Cash for Clunkers stimulus program boosts car sales in Columbia showrooms

John Battacharjee

The Car Allowance Rebate System, also known as Cash for Clunkers, ended Monday, but not before increasing sales for many Columbia-area car dealerships.

The Cash for Clunkers program was passed by the federal government to provide economic incentives for consumers to purchase new, more fuel-efficient vehicles when trading in older, less fuel-efficient ones. The program received an initial grant of $1 billion from Congress, which was supposed to last from July 24 until Nov. 1.

When the funds dried up by July 30, Congress approved an additional $2 billion the next day, which was exhausted by Aug. 24.

New inventory sales increased an estimated 65 percent at Jim Hudson Pontiac GMC on Garners Ferry Road, according to general sales manager Larry Kalin.

“Overall it looks like it was a success,” said Kalin, who has worked at the dealership since 1988. “It drove the market considerably and got some older, higher-mileage vehicles off the road and put some new ones on the road and put some new ones on the road and put some new ones on the road.”

The program was not just a good deal for consumers and a boost for car dealerships, Scott Rhodes, general manager at Galeana Chrysler on Greystone Boulevard, said the federal money will be funneled into extra revenue for school districts and property and sales taxes.

“A lot of people don’t realize that a lot of that money that these customers receive for their clunker guys right back to local and state school districts and to increase tax revenue,” Rhodes said. “I think it helps the local communities, the state budgets, county budgets, they’re all a reciprocation of this money. It ripples throughout the economy.”

Rhodes also said the program would help car manufacturers, and that they would be working full-force over the next 90 days to replenish emptied car lots nationwide. He appreciated the effort of the government to help struggling car dealers.

“I think it’s going to do a lot to be a very successful stimulus programs,” Rhodes said. “At the end of the day it’s going to be one of the most successful things our government’s done in a while.”

In the past few days since the Cash for Clunkers program ended, Rhodes said sales at Galeana have unsurprisingly decreased.

“We’re not selling at the rates before we were during the program,” Rhodes said. “We kind of expected it to drop down to where we were before the program, which is about what we’re doing.”

But it’s still going to be a while until car sales were back to pre-economic slump levels.

“I don’t think it’s fixed the economy yet,” Rhodes said. “It’s going to be a long time before the stimulus money gets down into the economy and car sales in general pick up.”

Comments on this story?
E-mail sagcknew@mailbox.sc.edu

&quot;I try to keep myself on a mental budget of sorts," says second-year broadcast journalism major, Angela Parcell. A recent survey conducted by the Center for Economic and Entrepreneurial Literacy reported that many of America’s college students are already credit dependent but do not understand the basics of borrowing and interest rates. Although she is an accounting student, second-year business student Jakri Fruinke does not do her own banking personally.

Lauren Allford, a fourth-year finance major, said she puts making her rent as the biggest priority, so she pays her bills online.

“Online banking makes doing my finances a lot easier, but from a loss track of the little things it’s quite the opposite,” she said.

With the lack of personal finance classes in some high schools, 38 percent of high school seniors say the majority of their financial knowledge comes from personal reading and responding to CEE’s surveys.

Larry Kalin of Galeana said he wishes with a degree in economics and finance to see a program of buying a car, paying mortgage, saving an apartment, paying for school, etc. Parcell said “I think it’s important now, more than ever, to be very careful about your finances. It’s not a good check on your credit and to not go out and spend more than you might want.”

Mollie Torres, a second-year marketing and international student, also benefits from the first generation-styles programs. Torres said that her mother has taught her valuable lessons about managing money. Since Torres did not purchase a new vehicle, she’s taking the advice to heart.

“As a parent of a college student, this year has made me think a lot more about where and how I spend,” Torres said. “I will probably be taking out a loan in order to study abroad this year, so I need to be a little more worried about having bills.”

David Moody, a first-year business student, appreciates the concept of banking online because he can keep track of his finances in a hassle-free environment.

“I just got a debit card right before college started,” Moody said. “I have never had student loans, so I’m not really worried about going broke.”

As a parent of a college student and director of student financial aid and scholarships at the University, Edmond Padgett said the responsibility of thinking about college finances is the student’s, and that planning your college budget is advisable.

“There are a lot of financial nuances for college, and what a lot of students do not realize is that these are not only direct costs, such as tuition, books and meal plans, but also of miscellaneous and recreational expenses that
GREENVILLE — South Carolina Gov. Mark Sanford said Thursday that a state senator shouldn’t single him out by investigating his travels after other governors bought pricey flights for years.

