop by the website often to check on the progress of our full-blown publication!

Until next time, enjoy your drive!

Rick Trawick
Publisher

Any comments or questions you may have are welcome. Please email them to info@carsandplaces.com. If you would like to see your event mentioned, send it to the same address.

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