

TIME

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: TIME PR Hotline
(212) 522-4800

James Appleton
New Jersey Coalition of Automotive Retailers
(609) 883-5056, ext. 330

TIME MAGAZINE AND GOODYEAR HONOR WASHINGTON DEALER

Ed Rossi Wins National Recognition for Community Service and Industry Accomplishments at NADA Convention

(Orlando, FL, February 13, 2010) – Ed Rossi, Dealer Principal of Rossi Chevrolet Buick GMC, a Chevrolet, Buick and GMC dealership in Washington, New Jersey, was honored today for his nomination for the 2010 TIME Magazine Dealer of the Year award.

Rossi was one of a select group of dealers from across the country honored at the 93rd annual National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) Convention & Exposition in Orlando today. The announcement of this year's Dealer of the Year and finalists was made by Mark Ford, President and Group Publisher of TIME Magazine, and Johann Finkelmeier, Vice President & General Manager - Original Equipment N.A. Consumer Tire, The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, at the formal opening of the convention, which is attended by more than 25,000 individuals involved in the automobile industry.

The TIME Magazine Dealer of the Year award is one of the automobile industry's most prestigious and highly coveted awards for new-car dealers. Recipients are among the nation's most successful auto dealers, but they must also demonstrate a long-standing commitment to effective community service.

Rossi, 55, was chosen to represent the New Jersey Coalition of Automotive Retailers in the national competition--one of only 45 automobile dealers, from 17,000 nationwide, nominated for the 41st annual award. The award is sponsored by TIME Magazine in association with Goodyear, and in cooperation with NADA. A panel of faculty members from the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan selects one finalist from each of the four NADA regions and one national Dealer of the Year.

“As a young boy, modes of transportation always fascinated me,” says Rossi. “While I flew my first solo flight at age 16, cars were my passion. And the automobile business has given me the opportunity to live the dream of competing on the racetrack.”

-more-

Rossi graduated from Phillipsburg (NJ) Catholic High School in 1972, and then earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration at Villanova University in Pennsylvania, in 1976. While attending Villanova, Rossi began working for Tully Chrysler Plymouth in Washington, NJ. “My father was a non-participating investor in the dealership,” Rossi explains, “and, in 1974, the business began experiencing difficulty and my father contacted me at school to ask if I had an interest in the automobile business as a career.” Rossi was definitely interested, and his father lent his support. “During my senior year, I came home on weekends to work at the dealership, and during the week attended any available Chrysler training that my schedule allowed.”

In June 1976, after graduating from Villanova, Rossi began his career at Rossi Chrysler Plymouth, in new- and used-car sales. Over the years, Rossi was joined in the business by his wife, Patti Sue, and their son, Michael. Rossi became Dealer Principal of Rossi Pontiac Buick GMC in 1982, and 10 years later the franchise became Rossi Chevrolet Buick GMC.

Rossi has been active in community, civic and charitable affairs for more than 20 years, including as a member and past president of the Rotary Club of Washington, a founding member and board president of the Washington Business Improvement District, and a member of the advisory board of Abilities of Northwest New Jersey, a non-profit that trains and coaches individuals with disabilities to assist them with job placement. He’s also chaired fund-raising efforts for the Domestic Abuse and Rape Crisis Center. In 1990, he sponsored a Gift of Life child through a Rotary Club initiative that aids children from Third World countries who need heart surgery travel to the US for the operation and then get care and housing from families or clubs. In 1989, he earned the Boy Scouts of America Jenny Jump District Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award, and in 1997, he was named Warren County Chamber of Commerce Business Man of Year.

“My involvement in the Washington BID has been very rewarding,” Rossi says, “Being a part of the formation of the organization and having the opportunity to lead this unique public-private partnership has been very rewarding to me personally and professionally. I never felt comfortable in the political arena, and yet I had the desire to serve the community.” Rossi explains that the BID has been responsible for savings of more than \$1 million for community taxpayers while drastically improving the appearance of the downtown shopping area through streetscape, lighting and parking improvements.

Ed Rossi was nominated for the TIME Magazine Dealer of the Year award by James B. Appleton, President of the New Jersey Coalition of Automotive Retailers. Rossi has four children, Heather, Michael, Daniel and Kyle.

###

TIME is a global multimedia brand that includes TIME magazine, the world’s largest weekly newsmagazine, with a domestic audience of 20 million and a global audience of 25 million; four worldwide editions of TIME magazine; TIME for Kids; and TIME.com, which draws over 7 million unique visitors a month and has over 1.7 million Twitter followers.