# **Detroit Auto Scene**

#### "FIRST IN THE HEART OF DETROIT"

VOL. 86 NO. 43

# GM Asks for Program to Support Cleaner Air

the establishment of a National Zero Emissions Vehicle (NZEV) program to support a 50-state solution to cleaner air.

GM's comments, directed to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the Protection Environmental Agency, were in response to SAFE's (Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient) section of Vehicles Rule for Model Years 2021-2026 Passenger Cars and Light Trucks.

In its comments, the Detroit automaker added that the program would promote the success of the U.S. automotive industry and preserve U.S. industrial leadership for years to come.

General Motors said it anticipates the NZEV program, as recommended, has the potential to place more than 7 million longrange EVs on the road by 2030, yielding a cumulative incremental reduction of 375 million tons of CO2 emissions between 2021 and 2030 over the existing California Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEV) program.

'General Motors has a vision of zero crashes, zero emissions and zero congestion," said Mark Reuss, GM executive vice president and president, Global Product Group and Cadillac.

This is a bold vision and getting there will take bold actions. We believe in a policy approach

General Motors has proposed that better promotes U.S. innova- by 2025, then 25 percent by 2030, tion and starts a much-needed national discussion on electric vehicle development and deployment in this country.

"A National Zero Emissions Program will drive the scale and infrastructure investments needed to allow the U.S. to lead the way to a zero emissions future."

General Motors supports a nationwide program modeled on the existing ZEV program and provides these framework recommendations such as establishing ZEV requirements (by credits) each year, starting at 7 percent in 2021 and increasing 2 percent each year to 15 percent Reuss said.

That includes use of a crediting system modeled on the current ZEV program: credits per vehicle, based on EV range, as well as averaging, banking and trading credits.

It's also based on requirements (after 2025) linked to a path toward commercially viable EV battery cell availability at a cost of \$70/kWh, as well as adequate EV infrastructure development.

GM also supports establishment of a Zero Emissions Task Force to promote complementary policies, Reuss said.



2018 Chevrolet Bolt

# FCA Sets New Plan to Aid **Employees with Diabetes**

For FCA, being cutting edge is more than being an auto company, it also means providing the best health care using the latest technology.

FCA has launched a program that will enhance support for employees, retirees and covered dependents managing diabetes by offering them personalized care and a digital tool to help better manage critical gaps in their diabetes care.

The tool is a device that provides real-time digital resources to track glucose readings online and share reports with physicians. The unit also links in a pharmacist, diabetes coach and nurse practitioners as part of an extended care team, supported by CVS Health.

CVS Health has partnered with Livongo Health Inc., a chronic condition management company, to offer the device as part of the CVS Health Transform Diabetes Care Program. The digital device will be offered at no cost during the pilot program.

"FCA US is very excited to pursue a pilot program of this enhancement to our benefit offerings for employees, retirees and covered dependents managing diabetes," said Barb Pilarski, head of FCA's Human Resources.



Tool to better manage diabetes

"We hope to understand whether this program will help members of the FCA US family make intelligent, timely choices to better manage gaps in care that can complicate diabetes treatment."

The clinic, the first of its kind to be established by a domestic automaker, provides a personalized experience through comprehensive primary care services and wellness programs at no cost for most FCA employees and their families.

Diabetes is a serious and costly

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 3** 

# **Detroit Automakers Close Out SEMA Show on a High Note**



2019 F-350 Super Duty

F-Series, Mustang, Focus Gain Top Honors at SEMA

# Wrangler Nabs 4x4/SUV of Year for 9th Time

Say what you will about the Jeep Wrangler, it's consistent.

For the ninth consecutive year, Jeep Wrangler is celebrating '4x4/SUV of the Year" honors at the Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA) Show in Las Vegas.

The award was revealed at the announcement of the 2018 award winners at the SEMA Vehicle Reveal event held outside of the Las Vegas Convention Center on Oct. 29.

Jeep Wrangler remains the only vehicle to earn the trophy since the 2010 launch of the SEMA Awards. Wrangler earned its customization crown in recognition as the most accessoryfriendly vehicle in its class, as



Beahm displays Wrangler's 4x4/SUV of the Year award from SEMA.

cent SEMA show in Las Vegas.

The Ford F-Series was named Truck of the Year, and Mustang and Focus captured Car of the Year and Sport Compact of the Year honors, respectively.

