



## Big Honkin' winner

After a \$50,000 overhaul by the Chrome Shop Mafia, stars of *Trick My Truck* on CMT, Jeff Fields' 1979 Peterbilt is one of the snazziest rigs at MATS. The Tully, N.Y., owner-operator won the Castrol Big Honkin' Truck Makeover. For info on how to enter the next contest, go to [www.castrol.com/us](http://www.castrol.com/us).

## Great Dane van options on display

MATS visitors can see the flexibility of the Great Dane product line inside the company's Classic Freight Van, its walls outfitted with such siding and scuffband options as puncture-proof, aluminum, steel and wood. The trailer is also fitted with lighting options that include varieties of incandescents and LEDs.

Also on display are the P-101, featuring anti-sag logistic posts and a 101-inch width; the SuperSeal refrigerated trailer featuring ThermoGuard lining; and the Freedom Flatbed, Great Dane's most popular platform trailer.

**Great Dane | [www.greatdanetrailers.com](http://www.greatdanetrailers.com)  
Booth #5100**

## (HIGHWAY HERO CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Crawford dodged swerving cars, parked his truck on the shoulder, grabbed his fire extinguisher and ran to the wrecked trucks. He saw the cab of the runaway had disintegrated in flames.

"I knew nobody could survive that," Crawford said, so he ran to Langford's burning truck and put out the blaze. It had destroyed the back wall of the sleeper, so Crawford walked in and found Langford conscious, unable to move and soaked with diesel fuel.

"I heard the truck hissing and popping, and I told him, 'We got to get out of here,'" Crawford said. "He grabbed ahold of me, and I carried him out." Just moments after they got to safety, the truck exploded.

For his highway heroism, Crawford was awarded a \$10,000 U.S. Savings Bond, a custom-designed Goodyear Highway Hero ring and a commemorative plaque.

Crawford was selected from among four Highway Hero finalists, all of whom were

honored Thursday. The other three are:

- Michael Knott, a FedEx Ground driver from Casselberry, Fla., who rescued a mother and her child who lay helpless on the Florida Turnpike after being struck by a car.

- Robert A. Starr, a state senator and owner-operator from North Troy, Vt., who saved a woman from a burning car.

- Danny Wallen, an ABF Freight Systems driver from Conover, Ohio, who saved a couple from a burning car.

"In our eyes, they are all heroes," said Peter Christoffersen of Goodyear Commercial Tire Systems.

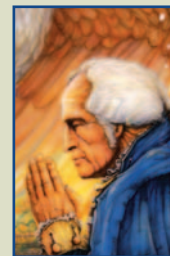
"We only hear criticism about trucks and drivers, but that's not our view," Christoffersen said. "Doug Crawford and the other three Highway Hero finalists stopped to help others without regard for their own safety, so if you see them around the Mid-America Trucking Show, make sure you thank them."

**Goodyear | [www.goodyear.com/truck](http://www.goodyear.com/truck)**

## ICT sleeper flies the flag

Indiana Custom Trucks, a manufacturer of premium sleepers, is showing off a new 102-inch sleeper with a patriotic theme in its booth.

Murals of American icons cover the exterior of the sleeper, dubbed Patriot. The back of the sleeper features Sept. 11, 2001, images, an eagle and the Statue of Liberty. On the driver's side are a founding father, a Revolutionary War soldier and the White House, while on the passenger side are Mount Rushmore and the Lincoln Memorial.



"Our customers are really patriotic, and since Sept. 11 we've seen that theme become popular again," said ICT's Elwin Eash.

The murals were designed by Harry Martin, who paints custom truck murals under the name Harry Did It. The freehand airbrushing took about 80 hours to complete, and the design was the result of lots of research, Martin said.

Army veteran and amateur woodworker Earnie Miller carved custom wood panels to complement the display. Each panel memorializes one of the four planes that crashed on Sept. 11.

**ICT | [www.trucksleeper.com](http://www.trucksleeper.com) | Booth #5720**



## (AMERICAN CHOPPER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

To the delight of the Freedom Hall crowd, Paul Teutul fired up the hand-crafted super bike onstage while flashbulbs and spotlights bounced off its chrome and stunning yellow and blue graphics.

"I'm real proud of the outcome," Teutul said. "You start with nothing, and when you've finished you stand

back, and there's a 'Wow' factor."

While the Road Hammers rocked onstage, the Teutuls met backstage with Make-A-Wish kids.

Truckers and bikers are both "part of the American image," Paul Teutul said. "There's a crossover."

**Speedco | [www.speedco.com](http://www.speedco.com)  
Booth #700**

From left: Mikey Teutul and Paul Teutul Sr. spoke Thursday about the bike they made to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation.