

CHEVY UNVEILS 2016 CRUZE

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DETAILS, A2

DRIVING FORCE

BARRA: 'THIS CAR SETS THE STANDARD'



KATIE RICKMAN | THE VINDICATOR

The 2016 Chevrolet Cruze was unveiled Wednesday in Detroit. The gray Cruze has a two-toned interior while the blue one has a solid interior color.

By KALEA HALL
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DETROIT

The Lordstown-built Chevrolet Cruze is here – and General Motors envisions a bold future for the redesigned compact car.

“Inspired by the spirit of Chevrolet, the 2016 Cruze represents everything today’s Chevrolet stands for: design, performance, and technology,” said Mary Barra, GM chief executive officer.

“At Chevrolet, when we enter a segment, we intend to win, and I hope you will agree that this car sets the standard,” she said.

Barra presented the next-generation Cruze before hundreds of global media professionals at The Fillmore in Detroit on Wednesday.

The new Cruze will be in area showrooms in early 2016.

See CRUZE, A4



KATIE RICKMAN | THE VINDICATOR

Apple CarPlay will be included in the 2016 Cruze and Chevrolet Spark. It allows iPhone users hands-free access for texting, calling, music and other features.

MORE INSIDE

♦ **Reinvention:** When leaders at Chevrolet looked to reinvent the brand, they looked to a lot of other companies for influence. **B5**

♦ **What's new:** Highlights of the 2016 Cruze. **A4**

Officials optimistic about future of Cruze

By KALEA HALL
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DETROIT

General Motors' best-selling car has made its presence known worldwide thanks to the efforts of the employees and leadership at the Lordstown Assembly plant.

When the new 2016 Cruze hits showrooms next year, the goal is to build off the success of today's model.

“Without [the Lordstown plant] it wouldn't be here,” said Steve Natar Donato, Lordstown Assembly plant manager. “[There are] 4,500 people who are dedicated to continuing the reputation of building a quality car.”

At the Lordstown plant, about 1.3 million Cruzes



ONLINE VIDEO & PHOTO
See video and photo gallery for this story at vindy.com

have rolled off the assembly line.

“We are really, really excited as a team to be able to get our hands on this,” said Glenn Johnson, United Auto Workers Local 1112 president who represents the assembly workers. “We will build this, and we will involve our buying community and continue to just pump out Chevy Cruzes every day.”

Elected officials from the Mahoning Valley also welcomed the unveiling of the newly designed compact car.

See REACTION, A4

CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT ‘Youngstown Plan’ meets opposition

Staff report

COLUMBUS

The so-called “Youngstown Plan” for the city school district is meeting with opposition from those close to home.

The Ohio House and Senate on Wednesday approved legislation that would transfer authority over the failing Youngstown City School District to an appointed chief executive. The bill now goes to Gov. John Kasich, who is expected to sign it.

“Children in chronically failing schools don’t deserve to be abandoned. They need our help, badly,” Robert Nichols, Kasich’s spokesman, said in a statement. “These long-overdue reforms to Ohio’s support system for failing schools will bring hope to these kids, parents and educators, and the governor applauds the local and state leaders who have had the courage to stand up and help lead

See SCHOOLS, A4



ROBERT K. YOSAY | THE VINDICATOR

The “Youngstown Plan” approved Wednesday by the Ohio House and Senate would reconfigure control of the city school district, abolishing the academic distress commission and creating a schools’ chief executive officer.

CEO plan flunks with school board

By DENISE DICK
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YOUNGSTOWN

News that control of the city school district would move to a state-paid chief executive officer went over like a bad report card with school board members.

“I just think it’s their plan to do away with city schools in Youngstown,” said Michael Murphy, board vice president. “It’s their ultimate plan to get rid of them. I’m not happy about it. I think we were elected to do a job, and they’re not letting us do it.”

The legislation passed Wednesday by the Ohio Legislature abolishes the Youngstown City School District Academic Distress Commission, in place since 2010. In its place, a new five-member commission will be created.

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inside today

BOMBER APOLOGIZES

Moments before a judge sentenced him to death, Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev apologized to the victims and their loved ones for the first time.

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NOT-GUILTY VERDICT

A jury in Mahoning County Common Pleas Court found Frankie Hudson Jr. not guilty of aggravated murder, murder and aggravated robbery in the September 2011 death of a 17-year-old boy on the South Side.

LOCAL, A3

MAHONING COUNTY

Court prepares for ruling on gay marriage

By JORDYN GRZELEWSKI
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YOUNGSTOWN

In gigantic volumes of records that date back to 1852, Mahoning County marriage licenses have two words typed side-by-side above the couples’ names: “groom” and “bride.”

That soon might change. As early as today, the United States Supreme Court could issue a landmark opinion about the right of

See RULING, A2



ROBERT K. YOSAY | THE VINDICATOR

A Mahoning County marriage-license record is shown with the personal information covered. County marriage-license applications will read “applicant one” and “applicant two” instead of “groom” and “bride,” should same-sex marriage become legal in Ohio.

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