The three perennial favorite Ford vehicles collected Vehicle of the Year awards at the 2018 Specialty Equipment Market Association show.

F-Series was named Truck of the Year, and Mustang and Focus captured Car of the Year and Sport Compact of the Year honors, respectively.

"We are honored that SEMA Show exhibitors have bestowed Ford with these prestigious awards," said Hermann Salenbauch, global director, Ford Performance.

We make a point of embracing the aftermarket and appreciate

Ford did very well at the re- this endorsement from the SEMA community as we strive to keep our best-selling nameplates among the most customized vehicles around the world."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



"The Jeep Wrangler continues to lead the way in the customization world following the Mopar brand's introduction late last year of more than 200 Jeep Performance Parts and accessories,'

said Steve Beahm, head of Parts 2010, are the SEMA Show's defini-& Service (Mopar) and Passenger Car Brands, FCA – North facturer (OEM) award, shining a America. "When it comes to personalization, Jeep Wrangler is a star of our portfolio and it just keeps getting hotter."

The SEMA Awards, launched in

tive Original Equipment Manulight on the hottest vehicles that showcase and launch aftermarket parts.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 5** 

The eCOPO Camaro Concept Car was shown at the recent SEMA show.

# **Chevy's New eCOPO Camaro Is an Electrified Drag Racer**

Who said electric vehicles can't be fun? Not Chevrolet. Fifty years after the original COPO Camaro special order performance models were introduced, Chevrolet's eCOPO Camaro Concept was shown at the 2018 SEMA Show in Las Vegas. The vehicle demonstrates an electrified vision for drag racing, said GM spokeswoman Afaf Farah.

The vehicle was developed by General Motors and built in partnership with the pioneering electric drag racing team Hancock and Lane Racing. The concept race car - based on the 2019 COPO Camaro - is entirely electric-powered, driven by an electric motor providing the equiva-

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 6** 

### View This Week's Edition at http://DetroitAutoScene.com

FCA Shows Off 1,000-Horsepower Concept Car at SEMA

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

William Springer II, publisher Lisa A. Torretta, operations Jim Stickford, news

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#### **F-Series**, Focus, **Mustang Earn Top SEMA Honors**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

F-Series, America's best-selling vehicle, continues as a proven favorite in the aftermarket, collecting top truck honors for the eighth time in the award's ninehistory, said Ford year spokesman Matt Leaver.

Mustang received its sixth award from SEMA when it was named Car of the Year for the fourth time. Mustang has been named Sports Coupe of the Year by SEMA twice.

Focus continues to garner a strong following in the aftermarket with its performance ST and RS variants leading the draw, Leaver said.

The nameplate has won four repeat awards from the SEMA organization in Sport Compact and Hatch categories.

"Ford vehicles serve as great platforms for personalization, evident by the three SEMA Awards announced today," said Chris Kersting, SEMA president and CEO.

Sometimes, 707-hp just isn't tor is mounted on the all-aluenough. For for those people, they might want to take a look at what Mopar unveiled at the 2018 Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA) Show - a brand-new Hemi-engine-powered beast: the "Hellephant" 426 Supercharged Mopar Crate Hemil engine, which turns the crank at a mammoth 1,000 horsepower and 950 lb.-ft. of torque.

The "Hellephant" 426 Super-charged Mopar Crate Hemi engine is a Mopar-first for a 1,000horsepower crate engine kit offered by an Original Equipment Manufacturer. It tops the the 707horsepower Mopar "Hellcrate" Engine Kit, revealed last year at the 2017 SEMA Show.

The press briefing in the Mopar exhibit at SEMA also included the unveiling of the 1968 Dodge "Super Charger" concept, the perfect package for highlighting the "Hellephant" 426 Supercharged Crate Hemi engine assembly and kit.

"Our enthusiasts crave power and performance and our new 'Hellephant' Mopar Crate HEMI engine and kit deliver huge horsepower and torque in a plugand-play package that is unique in the industry," said Steve Beahm, head of Parts & Service (Mopar) and Passenger Car Brands, FCA – North America.

"The 1968 Dodge Charger is one of the hottest classic cars. which is why we decided to use it as a starting point for the 'Super Charger' concept. It's an amazing vehicle and a great showcase for our 'Hellephant' engine."

