

Chrysler Employees, Ex-Red Wings Mix It Up for Charity

More than 60 employees at the Chrysler Group Auburn Hills headquarters took to the ice Dec. 23 to participate in the first game of the United Way Hockey Challenge.

Each Chrysler player anted up \$200 to play in the three-game series at Joe Louis Arena against the Detroit Red Wings Alumni, and ticket sales to family and friends of Team Dodge players are sure to generate additional funds. With the first game entered into the books, Team Dodge went down to the Red Wings Alumni 16-11, but no one was complaining, as the action resulted in \$7,500 for United Way of Southeastern Michigan.

The total was more than 60 percent of the \$12,000 goal named by event organizers, and there are two more games in the

series, dates to be announced.

Chief organizer Mike Tonietto, head of Vehicle Line Manufacturing, called the series "just an opportunity to get people involved with the United Way by doing something they love to do, which is play hockey." Among those participating for Team Dodge were Vehicle Integration Manager Eric Keipper, who managed to score two goals; Dodge-brand President and CEO Reid Bigland, Patrick Toth, senior manager, Manufacturing Program Planning; Jamie Noll, senior manager, Dodge Marketing; Mid-size Vehicle Program Manager Mike Johnson, Body Engineering Manager Marc Ramsey; Asset Manager Nick Kaliniecki; Release Engineer Matthew Klotzer and Hedge Fund Manager Steven Brinker.

Team Dodge was up against

formidable competitors on the Red Wings Alumni side, including Chris Chelios, a three-time Stanley Cup winner; Chris Osgood, another owner of three Cup rings, along with Mickey Redmond, Wayne Presley, Joe Kocur, Eddie Mio, Larry Murphy and

Kris Draper. Not surprisingly, the Red Wings Alumni started scoring early and kept it up, with Draper frequently responsible for getting the puck past Team Dodge netminder and Logistics Systems Manager Ken Paetkau, who was replaced in the second

period by Chrysler C-sedan Model Responsible Ken Merlo.

Others who scored for the Wings were Chelios, Murphy and Kocur. Johnson, Noll, Ramsey, Kaliniecki, Klotzer and Brinker were among those scoring for Team Dodge.



Team Dodge lines up for pre-game ceremonies.

photo by Stephanie Tonietto

Chamber Will Hold Millennials Mixer

The Auburn Hills Chamber of Commerce will be hosting its first "Young Professionals Mixer" on Thursday, Jan. 17, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Applebee's on Brown Road in Auburn Hills.

Professionals working in North Oakland County are invited to attend.

"Chambers of commerce benefit from the inclusion of the millennial workforce," said chamber executive director Denise Asker. "We are hoping to facilitate strategic networks among this ever-important audience."

Tickets are \$10, or \$15 at the door, which includes refreshments as well as the opportunity to network with peers. A cash bar will be available.

To register, call 248-853-7862 or visit the Chamber on the web at www.auburnhillschamber.com.

Historical Society To Elect Officers

The Auburn Hills Historical Society is holding its January meeting on Monday, Jan. 14, at 7 p.m. in the Auburn Hills Public Library, 3400 East Seyburn Road.

Society president Tyson Brown said they will elect the officers for the upcoming term. Topics for discussion will also include the recent submission of information to the Oakland County Historical Society on the train depot that was in Auburn Hills from 1879 to 1956.

Brown said the Oakland Society is in the process of drawing up a map showing the historic train lines that ran through the county.

The Auburn Hills train depot was at the corner of what was then known as First and Principle. That is now Primary and Gray roads.

For more information, contact auburnhillshistory@yahoo.com.

Library Events

The Auburn Hills Murder by Discussion group meets on Saturday, Jan. 19, at 10:30 a.m. in the library's large meeting room, located at 3400 Seyburn Drive, Auburn Hills. The meeting is open to adults. The book to be discussed is Dana Stabenow's "A Cold Day for Murder."

The library's knitting club also meets on Jan. 19 at noon. Those 7 or older can learn how to knit with the help of a volunteer. Those who already know how to knit, should bring their current project. There's room for 11. Visit the library Web page to reserve a spot.

'Drive for the Kids' Nets Five Schools \$5K from Chrysler

Thanks to a great turnout from community members, the Chrysler brand will award five schools across the country \$5,000 each in additional funding through the Drive for the Kids program for their achievement of an excessively high number of test drives at their location.

Through Drive for the Kids, participating schools received a \$10 contribution from Chrysler brand on behalf of everyone who took a brief test drive in a Town & Country minivan or another Chrysler brand vehicle that was available for test drive on the day of the test drive event.

"The Chrysler brand is committed to enriching the lives of youth across America," said Saad Chehab, president and CEO of Chrysler brand.

"Awarding \$5,000 to each of the five schools that exceeded expectations for community participation at their local Drive for the Kids event is our way of rewarding sincere efforts made by the community to show support



Minivan test drivers raise money.

for further educating local students and raising funds that will help to sustain important educational programs."

Since 1993, when Drive for the Kids was first introduced, the Chrysler brand and its dealers have worked with parents and educators in communities across the nation, contributing more than \$4 million directly to local schools for student needs, including playgrounds, field trips, reading programs and new computers.

The five schools are: Central Region: Eagle Heights Elementary School of Harrison, Ark.; Midwest Region: St. Paul's Catholic School of Bloomer, Wis.; Northeast Region: The Bishop's Academy of Most Holy Rosary of Syracuse, N.Y.; Southeast Region: Four Oaks Elementary of Four Oaks, N.C.; Western Region: Wrightwood Elementary of Wrightwood, Calif.

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