

# Portland Observer Auto Review

News and reviews on new motor vehicles

## 2007 Dodge RAM 2500 Laramie MEGA 4X4 Turbo Diesel

BY KATHLEEN CARR

Pickup trucks are America's ultimate raw material. Generic in concept, these traditional work-horses are often misunderstood and unappreciated. Dodge has addressed this by creating the largest crew cab pickup available, the Ram Mega Cab. The 2007 Ram 2500 Laramie MEGA 4X4 is immense.

The Dodge Ram Mega cab has the most spacious interior available in the full-size segment, with room for six adults. The Mega leads the market with best-in-class features such as: 72.2 cubic-ft. of interior cargo space, with an additional 7.7 cubic-ft. of behind-rear seat cargo area and a very comfortable 44.2 inches of second-row leg room. The XXL cab was created by re-proportioning the relationship be-

tween cab and bed, adding 20-inches to the cab and shortening the bed to 6-feet 3-inches.

The result is acres of luxurious cab space with plenty of head, shoulder, leg and hip room. The back seats are roomy and comfortable with the first-ever reclining rear seats, separate rear heating and air conditioning outlets, reading lights and a center armrest. The rear doors open big and wide, making it easy to load stuff. Covered bins are provided in the rear seat storage area store gear, and hooks for hanging things.

The Mega cab is built on the Dodge Ram Heavy Duty platform. They ride and drive like heavy duty pickups; which makes a lot of sense if you're towing and hauling heavy loads. All 2007 Dodge Rams boast



Specifications: 5.9-Liter I-6 325-hp Cummins Turbo-Diesel @610 lb-ft torque Engine; 4WD, 4-Speed Shift-on-the-Fly Automatic Transmission; 16-City 20-Highway Mpg; \$54,395 MSRP.

### MEGA Ram Flexes 'Macho' Cummins Muscle

big towing capacities, up to 15,900 pounds, with payloads of up to 2,970 pounds.

The vaunted 5.9-liter Cummins Turbo-Diesel is a straight six-cylinder

der fitted with an intercooled, turbocharged induction system, with fuel delivered via an electronic high-pressure common rail system. The advantage is additional torque, 610

lb-ft that comes on at just 1600 rpm. This engine has a reputation for reliability and power. The Cummins responds extremely well to part-throttle acceleration at low speeds. It's a remarkable engine: the 'heavy-duty king'. The 4WD trucks have a solid front axle and use a recirculating-ball setup steering system.

Dodge implemented a significant powertrain upgrade this year. A 6.7-liter Cummins turbo-diesel

inline-six cylinder engine (late availability) replaces the previous 5.9-liter Cummins. It produces 350-hp at 3,000 rpm and 650 lb-ft of torque at 1,500 rpm. Dodge says it's quieter and less polluting than the 5.9-liter and it will be available with an industry-first exhaust brake. The new 6.7 Cummins will come with an all-new six-speed automatic that replaces the previous four-speed automatic.

Although it's built to take on the most demanding task, the 2007 Dodge Ram 2500 MEGA is still a surprisingly comfortable truck for daily use with plenty of 'mobile office' space. The 2007 Dodge Ram is certainly worth considering if you are looking for a serious, heavy-duty work horse. A few potential drawbacks to consider are the bed capacity and super-sized parking space needed; parking a truck as big as a Mega Cab requires some care and some experience. With bold, powerful and capable being the theme for all Dodge Ram trucks then the MEGA must be the 'muscle-bound heavy-duty enforcer' of this proud family line-up.

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**WEXFORD**

**Program Manager** needed by nonprofit agency with mission to promote and improve wellness among African Americans living in Oregon through health education, advocacy and research.

**Essential Functions:**

Manage multiple Programs and provide overall program supervision to staff and VISTA Volunteers; Attend mandatory VISTA Supervisor training, and recruit and hire VISTA volunteers; Maintain current, and enlist new partners, to help leverage agency resources for program expansion. Negotiate contracts with existing and future partners; Assist CEO and Development Director with visioning and preparing program design related materials; including work plans, grant writing and publication tasks, for future programs, grants and articles for publication.

