

# Oakland Tech News™

AUBURN HILLS AND ENVIRONS

VOL. 31 NO. 18

News of the Automotive, Technology and Supplier Community

MAY 13, 2013



The 2014 Stingray is this year's Indy pace car.

## 2014 Chevy Corvette Goes To the Front at Indy 500

The new, seventh-generation 2014 Corvette Stingray will serve as the Indianapolis 500 Pace Car, leading the field to the start of the 97th running of "The Greatest Spectacle in Racing," on Sunday, May 26, at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

It marks a record 12th time the Corvette has served as the Pace Car, starting in 1978.

"It is an honor to help inaugurate the all-new Corvette Stingray at the hallowed Brickyard and further the legacy between Chevrolet and the Indianapolis 500," said Jim Campbell, GM vice president of Performance Vehicles and Motorsports.

"The 2014 Corvette Stingray's performance was influenced by racing, making this prestigious assignment even more fitting."

Along with Chevrolet's return in 2012 as an engine supplier, the Corvette Stingray Pace Car extends a legacy at the Brickyard that dates to the racetrack's early days.

"Chevrolet is a great partner of the Speedway," said Jeff Belskus,

Indianapolis Motor Speedway Corporation president and chief executive officer. "That connection is heightened this year with the next-generation Corvette in front of a very talented field of racers."

Decked out in Laguna Blue Tintcoat with official Indianapolis 500 graphics on the doors, the Corvette Stingray Pace Car differs from production models with only track-mandated safety features and strobe lights.

No powertrain upgrades are required to run in front of the IndyCar pack, thanks to its new 6.2L LT1 engine, which features advanced technologies including direct fuel injection, continuously variable valve timing and Active Fuel Management (cylinder deactivation). Chevrolet officials say the new technologies help produce an estimated 450 horsepower more efficiently.

The 2014 Corvette Stingray coupe goes on sale this fall, with a convertible model – featuring a

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## Team Prefix's Viper SRT-10 Sinks Its Fangs Into Rivals at One Lap of America Event

by Irena Granaas

Back in March, Prefix Corporation invited the *Oakland Tech News* to the unveiling of the supercharged Dodge Viper SRT-10 that would represent Team Prefix Forge Ahead USA in the 2013 Tire Rack One Lap of America motorsport event.

The race launched May 4, and by May 6, the Prefix Viper, piloted by owner/driver Steve Loudin and co-driver Tom Drewer had already competed in several events, and, out of 60 teams,

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The Team Prefix 700 hp 8.4-liter V10 2008 SRT-10 Dodge Viper

## AH Chamber Exec Asker Earns Scholarship

Denise Asker, executive director of the Auburn Hills Chamber of Commerce, has been awarded a Regent Scholarship by the Institute for Organization Management, the professional development program of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation.

Awarded to professionals from across the country, the Regent Scholarships are given in recognition of a recipient's involvement in industry professional organizations, community service and community background.

"Regent scholarships offer executives the opportunity to attend Institute and grow their peer network," said Raymond P. Towle, vice president of Institute for Organization Management at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation. "We are pleased to help these talented professionals advance their careers and organizations."

Each of the Regent Scholarship awardees will attend one of the institute's five sites in 2013. At the completion of the four-year curriculum, recipients will receive IOM graduate recognition, signifying completion of 96 hours of course instruction in nonprofit management and their commitment to the industry.

Shelby Parish, associate man-

ager of Operations for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, said Asker was chosen to receive one of these scholarships based on several factors – the length of time she's been in the nonprofit industry, her involvement in the community, and in the nonprofit industry as well.

"She did very well. She scored high in all these categories," Parish said. "It's a wonderful achievement and her community should be very excited about it."

As a Michigan resident, Asker

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Denise Asker

## Chrysler Custom Challenge Invites Brand Fans to Post Car Re-Do's

The new generation of tech-savvy Chrysler enthusiasts are the target of the automaker's latest "Chrysler Custom Challenge," which was posted recently on Facebook.

The contest is open to owners of any Chrysler brand vehicles, which means the Chrysler 200, Chrysler 300 and Chrysler Town & Country.

Chrysler spokesperson Gabrielle Schulte said it will be interesting to see what the fans, both men and ladies, will come up with. She

commented that interest in vehicle customization by women "is definitely on the rise, so that's a great thing."

Now through Monday, June 24, fans can visit the "Custom Challenge" tab on the Chrysler Facebook page to enter, by submitting an image of their customized Chrysler brand vehicle, along with a brief description of what customizations they have made to their ride to make it unique.

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## Autopalooza Celebrates Local Car Culture

by Jim Stickford

Southeast Michigan is host to a number of auto events known collectively as Autopalooza, and the first event – the Chevrolet Detroit Belle Isle Grand Prix – kicks off the summer season May 31.

At a special press conference held at the GM Heritage Center in Sterling Heights, Jim Campbell, U.S. vice president of Performance Vehicles and Motorsports for GM, said that it was always a great day when he and others are able to attend events at GM's Heritage Center.

"We get to see all the beautiful cars here," Campbell said. "There are about 600. They are race cars, concept cars, antique cars. This is a special place for us. And the Autopalooza is a celebration of Michigan through races, cruises and car shows. We get to show our passion for the great cars and designs. Chevrolet is proud to be involved in Autopalooza and proud that the

Chevrolet Detroit Belle Isle Grand Prix kicks off all the events beginning on May 31."

The June events are:

- Quicken Loans 400 NASCAR Weekend, Brooklyn, Mich., June 15-16.

- Motor Muster, Dearborn, June 15-16.

- EyesOn Design, Grosse Pointe Shores, June 16.

- Eastpointe Gratiot Cruise, Macomb County, June 15.

- Sloan Museum Auto Fair, Flint, June 22-23.

- Cruisin' Downriver, Southern Wayne County, June 29.

The two events in July are both in Plymouth – the RM Vintage Motor Cars Auction (July 27) and the Concours d'Elegance of America (July 28).

August is busier:

- The Clinton Township Gratiot Cruise in Macomb County, Aug. 4.

- The Back to the Bricks Weekend, Flint, Aug. 13-17.

- The Pure Michigan 400

NASCAR Weekend, Brooklyn, Aug. 17-18.

- The Woodward Dream Cruise, Oakland County, Aug. 17.

- Cruisin' Hines, Westland, Aug. 25.

In September, two events close the season – the Old Car Festival in Dearborn (Sept. 7-8) and the Orphan Car Show in Ypsilanti (Sept. 22).

Campbell said that over the years, GM has played a role in a lot of individual events, but it wasn't until last year that the company started getting involved in the Autopalooza.

And the benefits of these events pay off, Campbell said, adding that he has been told that the economic benefit from the Grand Prix alone is about \$45 million.

"Now, not every event will generate that kind of income," Campbell said, "but it's just one of 16 events. They will all gener-

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GM executive Jim Campbell at the Autopalooza press conference.

Contact us at [news@oaklandtechnews.com](mailto:news@oaklandtechnews.com)