The "Hellephant" engine hits the magical 1,000-horsepower mark via bulked-up displacement, with 4.0 inches of stroke and bore specs at 4.125 inches, Beahm said. An improved supercharger with a high-efficiency rominum block, which provides huge weight savings to keep the "Hellephant" light.

The all-aluminum block, used in Mopar Dodge Challenger Drag Pak race vehicles that dominated the 2018 NHRA Factory Stock Showdown class, was configured for the street in close collaboration with Mopar and engineers from the motorsports world.

The engine and kit's distinctive "Hellephant" logo provides a nod to the Mopar brand's past and present, Beahm said. The logo and name call out the legendary 426 Hemi engine, first introduced in 1964 and nicknamed the "elephant" engine for its power and size, as well as the 707-horsepower Mopar "Hellcrate" Engine Kit, revealed last year.

The complete engine assembly includes a water pump, flywheel, front sump oil pan, supercharger with throttle body, fuel injectors and coil packs. The first-ever 1,000-horsepower crate engine assembly offered by an OEM can be paired with the Mopar "Hellephant" 426 Supercharged Mopar Crate Hemi Engine Kit for relatively simple plug-and-play by experienced installers. The engine assembly and kit are designed for installation on pre-1976 street and off-road vehicles.

Additional features of the "Hellephant" 426 Supercharged Mopar Crate Hemi engine include valve covers imported from the Dodge Challenger SRT Hellcat Redeye and valve train, valves, locks and retainers pulled from the Dodge Challenger SRT Demon. The engine build includes a special high-lift cam, as well as custom-forged pistons.

Dropping in the "Hellephant" is almost turnkey with the "Hellephant" 426 Supercharged Mopar Crate Hemi Engine Kit, Beahm said. The kit includes a power-

The 1968 "Super Charger" concept car has 1,000 horsepower. train control module (PCM), power distribution center, engine wiring harness, chassis harness, accelerator pedal, ground jumper, oxygen sensors, charge air temperature sensors, fuel pump control module and cam bus interface device. The PCM is unlocked and tuned to pump out 1,000 horsepower and 950 lb.-ft. torque.

As with the "Hellcrate" engine, Mopar will also offer an essential Front End Accessory Drive (FEAD) Kit, which includes an alternator, power-steering pump, belts, pulleys and more, and is among additional engine accessory hardware components available to assist in installing the 'Hellephant."

The kit ships in unique packaging, featuring the "Hellephant" logo and includes in-depth information sheets with helpful installation tips and requirements.



2019 Jeep Wrangler



# Wrangler Beats Own October 2015 Record; FCA Sales Soar

October was a stong sales month for FCA as the automaker reported U.S. sales of 177,391 vehicles in October, a 16 percent increase compared with sales the same month last year - 153,373 vehicles.

Sales were driven by the Jeep, Ram, Chrysler, Dodge and Alfa Romeo brands, which all posted increases over the same period a year ago. Dodge led the group with a 38 percent increase in sales.

Retail sales in October totaled 141,200 vehicles. Fleet sales were 36,191 vehicles and accounted for 20 percent of total sales.

Jeep brand sales rose 9 percent to 72,800 vehicles. Jeep Wrangler sales of 13,318 vehicles pushed the calendar-year-to-date totals to 204,269 vehicles. The results eclipse the 2015 calendaryear-to-date sales record of 172,887 vehicles. Wrangler has now surpassed the full-year record of 202,266 vehicles set in 2015. Ram brand sales rose 14 percent to 54,542 vehicles, a historic high for October. It was also the eighth-straight month of record retail sales since the brand launched in 2009. Retail sales increased 12 percent to 42,138 vehicles. The Ram 1500 drove the performance as retail sales climbed 20 percent to 28,459 vehicles for a new October record. Alfa Romeo brand sales rose 44 percent to 1,737 vehicles. Stelvio accounted for the majority of those sales with 902 vehicles sold. Dodge brand sales jumped 38 percent to 33,872. The brand was driven by Challenger sales, which totaled 5,225 vehicles.

Chrysler brand sales rose 21 percent to 13,289 vehicles as Pacifica sales increased 22 percent to 9,277 vehicles. The total set a new October record for Pacifica.

Sales of Fiat declined 35 percent to 1,151 vehicles.