**Minimum Qualifications:**

- An earned Masters degree, M.P.H. or M.S.W. preferred, or equivalent experience
- Demonstrated knowledge of and/or experience in project management and implementation, including supervision of both personnel and project/grants.
- Five (5) years of demonstrated experience working in a healthcare related position, and/or non-profit organizations; and knowledge of minority care disparities.
- Demonstrated ability to lead teams in a collaborative, constructive, professional manner.
- Demonstrated excellent interpersonal, oral and written communication skills.
- Pass pre-employment drug screen

**Salary Range:** DOE plus attractive benefits package. Experience in working in Communities of Color preferred. Please email [johnb@aaahc-portland.org](mailto:johnb@aaahc-portland.org) for application information.

### PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

**Student Affairs  
POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT -  
CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER**

The Center for Student Health and Counseling (SHAC) at Portland State University seeks a Clinical Social Worker for a FT 12-month, fixed term, unranked position.

**For complete job description, minimum qualifications, and how to apply go to:** <http://www.hrc.pdx.edu/openings/unclassified/>. Salary is competitive and commensurate with qualifications.

Review of applications will begin July 18, 2007, and will continue until finalists are identified with expectation of filling the position prior to the beginning of fall term September 24, 2007.

**Correspondence will be conducted primarily by email.** PSU is an AA/EO institution and, in keeping with the President's diversity initiative, welcomes applications from diverse candidates and candidates who support diversity.



Vickie Winans

## Fellowship Family Crusade

"Fresh Rain 2007," a week of fellowship, outpouring of God's word and music ministries, takes place Sunday, July 8 through Friday, July 13 at the International Fellowship Family, 4410 N.E. 122nd Ave.

The upcoming crusade will feature a roster of international speakers and artists - many who have been nominated for or received Grammy Awards - including gospel singer and actress Vickie Winans, solo artist Dave Hollister, international pastor Steven Hold

and author Apostle KC Sparks. Doors open nightly at 6 p.m. with the show beginning at 7 p.m. For more information email [cmashia@tiff-usa.org](mailto:cmashia@tiff-usa.org) or call the International Fellowship Family at 503-249-0347.

## Gospel Artist Honored

Kirk Franklin was chosen as Best Gospel Artist last week at the BET Awards in Los Angeles.

Franklin was selected from a group of gospel musical greats also nominated in the same category including Shirley Caesar, Kirk Franklin, Fred Hammond, Dave Hollister



Kirk Franklin

and Mary Mary. The musical innovator is currently in the studio working on his seventh CD -- a follow-up to his multiple award-winning "Hero" which still remains in the Top 10 since its release in October 2005.

## Obituaries

### In loving Memory Eugene Ramsey Jr.

Funeral services were held June 25 in Rose City Funeral Home for Eugene Ramsey Jr., who died June 18, 2007 at age 73. He was born April 11, 1934, in Newport, Ark., and was raised in Portland. He graduated from Jefferson High

School and was a maintenance worker at the Multnomah County Justice Center. In 1963, he married Zel Stephens. Survivors include his wife; daughters, Sheila, Chantel and Martina; sons, Antone and Marteo; and 13 grandchildren.