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Sanford’s travels and use of state aircraft have come under greater scrutiny after he disappeared for five days in June and returned to confide an affair with an Argentine woman.

“This is something wrong with selective outrage,” Sanford told reporters at a news conference Thursday. “Let’s look at all the facts. Let’s lay them out. That will be a good thing. But let’s not be selective about what we have right now, which is a whole bucket of different agendas being served.”

A podium placed across the street from Sen. David Thomas’ law office, Sanford said the lawmaker’s political ambitions were fueling a probe by the budget subcommittee that Thomas chairs. Thomas, R-Fountain Inn, is running for the U.S. House.

NATIONAL
Wisconsin to phase out tests

MADISON, Wis. — A 17-year-old statewide test used to comply with the federal No Child Left Behind law will be replaced with a broader approach to judging how well Wisconsin students are performing, state Superintendent Tony Evers said Thursday.

Educators heralded the move as a step toward more accountability. It may also help put Wisconsin in a better position to compete with other states for $4.1 billion in federal education stimulus money under the government’s “Race to the Top” reform program.

“It’s a very good news,” said Mike Torne, executive director of the Wisconsin Association of School Districts. The announcement follows a law passed in June by the Wisconsin Association of School Boards and the largest teachers union, the Wisconsin Education Association Council, which has long argued for moving away from a single test to measure student achievement.

Those groups have criticized the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exams as being ineffective at measuring how well students are performing. The tests will be replaced over the next two to three years with a system that combines state, district and classroom assessments, Evers said in a statement.

INTERNATIONAL
Israel gets Auschwitz layout

BERLIN — Sketched on yellowing parchment, the 29 blueprints presented to Israel’s prime minister Thursday lay out the Nazi death camp at Auschwitz in chilling detail, with gas chambers, crematoria, fences and watchtowers drawn to scale.

“There are those who deny that the Holocaust happened,” Benjamin Netanyahu said as he accepted the documents as a gift to Israel’s Holocaust memorial, where they will go on display next year.

Netanyahu lingered over the large sheets spread on a table and compared with the Nazi abbreviations for concentration camps (“K.L.”), Auschwitz was one of the largest featuring multi-colored sketches, with barracks and even latrines drawn in detail. Other smaller sheets showed an array of designs of individual buildings, drawn from various angles.

CRIME REPORT

Saturday

Burglary/Pettit Larceny, 4:30 p.m. 204 Main St., Wardlaw College

The complainant, 21, said an unknown person forced entry into a room in Wardlaw College and removed three flash drives.

Estimated Cost: $30

Larceny/Larceny of bicycles, 2 p.m. Between Aug. 21 at 6 p.m. and Aug. 22 at 2 p.m. Thomas Cooper Library, 1023 Greene St.

The victim stated that he locked his bike to a rack outside the library on Aug. 21 and found it missing the next day. The bike was secured by a cable lock.

Estimated Cost: $50

Reporting officer: Brent Baker

TODAY IN HISTORY

1963: Thousands of Vietnam War protesters riot in the streets of Chicago at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago. The riot was known as the “Battle of Michigan Avenue.”

1955: In Chicago, a 14-year-old African American man is brutally murdered for flirting with a white woman four days earlier. His assailants—a white woman’s husband and her brother—made Emmett try on a pair of sound cotton gin fans tied to the cotton-gin fan with barbed wire, into the river.

2009: While visiting family in Money, Mississippi, President Barack Obama bought an African American from Chicago, is brutally murdered for flirting with a white woman four days earlier. His assailants—a white woman’s husband and her brother—made Emmett try on a pair of sound cotton gin fans tied to the cotton-gin fan with barbed wire, into the river.

2009: The advertising Department of the Office of Student Media is now hiring up to 4-6 students who are serious about getting real-world experience.

Position: Account Representative

You will need a strong background in sales and/or marketing. You will work with local advertisers and be responsible for developing and nurturing solid relationships with our accounts.

All positions will start out at junior sales level and will be trained in the account sales process. Contact information will be given to interested employees.

No screen, please.

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 2009

LOCAL & WORLD NEWS

LOCAL
Sanford calls probe outrage

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WEAR YOUR GARNET
SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

SUGARLAND SUPPORTS

COLLEGE COLORS DAY 2009

09.04.09

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT
WEAR YOUR GARNET
ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

SUGARLAND’S CURRENT CD
LOVE ON THE INSIDE
AVAILABLE NOW!
USC gets high marks for service

Students contribute thousands of hours in programs, events

Derek Legette

Last year, the University proved it is all about community service. In the 2008-09 school year, many students, faculty and staff engaged in numerous acts of selfless service. A total of 41,829 USC volunteers are estimated to have completed a large number of hours.