- 2018 October versus 2017 October sales highlights:
  - The Jeep Compass sales went from 11,207 to 14,083, a 26 percent increase.
- Cherokee sales rose from 16,1368 to 18,598, a 15 percent increase.
- Jeep Grand Cherokee sales increased from 17.215 to 19,109, up 11 percent.
- Chrysler 300 sales soared from 2,917 to 3,986, a 37 per-

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cent rise.

- Chrysler Pacifica sales climbed from 7,953 to 9,277, up 22 percent.
- Dodge Durango sales moved from 5,146 to 5,383, a 5 percent increase.
- Dodge Charger sales dropped from 8,098 to 6,316, a 22 percent decline.

#### **Michigan Sees Slight Rise in Gas Prices**

DEARBORN, Mich. (AP) - AAA Michigan said average gas prices statewide are up 2 cents in the past week to about \$2.80 per gallon.

The Dearborn-based auto club said as of Oct. 29 the average price for self-serve regular unleaded gasoline is about 27 cents more than at the same point last year.

Overall, AAA notes that prices are lower than a month ago due to demand, winter-blend fuel and falling crude prices.

# **Detroit Auto Scene**

#### **NOVEMBER 5, 2018**

#### "FIRST IN THE HEART OF DETROIT SINCE 1933"



Campbell introduced the 2019 COPO Camaro to the world at the SEMA show in Las Vegas last week.

# **New COPO Camaro Promises Rare Power**

Hard to believe it's been 50 years

An anniversary-themed 2019 COPO Camaro race car was introduced last week at the SEMA Show celebrating the 50-year milestone of the special order, ultimate performance models and launches the 2019 COPO Camaro program.

The Central Office Production Order (COPO) Camaro program got its start in 1969 and was inspired by Illinois-based Chevrolet dealer Fred Gibb, who used the company's special order system to build what wasn't already offered in the Camaro, said Jim Campbell, GM U.S. vice president of Performance Vehicles and Motorsports.

The goal was to make the car more competitive in Stock Eliminator drag racing, which was rooted in production-based vehicles.

'Chevrolet is proud to celebrate 50 years of the COPO Camaro legacy," said Campbell. "It's one of the most enduring legacies in drag racing, with a powerful past and fast future."

Featuring a special Anniversary Blue Metallic exterior color that pays homage to the original Laguna Blue offered in 1969, the SEMA show car previews the special color and graphics of the COPO Camaro 50th Anniversary Special Edition package offered for 2019, Campbell said.

A 50th Anniversary Engine Appearance Package that emulates the look of vintage Chevy performance engines, with an orange engine block, chrome valve covers and a black highrise intake manifold, is also available for the naturally aspirated LSX-based 427 racing engine.

The 2019 COPO Camaro's available engine lineup includes a revised version of the supercharged, LSX-based 350 engine, now featuring a 2.65L Magnuson supercharger as well as a 302cubic-inch engine. The COPO

Camaro also features a distinctive and exclusive front-end design not shared with other production Camaro models.

Only 69 2019 COPO Camaro race cars will be built - the same number of 1969 COPO Camaro models built with the all-aluminum 427 ZL1 engine, Campbell said.

Customers can register for a chance to purchase a 2019 COPO Camaro at chevrolet.com/performance/copo-camaro.

When the program started, COPO Racers scraped for every extra horsepower the factory could give them, and it occurred to Gibb that Chevrolet's in-house special order system, known as (COPO), could provide an advantage

Typically, the COPO system was used for fleet vehicle services such as special paint or truck equipment, but Gibb used it to equip the Camaro with the allaluminum ZL1 427 racing engine.

With its lightweight block and heads, the ZL1 427 engine weighed about 100 pounds less than the iron-based 396 Big Block engine offered in the Camaro and produced more power. It was the perfect solution for the drag strip, Campbell said.

Chevrolet didn't simply rubber-stamp Gibb's request. It took plenty of convincing and some cajoling from Vince Piggins -Chevrolet Product Promotions manager at the time, who was responsible for the Camaro Z28 to get the project approved.

**Guss Pappas** 

**Financial Advisor** 

Vice President - Investments

There was also another catch: To make the engine eligible for NHRA competition, at least 50 examples of the car had to be for sale to the public.

