



# You "Auto" Know Newsletter

## This week in Automotive Heritage

On Jan. 18, 1918, the U.S. Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels telegraphs the Ford Motor Co. with a government order to build 500 U-Boat hunters called the Eagle Boat.

Henry Ford was brought into the war effort a year prior by Franklin D. Roosevelt, then Undersecretary of the Navy. The construction of the Eagle Boats became part of the catalyst for building the massive River Rouge plant in southwest Detroit, which he had started buying land for in 1915

By 1917, a three-story structure, Building B, was erected on the Rouge site to build the Eagle Boats, warships intended to hunt down German submarines. Building B was the first substantial Rouge building and today serves as part of the Dearborn Assembly Plant. Although the war ended before the Ford Eagle Boats ever went into action, the effort did allow Ford to widen the Rouge River substantially, presenting the possibility of bringing ore boats up

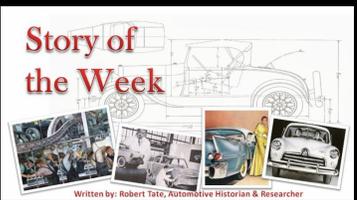
the river. (Source: *The Henry Ford* | [thehenryford.org](http://thehenryford.org))



## Story of the Week

# A brief history of 1966 Chevrolet and Corvette factories

By Robert Tate  
Automotive Historian and Researcher



Before the days of computers and factory automation robots, Chevrolet manufactured its great looking automobiles through the handcrafted talent of the men and women who made up the creative strength of the automotive industry.



It was these men and women in the automotive factories that helped to place America on wheels and who helped to shape this great country.

The growth of the automobile and its workers created the American middle class providing economic stability for the nation as a whole.

For more of our latest Story of the Week, click below:

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## Story of the Week

# Latest updates for Back to the Bricks

An Eagle Boat is launched from the Rouge Plant | Image courtesy of marinedebrisblog.wordpress.com

For more of these great historical features, visit the MotorCities Facebook page



Latest Press

### Henry Ford Museum opening up antique cars for 'Engines Exposed'

Visit the annual Engines Exposed exhibit at the Henry Ford Museum from Jan. 14-Feb. 28 to get an under-the-hood look at a few of the museum's most prized antique autos.

Power. Muscle. Performance. Dive into the surprising and daring history of the automobile through the eyes of the engineers who made these fascinating machines.

The Henry Ford is popping hoods on over 50 vehicles to share the incredible stories of grit and imagination that drive us forward.



Click here for video from Engines Exposed:



Click below for more:

Although the winter weather is still battering lowering Michigan, organizers for the legendary Back to the Bricks car show and cruise - held annually in Flint, MI - are hard at work for the 2017 event.

Co-chairs, Steve Hobson and Dale Frey, are finalizing plans for the second annual Chrome & Ice Indoor Car Show, Feb. 10-11, brought to you by Back to the Bricks, Buick, and the Genesee County Agents for the Farm Bureau of Michigan. The 2017 Chrome & Ice will feature more cars, more exhibit space and more vendors. This year's show will feature over 100 vehicles, approximately 45 sponsor and vendor displays, and will occupy the upper mezzanine of the main arena, the main lobby, and the corridor between the two arenas at the Dort Federal Credit Union, 3501 Lapeer Road, Flint, MI.



New to Chrome & Ice 2017 is the addition of a Preview Party on Thursday, Feb. 9, sponsored by Back to the Bricks, Buick, and ABCTV-12. Party goers will get a "sneak peak" of the show cars in the Upper Mezzanine of the Dort Federal Credit Union Event Center, hors d'oeuvres "plus," adult beverages, entertainment, and more.

Click below for more:



### North American International Auto Show

## Explore the MotorCities while in town for the Auto Show

By Austen Smith

Now that we are firmly in the new year, it is that time of year when auto enthusiasts across the country gather at the North American International Auto Show, held Jan.7-22 at Cobo Center in downtown Detroit.

Public access to the annual event - which will features dozens of worldwide new releases, concept cars, new technology and more - runs Jan. 14-22.

If you plan on visiting the Auto Show during the public week or otherwise, take some time to explore the great historical automotive sites in downtown Detroit by taking our self-guided tour.



[Learn More](#)

You will also be able to see our door stickers all around Cobo Center for the duration of the event. The history of what was once called the Detroit Auto Show is a significant piece of local, automotive heritage. So while you are enjoying the new, take some time to appreciate our past as well!

[Learn More](#)

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