

## Oakland Tech News

Reader Input or feedback:  
 News@OaklandTechNews.com  
 To Inquire about advertising:  
 Ads@OaklandTechNews.com  
 248-860-2275

Deadline: Thursday 5:00 p.m.  
 for the next edition of Monday.

William Springer II, publisher  
 and interim news editor;  
 Lisa A. Torretta, operations

Oakland Tech News  
 is a trademark of  
 Springer Publishing Co., Inc.  
 A Michigan Corporation.

www.OaklandTechNews.com

## Golling Car Show Rocks July 4th

by Irena Granaas

The special Fourth of July charity classic car show put on by Golling Buick-GMC of Lake Orion hit the finish line at maximum acceleration, with more than 150 participating vehicles and their owners.

"It went far beyond my expectations . . . I was expecting only about 50 or 60 cars," said show organizer Bill Kokenos. "Our Kenley Marie Dabrowski Memorial Scholarship Fund earned \$1,000."

As classic cars filled the lot, Emcee Rockin' Ronnie and the 2 Days Gone Band kept everyone entertained. Organizers gave away trophies and dash plaques.

"Everybody appeared to have a great time at the event," said Kokenos. "I'm sure we're going to do it again next year, not only for the car people, but due to the huge success for the scholarship fund. And again, it's a free event for the car people."

## Chrysler Car Output Soars

by Irena Granaas

It's summertime and the production line is jumpin' – at least at U.S. Chrysler assembly plants. The Auburn Hills-based automaker produced more than 29,000 cars last month, exceeding June 2012's total by 20 percent.

Year-to-date gains were more robust for Chrysler cars flying out of factory doors. Since January, the company has turned out 192,420 cars, a 30 percent surge compared with the first six months of 2012. Sales have been particularly perky this month for the Dodge Avenger and the Chrysler 200 (up 37 percent and 16 percent, respectively, compared with June of last year).

In U.S. truck production, the

## Cooper Standard Starts Foundation

Cooper-Standard Holdings Inc., a Novi-based global supplier of automotive sealing, fuel and brake and fluid transfer systems, has established the Cooper Standard Foundation to support children's charities, education, health and wellness, and community revitalization within the communities Cooper Standard employees work and live.

The private foundation is managed by its own board of directors and, in addition to supporting charitable organizations, offers employee engagement opportunities and college scholarships for employees' children.

"Cooper Standard is proud to expand its philanthropic initiatives with the establishment of the Cooper Standard Foundation," said Jeffrey Edwards, chairman and CEO, Cooper Standard. "The foundation is being launched to further the reach of Cooper Standard's charitable giving and has been funded with an

## AH Rolls Out PEV Welcome Mat with Free Car Stations

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ington, D.C. recently. The challenge was implemented as a response to President Obama's March 2012 announcement of the EV Everywhere Grand Challenge.

The Challenge is focused on "enabling the United States to be the first in the world to produce plug-in electric vehicles that are as affordable and convenient for the average American family as today's gasoline-powered vehicles within the next 10 years."

The city of Auburn Hills was invited by the DOE to become a part of the challenge due to the city's leadership in promoting PEV infrastructure readiness both statewide and nationally.

"Over two years ago, Auburn Hills made an intentional decision to prepare for the fueling needs of plug-in electric vehicle drivers," said Steve Cohen, director of Community Development for the city of Auburn Hills.

"With the support of the Ann Arbor-based Clean Energy Coalition, our example has become a model for the state of Michigan, which in turn has made us a national player on the topic."

The city's leadership in this area started in 2011, when Auburn Hills became the first municipality in Michigan to adopt a comprehensive Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Ordinance. This ordinance encourages (but does not require) developers, builders, business owners and homeowners to make electric car charging stations a regular part of construction.

Since then, the city has continued its forward movement on this issue by testing demo plug-in hybrid gas/electric vehicles for Chrysler, working with DTE to secure a grant to install three charging stations in downtown Auburn Hills, and has since

brought the number of city charging stations up to six, not including a few additional PEV charging stations installed by local businesses.

To date, the city has installed two PEV charging stations downtown, three in the Civic Center and one at the Department of Public Works, said Shawn Keenan, Water Resources coordinator for the city of Auburn Hills.

Through its engineering consulting firm, OHM Advisors of Livonia, the city has also created a "best practices" standard for on-street charging station regulatory signs. This standard is currently under consideration by the Department of Transportation as the national standard in PEV signage.

"It took a while to come up with (the standard). Once we designed it, we ran it by the MDOT (the Michigan Department of Transportation)," said Keenan. "MDOT also adopted it for the state of Michigan."

Tim Juidici, city engineer for the city of Auburn Hills and client representative at OHM Advisors, said the firm began working with the city on developing PEV signage late in 2011.

"And then through the city, we submitted the tentative signage to the state of Michigan for their review," he said. "Just this year, within the last six months, the

state has approved the signage and adopted it as the standard throughout the state."

Juidici said those at the state who considered the signage design liked the fact that "It's very simple and very familiar to drivers. It's the same style used for handicapped parking."

For those whose daily ride is a modern PEV, there's no worry about finding an available charging station.

As an example, Keenan said as he goes about his duties around the city, he typically spots someone charging a car a couple of times a week.

A complete charge at one of the city's Type 2 fast charge stations takes about four to six hours, said Keenan, while charging an electric vehicle through a standard 110-volt plug such as a home charging unit takes six to eight hours.

PEV drivers traveling in Auburn Hills will not only find themselves "first in line," but will be pleased to know that use of the city-owned charging stations is currently free of charge.

"The cost to charge a car is so low it's not worth the effort to collect any type of fee," said Keenan.

One happy PEV user who appreciates the convenience of the charging stations is Jan Waun, head librarian at the Auburn Hills

Public Library. She has been driving a Chevy Volt plug-in electric hybrid since April, and uses one of the nearby charging stations in the smaller parking lot adjacent to city hall.

"For me it's perfectly located. You just plug it in and (the charger) starts right up," said Waun. "And it's free, which is really nice of the city to do that."

Waun also has a home charging unit. Both the home charging unit and the city's charge stations will fully charge her Volt in four hours. She raved about the GM product.

"I really love my electric car and I would definitely buy another Volt," Waun said. "It's been a dream. I love how it handles, love the way it drives – it's an excellent car, a well-built car."

Juidici noted that drivers of non-electric vehicles should be aware that, according to the city ordinance developed on PEV charging stations and their usage, city parking spots with charging stations are reserved for use by those charging their plug-in electric vehicles.

"They've (city officials) developed warning stickers that are more informational . . . They haven't issued any citations yet as far as I know, because the concept of electric vehicle charging stations is kind of new for most people," he said.

Things that make you go  
**VROOM**

Locations:

- Troy
- Auburn Hills
- Somerset
- Center Line
- Perrysburg

rates as low as  
**1.45%** APR\*

www.CCFinancial.com  
 800-777-6728

**CORNERSTONE  
 COMMUNITY  
 FINANCIAL**  
 in your corner.

\*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Rates are "as low as" and based on credit score, term of loan. Subject to change at any time. Other restrictions apply.