Gibb ordered them, but knew he'd have a hard time selling the pricey muscle cars, which were essentially twice the cost of a standard Camaro. He sold 13 and the remaining 37 were redistributed to other dealers. In the meantime, more dealers found out about the ultimate performance COPO Camaro models and ordered their own. When the clutch dust settled, 69 COPO Camaro models with the ZL1 engine were built.

The 1969 COPO Camaro program included a number of models equipped with an iron-block version of the 427 engine. In the years after, drag strip success evolved into collector car distinction, with the comparative handful of ZL1-engined models among the most coveted muscle cars with collectors today.

# FCA Launches Health Plan To Aid Diabetic Employees

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

disease, according to data from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which cites these facts:

- Diabetes affects more than 26 million Americans and is one of the top 10 leading causes of death in the United States.
- Diabetes is the leading cause of lower-limb amputation, blindness and kidney failure and is a major contributor to cardiovascular disease, the No. 1 cause of death in this country.
- Diabetes costs the nation an estimated \$245 billion in direct and indirect costs each vear.

"While the data tells an urgent story, the most important part of this story is that, with the right support, diabetes is a serious yet manageable condition," Pilarski said.

Additional features of the comprehensive diabetes program include:

- Real-time phone/text alerts.
- 24/7/365 access to a clinical support network when readings are out of range.
- Personalized coaching focused on A1C levels, adherence to medication and medication review for side effects.
- Easy and timely ordering of diabetic supplies (test strips and lancets) provided at no

cost and shipped directly to patients.

FCA US is considered among the more innovative companies in the United States in providing health and wellness-enhancing options to employees, said FCA spokesman Mike Palese.

The company has been recognized for excellence 10 consecutive years by the National Business Group On Health for the innovativeness and comprehensiveness of its employee health and wellness programs that support healthy lifestyles for both employees and families, said Palese.

Since 1985, he said, the company's wellness program has evolved to meet the needs of employees and nurture a culture of health.

Today, FCA US provides a variety of integrated health plans with preventive services. This comprehensive approach to wellness includes online health portals, UAW benefit representatives, a health advocate (RN) for salaried employees, an Employee Assistance Program representative for salaried employees, on-site medical departments, 25 dedicated wellness staff members and fitness centers.

In addition, the company's 15,000-employee headquarters complex features an on-site retail medical clinic and pharmacy.

In July, FCA US dedicated the FCA Family Health and Wellness Center, powered by St. Vincent, in Kokomo, Ind.

INDIVEN ROADS





## Ford to Recall 1.5 Million Ford Focuses

DETROIT (AP) - Ford is recalling nearly 1.5 million Focus compact cars in North America because a fuel system problem can cause the engines to stall without warning.

The recall covers cars from the 2012 through 2018 model years with 2-liter four-cylinder engines. Ford says a valve in the fuel system can stick in the open position, causing too much vacuum, and an engine control computer may not detect the problem. Excessive vacuum can cause the gas tank to deform, as well as other problems.

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of Detroit's

Auto Industry

DETROIT AUTO SCENE



Ford vehicles formed a "trunk-or-treat" area for children in Corktown.

## Ford Offers Halloween Treat

building became a place where friends and neighbors could meet for a happy Halloween.

Ford and its community partners hosted a family friendly Halloween event at Michigan Central Station, Detroit's most iconic landmark, for 800 neighborhood residents and Ford employees. From 4 p.m to 8 p.m., the interior of the long-vacant train station was brought back to life with spooky kids' activities, trick-ortreating stations, live music, decorations, and more, said Ford spokeswoman Christina Twelftree.

Outside the building, a row of Ford vehicles formed a special trunk-or-treat parking lot that was open to the public. A grave-

What was once an abandoned yard in the front lawn and a light show on the exterior of the station added to the festive atmosphere.

> The Halloween celebration brings Ford together with the local community following its purchase of the train station in June. Ford plans to restore Michigan Central Station to its original grandeur and make it the centerpiece of a new 1.2 million-squarefoot innovation hub in Corktown.

The event was supported by Christman Brinker, Detroit Riverfront Conservancy, Corktown **Business Association**, SER Metro Trade Program, Michigan Science Center, Cranbrook Institute of Science, The Parade Company, Teen Hype, the Corktown Historical Society and local businesses.