Some student organizations involved were the Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity, the Anthropology Student Association, American Red Cross and the Carolina Service Council. Rashelka Robinson, president of Alpha Phi Omega, feels very passionately about doing community service.

“Our basic foundations are leadership, friendship and especially service. Service is a key factor, which is why all members of this organization donate 30 hours of volunteering,” said Robinson, a fourth-year experimental psychology and biology major.

Although she works with other groups, Robinson is mainly committed to Alpha Phi Omega.

“I’m a full-time student, a full-time member of Alpha Phi Omega, and a full-time president,” she said.

Other service programs involved were the Carolina Opportunities Fair, America’s Promise, UA Day of Service Saturday program. The Service Council, which Robinson is active in, has 40 diverse non-profit opportunities.

In the 2008-09 school year, 979 participants were at six monthly events, which accumulated 4,460 hours of service. Carolina Cares donated 1,500 stockings, a 12 percent increase from 2007.

Carolina Service Council designed a volunteer project called Harvest Hope Food Bank, planned trees for Carolina Wildfire Care and collected 1,100 letters for deployed troops during the A Thousand Thanks campaign. CSC president Audrey Graf, feels dedicated to the Carolina community.

“We have goals in the future. Our goal is to positively impact the community surrounding our campus and want to contribute in any way that we can,” Graf said. “As Carolinians, we aim to show that community service is an important part of being engaged in the Carolina community.”

The Carolina Service Council exists as a student organization because many students do feel the commitment to positively impacting the community surrounding their school.

Maria Culberston, a fourth-year biology student, was in charge of the Carolina Service Council.

“I’ve been doing some type of service for three years,” said Graf. “As a fourth-year student, I want to contribute in any way that I can.”

The school sold alcohol to students at a function

Griggs attended with her overseas companions. The school used a Breathalyzer test on each student to make sure he or she was fit to drive at the end of the night.

“The school was very responsible because they accepted that students were going to drink and did their best to make the process pass,” Griggs said. Drinking was just one of the many things she had to learn while in the French study abroad program that it sometimes is at American public universities.”

“Daily service is a kind of student to excel in such an experience. “Malia is an excellent student, quiet and serious, but very pleasant and adaptable,” Duffy said.

“Her advice to those planning travel abroad in the future is simple. "You need to immerse yourself in the culture -- eat what they eat, speak with them, hang out with them, dress like them," Griggs said. “You'll have a much richer experience.”

News comments:

“The Carolina Service Council exists as a student organization because many students do feel the commitment to positively impacting the community surrounding their school.”

Malia Griggs’ favorite attraction while in Paris was the Catacombs, an underground network of tunnels.
Fiscally minded Gov. Mark Sanford believes the media’s job is to uncover the truth, and Sanford still knows there will be far less scrutiny there in the General Assembly, though he has few friends there.

“Globalization Stories so harrowing he had run out of tears. Honesty requires such action, especially as earlier inquiries to the ‘incomplete picture presented in media claims.’

If you see an error in today’s paper, we want to know about it. The media’s job is to uncover the truth, and Sanford still knows there will be far less scrutiny there in the General Assembly, though he has few friends there.

There is only one God and he sent his son Jesus to die on the cross for the entire world’s sins. And now, nobody will want to call yourself a literary buff? Well, because a Twitter fiction is — wait for it — only 140—characters. Twitter may be a cool way to tell short stories.

He saw Miley Cyrus in a white dress, with long blonde hair, wearing a white dress and a white hat. ‘Globalization

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Mobile.

Elbow Room in Five Points after taking the past year to slowly Spoon.

with the supposed hiatus of local record collective, Fork and a void that needed to be filled in the Columbia music scene Vans, The Artichokes, Hello Tomorrow and more Who: Srsly Records Showcase featuring Sweet

BEST BETS FOR THE WEEKEND

As second-year Bakari Lebby and Will Flourance perceived In November 2008, Lebby and Flourance, who were already fans of the now-defunct collective, noticed that the group appeared to be fading away. “We were like, ‘What’s going on with this’ because it seemed to be dying to the point that we were like, ‘We should emulate them and have something like that for people our age,’” Lebby said. The pair looked up to local groups and Fork and Spoon members such as The Heist and The Accomplice and the Choir Quit but couldn’t get anyone directly filling the position vacant left behind. Lebby, Flourance and second-year, Nate Puza, set up a meeting over winter break to discuss the possibility of their musical endeavor. “You said, ‘We’re going to do this for sure but we’re going to have to start really small and really slowly because we’re 18 and we don’t know what we’re doing. At first it was a bunch of joke bands,” said Leeby. “But then we...”

