

## GM Club, Covenant Team Up to Provide Basic Dental Care for Needy

by Jennifer Knightstep

This time of year, most charitable giving tends to support food and warm clothing drives.

While local people in need are certainly thankful for warm new coats and hearty meals, some have another urgent need that has, until recently, gone unaddressed. This need is simple, one most people take for granted: basic dental care.

Some needy metro Detroiters require dental care to alleviate years of chronic pain; others have never seen a dentist for a simple cleaning.

It's not surprising that, when struggling to put food on the table, paying for dental care, or even arranging transportation to a dental appointment, ranks low on the list of priorities for some of those in need.

That's where Covenant Community Care, supported by the GM Club, comes in. Covenant has two specially-equipped trailers they use to bring dental care to those in need, taking care out into the communities that need it.

Dentists and dental students provide a range of dental care services, including exams and X-rays, all on the go. If a patient requires more attention, they are referred to the Covenant dental clinic on Michigan Avenue in Detroit, where service fees are greatly reduced.

The GM Club supports Covenant with monetary donations, and by helping spread the

word about their services, in part, says Joe Wrobel, GM Product Development IT manager, because they've seen the results of the care Covenant provides.

"Covenant makes a direct and positive change in local people's lives," says Wrobel. "I've heard firsthand stories from patients, how they've been able to live without constant pain for the first time in years."

One such patient, profiled on the Covenant Community Care website, is Michael, who was desperate to ease the pain in his teeth, but who couldn't afford the dental services to address it.

A recovered drug addict for almost 20 years, Michael was also nervous about having to explain his need for non-narcotic pain medication to staff. But, he says,

the staff at Covenant addressed his unique issues with sensitivity, and now, with a full upper and partial lower plate, he's free of pain, and trusts Covenant enough to send his wife for much-needed dental care, too. "I trust my wife to Covenant," Michael said.

GM's Wrobel understands why metro Detroiters choose to donate to charities that provide basic food, clothing, and shelter needs, but he wants people to know there's another need they can help fulfill, one that can make a big difference, too.

Covenant Community Care is always looking for caring medical and dental professionals to provide services, and for other volunteers to help with other services. They're also seeking monetary donations.



Covenant board member and driver Jonathan Cooper

## Chrysler Museum's Holiday Event Features Cars, Trees

What better way for a metro Detroit to kick off the holiday season than with a visit to the Walter P. Chrysler Museum, especially on Saturday, Nov. 17, for the opening reception of the annual Cars, Trees & Traditions exhibit?

We are the Motor City, after all, and Cars, Trees & Traditions will explore the evolution of American holiday traditions and how they develop alongside the automobile.

This year, the exhibit will feature 23 historically accurate and beautifully decorated evergreen trees, and will run concurrently

with Fashion and the Automobile - An Exhibit in Ten Eras.

Fashion and the Automobile is all about the fashion of the industry throughout history, with historical fashions, accessories, and original works by automotive artists.

And, like years past, Cars, Trees & Traditions will feature a scale-model train display on loan from the Stony Creek Model Railroad Club each weekend for the duration of the exhibit.

The cocktail-attire opening reception adds a spectacular new angle to enjoying Cars, Trees & Tra-

ditions, and is not to be missed.

The festivities will include a strolling dinner with a turkey breast carving station, rich dessert crepes, and cocktails; lounge-style entertainment by a local Dean Martin impersonator; and a range of prizes, including tickets to the 2013 North American International Auto Show and gift certificates to the Vinsetta Garage.

Doors open for the Opening Reception of Cars, Trees & Traditions at 6 p.m. and festivities will continue until 9 p.m. Tickets are \$30 per person for WPCM mem-

bers, and \$35 each for non-members. Tickets will not be available at the door, so they must be purchased in advance by visiting [www.wpchryslermuseum.org](http://www.wpchryslermuseum.org) or by calling toll-free 888-456-1924 by Nov. 12.

Cars, Trees & Traditions will also open to the general public on Nov. 17, and will run through Dec. 30. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

Admission to Cars, Trees & Traditions is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors over 62, \$4 for juniors (6-12); children 5 and under are free.

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