# **Pickups Drive GM's Third Quarter Profits**

DETROIT (AP) - Shares of General Motors rose more than 7 percent Oct. 31 after the company posted a \$2.5 billion thirdquarter profit that blew away Wall Street estimates.

The Detroit automaker rode strong prices for much of its model lineup across the globe, especially in the U.S., where it rolled out redesigned versions of its Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra pickups.

"Our discipline came through this quarter," Chief Financial Officer Dhivya Suryadevara said, adding that she believes strong prices are sustainable as GM builds inventory of light-duty pickups and rolls out heavy-duty versions.

The average sale price of a GM vehicle in the U.S. reached \$36,000, \$800 more than a year ago and a third-quarter record.

Even as auto sales started to ebb in the U.S., China and elsewhere, GM said it earned \$1.75 per share. Excluding one-time items, the company made \$1.87, far exceeding analyst projections of \$1.25 per share, according to a survey by FactSet.

Revenue jumped 6.4 percent to \$35.8 billion, also topping forecasts. The company was resilient in a declining Chinese market, where it posted record thirdquarter income of \$500 million from July through September. And its pretax profit in North America, its most lucrative market, rose 33 percent to \$2.8 bil-

lion with a profit margin of 10.2 percent.

GM also gave a more optimistic forecast for the full year, saying it expects pretax profits at the high end of its previous guidance of \$5.80 to \$6.20 per share as it rolls out the new pickups and does its best to battle higher commodity costs.

"We're controlling what we can control," Suryadevara said. We've had an intense focus on costs."

The strong profit from GM's China joint venture came even with a budding tariff war with the U.S. and uncertainty over sales in the world's largest auto market.

GM's global retail sales to individuals, on the other hand, dropped 15 percent during the guarter, to 1.98 million vehicles. But sales to dealers, the point at which GM books revenue, rose 4.5 percent, to 1.13 million.

GM was hit once again by costs associated with its giant recall for faulty ignition switches. The company posted a \$440 million charge as it updated estimated costs for legal claims.

A year ago, GM posted a \$3 billion net loss due to a \$5.4 billion charge for selling Opel and Vauxhall to France's PSA Group.

The strong quarter is a result of GM executing well on its game plan, said Edward Jones Industrials Analyst Jeff Windau.

"If you're selling vehicles that have higher price points, you're able to offset some of those negative headwinds from the commodity prices," he said.

Windau was cautious about GM's prospects in the long term, rating the company's shares "hold" due to the risk of rising interest rates, higher commodity prices and the potential that rising gas prices could cut into pickup truck sales.

Suryadevara said GM expects tariff-driven commodity price increases to cost the company \$1 billion this year. Tarifss have cost GM \$400 million in the third quarter alone.

The Trump administration has imposed 10 percent tariffs on imported aluminum and 25 percent on steel, raising the cost of materials for GM.

# FCA's Own Diesel Scandal Hurts Company Earnings

MILAN (AP) – Fiat Chrysler Automobiles said Oct. 30 its thirdquarter profits dropped nearly 40 percent due to a one-off charge to cover possible payments in a U.S. diesel probe involving SUVs and light-duty pickups.

The Italian-American car company reported a net profit of 564 million euros (\$641 million), compared with 910 million euros in the same period last year.

The lower profits took into account a 700-million-euro charge to deal with any future settlement over alleged illegal emissions devices in 104,000 U.S.built Ram pickups and Jeep Grand Cherokees from 2014-2016.

It also covers the costs of a software update to bring the vehicles into compliance.

The U.S. Justice Department sued Fiat Chrysler in May 2017 alleging that so-called "defeat device" software in the vehicles allowed them to emit fewer pollutants in lab tests than during normal driving.

In the lawsuit, the government sought civil fines that could total over \$4 billion, as well as court orders stopping the company from making or selling vehicles with undisclosed software.

The company has denied deliberate cheating and said the charge was not an admission of liability. Settlement talks continue.

Fiat Chrysler has said it would vigorously defend itself against

claims and said the devices are legal to protect engines from damage.

Excluding the charge, Fiat said its adjusted earnings before interest and taxes were a record 1.99 billion euros, while the profit margins in North America reached an all-time high of 10.2 percent, hitting double digits for the first time.

The higher margins reflected the company's transition from building less profitable passenger cars to trucks and SUVs in its U.S. plants.