## Cox & Cox Funeral Chapel

2736 NE Rodney, Portland, Oregon 97212 (503) 281-4891

- Remembering your loved ones who passed in 2007:*
- |                                   |                                      |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Davis (Mourning), Jermaine 1-1-07 | Daehn, Brenda 3-19-07                |
| Young, Charlene 1-1-07            | Brown III, Samuel J. 3-21-07         |
| Tillman (Sr.), Paul Allen 1-7-07  | Rogers, Franchone 3-21-07            |
| Ellis-Davis, Patricia 1-12-07     | Turner, Helen D. 3-23-07             |
| Stewart, Janice 1-13-07           | Simpson, Dale Lee 3-31-07            |
| Cash, Elijah G. 1-14-07           | Richardson, Rev. Merrill E. 4-1-07   |
| Phillips, William "Leroy" 1-15-07 | Bailey, Selena 4-1-07                |
| Taylor, Damell 1-17-07            | Steward (Sr.), Little Richard 4-4-07 |
| Taylor, Karen 1-17-07             | Horsley-Wade, Linda 4-5-07           |
| Hopkins, Rudolph 1-18-07          | Jackson, Cecil 4-11-07               |
| Penfield-Hodges, Jeanette 1-20-07 | Burch, Idella 4-12-07                |
| Jackson, George 1-24-07           | Brown, Sharvettia 4-14-07            |
| Sloan, Charles 2-4-07             | Johnson, Mary Alice 4-16-07          |
| Abel, Ronald Wayne 2-4-07         | Kirby, Martha 4-18-07                |
| English, Marvin 2-5-07            | Pierre, Cyril 4-22-07                |
| Day, Louise 2-5-07                | Taylor, Retter 4-28-07               |
| Shamby, Sherry 2-5-07             | Collins, George 5-7-07               |
| Cazone-Davis, Jessie 2-15-07      | Taylor, Tonya 5-13-07                |
| Holcomb, Louis 2-17-07            | Leffler, Pelle Jean 5-16-07          |
| Muldrew, Carrie Lois 2-20-07      | Austin, Bessie 5-21-07               |
| Wells, Willie Mae 2-21-07         | Wims, Mildred 5-24-07                |
| Barr, Billy 2-21-07               | Davis, Gary 6-3-07                   |
| Nickerson, Nathan 2-25-07         | Becker, Carol Ann 6-6-07             |
| Warren, Theodore 3-6-07           | Joe, Dante LeVance 6-4-07            |
| Mathis, Lam 3-7-07                | McDonald, Willie M. 6-5-07           |
| Shanklin, James 3-11-07           | Coles, Sarah 6-8-07                  |
| Burk, Mary "Lisa" 3-12-07         | Collins, Elester 6-18-07             |
| Ford-Maxwell, Eunice 3-17-07      | Roach, Charlotte 6-19-07             |
| Rogers, Ja'Onna (Baby) 3-18-07    | Taylor, Howard 6-19-07               |
| Smith, Davion (Baby) 3-18-07      | Brown, Chloretta 6-26-07             |



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## Diamond Wedding Celebration

**Nathan and Lois Jackson** of northeast Portland celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with 200 family members and friends on Saturday. The special event was held at Self Enhancement, Inc. The couple renewed their wedding vows in a humorous and serious ceremony officiated by Rev. J.W. Matthew Hennessee of Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church.



Family members and friends traveled from California, Texas, Washington and Illinois to share in the momentous occasion. The couple's daughters, son-in-laws and grandson hosted the celebration.

## District Association - Evening of Gospel Music

Dr. Raymon H. Edwards, Moderator, and Mrs. Lorene V. Wilder, Music Director of the Union District Association of Oregon, cordially extends an invitation to you to attend an

"Evening of Gospel Music". This event will be held Saturday, July 7th at 6:00 PM at the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, 3725 N. Gantenbein, Portland, Oregon, Dr. Robert Jointer, Pastor. Featuring the melodious voices of the 75-Voice District Association Mass Choir! This choir is comprised of choir members throughout the City of Portland. Also scheduled is the dynamic praise dance ministry of G-N-C, as well as "Genesis" under the direction of Darlene Warren, and the awesome Vis-U-Lyze Mime Ministry. Also witness the spirited and gifted Damon Keller as he uses his ministry of tap dance for the Lord. You'll also be Blessed by the gifted and anointed Pastor Byron Bolton. Come early - this is a musical event you don't want to miss! For more info, please call 503-698-5447.

## A New Worship Experience In Northeast Portland

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