At the time of the formation, Lebby and Flourance respectively had their own musical projects that they really had no plans to present to the public. But when the pair joined together to form their comical hip-hop group, Sweet Vans, they needed an outlet to release their material and show that the music that their friends were producing.

“We wanted to start a record label to carry our music rather than just one individual artist or group because we wanted our friends involved,” Flourance said. In the beginning, Flourance noted, the collective contained only Sweet Vans and a few other joke bands that the pair knew. But that changed when Srsly talked to Puza, former drummer for disbanded Columbia group, Hello Tomorrow, and offered to start releasing and featuring new music. “At first we were in a bunch of joke bands,” said Leeby. “But then we...”

The next group to join the Srsly ranks was the Myrtle Beach-based The Artichokes followed by Miss Ohio’s local southeast greased pop band. In March, Srsly kicked off their presence in Columbia with a debut show featuring Sweet Vans, The Artichokes and Hello Tomorrow at New Broadwalk Tavern. While the group brought people out to the show through Facebook and word of mouth promotion, Lebby was surprised by the large turnout. He said the high volume was largely due to Puza’s graphic design on the promotional flyers. “You can have a horrid poster for one thing and the graphics caught your attention to the point where you would double take, and you prey upon that,” Lebby said. In addition to the posters, Lebby said that he and Flourance’s work at WUSC helped them promote their events and understand the intricacies of Students’ label takes on Columbia, introduce talent at Elbow Room

Colin Jones

Students’ Records Showcase

Serious Records Showcase: Who: Srsly Records Showcase featuring Sweet

Second-year Nate Puza is the graphic designer for Srsly Records, which began in November 2008.

promotion as a whole. However, while the pair is still signing bands to Srsly, it’s not officially a label yet, but Lebby and Flourance both noted that they have plans to apply for a business license by the end of the year. With record in the name, Lebby still notes that it is technically a collective at the moment. “The idea is by the end of this year we’ll be able to start marketing actual discs or records,” Lebby said.

Students in Columbia are fans of Srsly’s existence. “The big thing about it is to get transfer students and freshmen to know about us,” he said. “The second thing is we just wanted to play a show once everyone got back into town.”

Lebby and the Srsly staff hope to engage influence to the rest of the state and hopefully the southeast region. But the focus remains on bands and committing Srsly to their success. “If all of our bands from Srsly Records join Salt Pop or like a label, that would be amazing to us,” Lebby said.

Comments on this story?
E-mail sagcketc@sc.edu
**PhD**

**Inside the Box** by Markwone Lovettore / The Daily Gamecock

Hey I'm going to go so some laundromat, see you in a bit.

Hey wait! I'll call you fifty bucks if there's something left over that needs to be picked up. I'll call you back later.

Inside the Box by Markwone Lovettore / The Daily Gamecock

Whiteboard by Bobby Sutton / The Daily Gamecock

PhD by Jorge Chan

**The Scene @ USC**

**USC FOOTBALL**

**TODAY**

- **THE MOVEMENT**
  - 8 p.m., $12 advance/$10 day of show
  - Headliners, 700 Garnet St.

- **MUSIC AT SANDHILL**
  - 6 p.m., free
  - Village at Sandhill

**TOMORROW**

- **NORTHEAST FARMERS MARKET RETURNS TO LAKE CAROLINA**
  - 2:30 p.m., free
  - Lake Carolina Town Center

- **FOURZERDALPHIA CD RELEASE PARTY**
  - 8 p.m., $5
  - Headliners, 700 Garnet St.

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**HOROSCOPES**

Aries

**Friends** help you make the right connection. Don't rely on them too heavily. Chart your own route.

Taurus

Why can't we all just get along? Perhaps because it's boring. Peace is possible.

Gemini

Yes, you can to maintain it. It's something you already have. It's a new source of income nearby. You can find it if you look around.

Cancer

You might think friends are messing things up in an effort to help. The outcome is positive, though, so don't worry.

Leo

Don't get involved in a clandestine affair. If you're in one, get out. Secrets made now will be revealed.

Virgo

Stick to the rules. Discipline is required, from both you and the others. Do what you can to maintain it.

