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### **American Speed Festival Showcased Exclusive Cars On and Off Track**

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**PONTIAC, MI** – Over the span of four days, [American Speed Festival](#) presented by Comerica Bank and sponsored by WLLZ welcomed approximately 4,000 attendees and 202 vehicles to celebrate iconic, historical racing milestones including "Americans at the 24 Hours of Le Mans," 70 years of Chevrolet Corvette, 50 years of International Race of Champions (IROC), a tribute, and a fundraiser gala.

"Attendees saw two full days of racing from eight car classes," said Tim McGrane, CEO of M1 Concourse. "Partners like Vintage Indy returned to American Speed Festival, taking to the track with endurance cars, Formula 1 cars, and even drift cars."

A major focus for American Speed Festival is to foster rare automotive opportunities. For the first time in Callaway Corvette's more than 30-year existence, spectators saw seven never-before-united Callaway Corvettes take to the track with Reeves Callaway's son, Peter, in his father's race suit leading the pack.

"We were sad to hear about the recent passing of Callaway Corvettes Founder Reeves Callaway," said McGrane. "It was a privilege to assemble drivers for tribute laps honoring his name and his legacy in restoring performance Corvettes."

Creating another rare moment, 31 owners of the popular Ford GT or GT40 race cars parked on the plaza and then participated in parade laps to honor Americans at Le Mans and the moment the Ford GT Mk IV beat the second-place and 6-year reigning Le Mans Champion Ferrari by 32 miles at a record-breaking average speed of 135 MPH.

Saturday evening, the [Checkered Flag Ball](#) raised funds for M1 Mobility, a program that supports Pontiac residents who don't have transportation to vital appointments. Raising \$33,000 for two sets of automotive paintings by resident artist Nico Rousselet, the ball went on to generate more funds for mobility via silent auction. Additionally, the Checkered Flag Ball honored two Masters of Motorsports: Ford Performance and racing legend Johnny O'Connell.

Other highlights of this event included:

- Speed & Style, a car show within American Speed Festival, had:
  - Ford GT Mk IV from The Henry Ford came out of the museum, parking on-site
  - Over 200 cars submitted and attended
  - 19 Car Classes

- 25 Award Winners
- Parachuters landing on property
- Private garage tours

Cars from across the US visited American Speed Festival, including Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum, Indianapolis, IN, Phoenix, AZ, Ft. Lauderdale and Jacksonville, FL, as well as local cities.

### **About M1 Concourse**

Located on the iconic Woodward Avenue in Pontiac, M1 Concourse serves as a testament to automotive excellence. Spanning 87 acres, it houses a vibrant motorsports community, state-of-the-art performance car service center, and a majestic event center, all overlooking the 1.5-mile M1 Circuit. Situated less than 35 miles from Detroit's Metropolitan International Airport, it remains a prime destination for global automotive aficionados.

### **About American Speed Festival**

This event combines some of the most renowned brands in automotive performance history, in everything from Vintage Indy cars and historic stock cars to modern-day supercars. It's a rare opportunity to see race cars from every era perform on the 1.5-mile M1 Concourse Speed Ring. American Speed Festival celebrated three significant automotive anniversaries, 100 years of Americans at Le Mans, 70 years of Corvette, and 50 years of International Race of Champions (IROC) Series.