Overall revenues rose 9 percent, to 28.7 billion euros, on higher combined shipments of 1.12 million vehicles, up from just over 1 million last year, including its joint venture in China.

North American profits counted for the lion's share of earnings, while Asia Pacific and Europe posted losses.

The company said it saw lower sales and increased competition in China.

In Europe, lower sales of the Fiat brand and pricing pressure due to the transition to a new emission and fuel consumption testing regime took a toll, Fiat said.

CEO Mike Manley said action had already been taken to address the weaknesses in China and Europe. He said the new chief operating officer for Europe, Middle East and Africa, Pietro Gorlier, was bringing a more disciplined approach to the region.

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evan.lian@raymondjames.com.

#### WEDNESDAY, NOV. 7, 2018

Meeting 1: 7:00 - 7:50 a.m. (breakfast included) Meeting 2: 11:30 a.m. - 12:20 p.m. (lunch included)

Location: Courtyard by Marriott Detroit Warren (30190 Van Dyke Ave., Warren, MI 48093)

#### **TUESDAY, NOV. 13, 2018**

Meeting 1: 7:00 - 7:50 a.m. (breakfast included) Meeting 2: 11:30 a.m. - 12:20 p.m. (lunch included)

Location: Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center (400 Renaissance Dr., Detroit, MI 48243)

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### Hagan, Pritchett Finish Races As Runners-up

Mopar Dodge//SRT drivers Matt Hagan and Leah Pritchett raced to runner-up finishes in Funny Car and Top Fuel, respectively, in elimination rounds at the NHRA Nationals at The Strip at Las Vegas Motor Speedway Oct. 28.

Defending event champ Hagan opened race day with a firstround win over Tim Wilkerson. He clocked a 3.908-second elapsed time (ET) in his Pennzoil Mopar Dodge Charger SRT Hellcat Funny Car, the quickest of the round. Next up for the No. 9 qualifier was Mopar Dodge Don Schumacher Racing (DSR) teammate Tommy Johnson Jr., and Hagan once again paced the field with a winning 3.919 ET.

In the semifinals, Hagan trailed early but was able to reel in Bob Tasca III with a 3.928/323.89 run, edging out his foe at the stripe in a close race to advance to his seventh final round of the year and 54th of his drag racing career.

The two-time Funny Car World Champion left first in the final round with a .037 reaction time to J.R. Todd's slower .058 mark and briefly maintained the lead before a dropped engine cylinder slowed Hagan's momentum and ended his drive for a fourth win on the season.

Pritchett qualified No. 4 in her chromed-out Pennzoil Mopar Dodge Top Fuel machine and started her Sunday by outrunning part-time racer Troy Buff. Next up against Blake Alexander, Pritchett laid down a winning 3.740 ET to Alexander's 3.968 pass.

She drew teammate Tony Schumacher in the semifinals and had no trouble getting past him as she powered to her best run of the weekend (3.730 ET) versus Schumacher's instant tire smoker.

Pritchett lined up against newly crowned series champion Steve Torrence in the final. Eager to stop Torrence's streak of round wins, Pritchett was slightly overzealous on the line and double-stepped the throttle, immediately giving way to tire smoke as her opponent sped down the track for the round win.

## Wrangler Again Gets Honors At SEMA Show

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Once again, the Jeep Wrangler is voted as a favorite from the aftermarket community, with more exhibitors choosing the Jeep Wrangler as the SEMA '4x4/SUV of the Year,'" said SEMA President and CEO Chris Kersting. "Whether drivers are accessorizing the Jeep for off-roading or for everyday driving, there are outstanding options available for Jeep owners.' The Mopar brand's 15,345square-foot display at the SEMA Show, featured customized versions of the SEMA award winner and finalists, including four Jeep vehicles transformed with Jeep Performance Parts and accessories and two Mopar-modified Ram 1500 pickups - the trailthemed Ram 1500 Rebel and the street-styled Ram 1500 Big Horn "Low Down." The drag-oriented, street-legal, 392 Hemi V8 engine-powered 2019 Dodge Challenger R/T Scat Pack 1320 also will be featured, as well as NHRA racer Leah Pritchett's Mopar Dodge Challenger Drag Pak car, which she drove to the 2018 NHRA Factory Stock Showdown World Championship.





# **Chevy Takes Youth to Baseball Press Box**

It's the dream of many children to participate in the World Series, and Chevrolet helped make that dream come true for one young lady.