Libra

Look at your zodiac sign, but don't give up. Present it as your zodiac sign, but don't give up. Present it as a point of view. You'll see how you can better understand things. That will help.

Sagittarius

Make sure you have the facts. Everything you need to win the argument. Be prepared.

Capricorn

There's a new source of income nearby. You can find it if you look around. It's something you already have.

Aquarius

You might think friends are messing things up in an effort to help. The outcome is positive, though, so don't worry.

Pisces

If your suggestion doesn't go over, don't give up. Present it as many times as it takes to get your point across.

- **TODAY**
  - 1 Actor Garrett
  - 11 "& Mindy"
  - 25 "The Grand __"; mired down
  - 26 __ de plume
  - 30 Chuny Marquez

- **TOMORROW**
  - 8 Mr. Baldwin
  - 12 "Ticket to __"
  - 17 "Unhappily __ After"
  - 24 "He __, She Said"
  - 31 Renaissance Faire

---

**Crossword**

**Edited by Wayne Robert Williams**

**08/28/09**

**Across**

1 Actor Garrett
5 "Dateline __"
9 Mr. Baldwin
12 "Ticket to __"
13 Onassis, to friends
14 __’shanter; Scottish hat
17 "Unhappily __ After"
19 Graves or Falk
21 Schwimmer’s role on “Friends”
22 Schwimmer’s role on “Friends”
23 Fraternity letter
30 Chuny Marquez
31 Renaissance Flame
36 "Owls" villain
37 In ready reserve
39 International
41 Dorothy
42 Trampled
43 ___ Vegas

**Down**

1 "The Wayans __.”
2 Regina Philbin’s co-host
3 Action on “CSI: Miami”
4 Girlfriend___
5 Appoint
6 "...Maverick"
7 Makes reference to "Old Yeller"
8 Dined
9 Actor on "NCIS"
10 Sitcom for Sherman Hemsley
11 ___ Factor: Chronicles of the Paranormal
12 "Ticket to __"
13 "The Grand __"; mired down by routine
14 One of Cybill’s exes
15 ___ VF_.____
16 Role on “Cheers”
17 "How I __ Your Mother"
18 Role on “Cheers”
19 "How I __ Your Mother"
20 Charlotte __
21 Short-lived Ted
22 Schwimmer’s role on “Friends”

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**Sudoku**

**By The Mephman Group**

**How to Play**

Complete the grid in each row, column, and 3x3 box so that no digit (1 to 9) is repeated every digit 1 to 9.

**Solution from 08/27/09**

<table>
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09.04.09
College Colors Day is September 4th
Wear your Gamecock Colors!

GARNET ON
GAMEDAY

SUPPORT THE GAMECOCKS
BY WEARING GARNET FOR EVERY GAME!
Senior outside hitter Ivana Kujundzic is looking forward to the first half.

"It makes a huge difference in the game if you can score early," coach Shelley Smith said.

The team continued to apply pressure for the rest of the half, hardly allowing Carolina any possession on the offensive side of the field. In fact, CoC was outshot 6-0 in the first half.

"That half in to Kaula was a tremendous half and a great finish," Smith said.

In the first ten minutes of the second half, USC had a great-goal-scoring opportunity when Grimsley went on a runaway from the defense; however, the defenders caught her before she could get off a good shot.

The second half was relatively uneventful. Carolina had a few good scoring chances, and Emily Morgan finally tallied a shot on the Cougars in the 65th minute.

"As a team we defended, and that limits our opponents’ opportunities," Smith said of the Gamecocks stonic defense.

The Gamecocks had possession for most of the match, and they were able to pass the ball much more efficiently than the Fighting Irises.

"That kind of passing, and that kind of team work, definitely going to get you goals," Smith said.

In the second half, South Carolina won the game in a dominating fashion, only allowing the College of Charleston to take two shots, compared to their own eleven.

"We did an excellent job of taking the game over," said Smith. "South Carolina plays again on Sunday, when Western Carolina comes to town. In last season's matchup, South Carolina lost 1-0."

"We definitely need to come out strong, knowing we'll play a physical team," Smith said.

"It's at their place now, so we'll play a physical team," Smith said. "We'll play a physical team."

"We have a team routine, a lot of players the gym flows better, the intensity is up because they can only help us. If we do well, you can get off us to what we need get better at."

"We really have a great finish and we really get along the court, so I'm sitting really good."

"When we have a team routine a lot of players the gym flows better, the intensity is up because they can only help us. If we do well, you can get off us to what we need get better at."

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