Lucy Calhoun of Benton, Ark., got to be a part of this year's World Series when she met and interviewed players from both teams, said GM spokeswoman Afaf Farah. The eight-year-old, who is a long-time Red Sox fan and a softball player since she was 4, was selected as this year's Chevy PLAY BALL reporter for the World Series.

Calhoun has aspirations to become a reporter and entered the National Chevy PLAY BALL reporter contest earlier this year, Farah said. She interviewed a few of her favorite players including Red Sox outfielders Andrew Benintendi and Mookie Betts. Though an Arkansas resident, she's a Boston fan and everv year her family travels to Dallas to catch a Red Sox vs. Rangers game.

PLAY BALL is a nationwide competition for children 8-14 years old who are passionate about sports and interested in re-



Eight-year-old Lucy Calhoun got to cover the World Series for Chevrolet.

porting. This is the third year Chevrolet has invited a Kid Reporter to the World Series.

Chevrolet is the Official Vehicle of Major League Baseball and the Official Automotive Sponsor of the PLAY BALL initiative to support America's national pastime. Farah said. PLAY BALL is a collective effort to encourage young people and communities to participate in baseball- or softball-related activities, including formal leagues, events and casual forms of play.

Chevrolet continues to be a longstanding supporter of youth sports to encourage the power of play. Through the Chevy Youth Baseball program, more than 7.3 million kids have benefitted from more than 1,800 free youth clinics and more than 15.300 league enhancements.



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# New eCOPO Brings EV Tech to Muscle Cars

#### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

lent of more than 700 horsepower and 600 lb.-ft. of torque, said Farah. Chevrolet estimates quarter-mile times in the 9-second range. Testing is ongoing.

'The eCOPO Concept is all about where we go in the future with electrification in the high performance space," said Russ O'Blenes, director of Performance Variants, Parts and Motorsports at General Motors.

'The original COPO Camaro program was all about pushing the envelope, and this concept is

an exploration with the very same spirit."

Chevrolet partnered with Hancock and Lane Racing not only because of the team's success in NHRA drag racing, but also its involvement with Patrick McCue, the driving force behind the record-holding "Shock and Awe" electric drag racing car, and his Seattle-area Bothell High School automotive technology program.

With the racing team's assistance, more than a dozen students participated in the development and assembly of the electrified drag car, Farah said.

"This project exemplifies Chevrolet and General Motors' commitment to engaging young minds in STEM education," said O'Blenes. "It also represents our goal of a world with zero emissions, with the next generation of engineers and scientists who will help us get there."

Just as the original 1969 COPO Camaro models relied on creative engineering to make them successful in Stock Eliminator drag racing, the eCOPO breaks new ground with its unique motor and GM's first 800-volt battery pack.

The electric motor is based on a pair of BorgWarner HVH 250-150 motor assemblies, each generating 300 lb.-ft. of torque, and replaces the gas engine. It is connected to a conventional racingprepared "Turbo 400" automatic transmission that channels the motor's torque to the same solid rear axle used in the production

The new 800-volt battery pack

"Eight hundred volts is more than twice the voltage of the battery packs in the production Chevrolet Volt and Bolt EV, so the eCOPO pushes into new technological territory," said O'Blenes. 'As GM advances its electrification leadership, a big step might just come from the drag strip."

The battery pack is composed of four 200-volt modules, each weighing approximately 175 pounds, mounted strategically in the car for optimal weight distribution, O'Blenes said. Two are located in the rear seat area and the other two are in the trunk one in the spare tire well and one in the area over the rear axle.

A full Battery Management System monitors all critical voltages and temperatures within the pack. It ties into a comprehensive safety system that continuously evaluates all vehicle electrical components for proper function and safe operation.

#### Wayne State Gets **Money for Lab**

DETROIT (AP) - Wayne State University's College of Engineering is getting a \$5 million gift for scholarships and a new testing laboratory.

The Detroit News reported the donation by Wayne State graduate Avinash Rachmale and his wife, Hema, which was announced Oct. 26.

Avinash Rachmale, who is CEO and chairman of engineering firm Lakeshore Global Corp., said "I'm passionate about Wavne State and I think this will It comes as the Detroit school is celebrating its 150th anniversary and the completion of a \$750 million fundraising campaign.











