

# Birmingham takes cruisers on trip down memory lane

Take a drive down memory lane on Saturday, Aug. 17, when Birmingham presents The Official Woodward Avenue Dream Cruise. While cruising you'll feel yourself slip back into the '50s. You'll be surrounded by poodle skirts, blue suede shoes, classic cars, antique bikes, juke boxes and more. It's an opportunity to relive the '50s or experience them for the first time.

The fun begins at 7 a.m. with Car Club Parking on Woodward between Maple and Ring Roads and ends at 9:30 p.m. with a memorable performance by The Contours. At 11 a.m., International Drag Racing Hall of Famer "Broadway Bob" Metzler will talk about drag racing and show off some early drag racing videos in the lower level of the Baldwin Public Library. Jim Wangers will discuss the history of the GTO & Pontiac Muscle Cars at 1 p.m. at the Baldwin Public Library.

At noon, the entertainment begins on the stage in Shain Park and continues throughout the afternoon into the evening. The entertainment includes Zeemo, the yo-yo expert, the Satin

Dolls, Benny and the Jets, an Elvis impersonator, Tommy-C & The Gamut Band, Ronnie Cee, comedian/musician, and two free concerts by the Motown sound of The Contours sponsored by Jeep.

Automotive artist Danny Whitfield will display his exquisite art on the steps of the Birmingham City Hall. One of Whitfield's realistic paintings hangs at the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Whitfield's art will be on display and for sale during the Cruise.

Pleasant Ridge, Huntington Woods, Berkley, Royal Oak and Ferndale will also have special events and displays taking place as part of the Woodward Avenue Dream Cruise.

Mark your calendars to be in Birmingham on Saturday, Aug. 17, for the Official Woodward Avenue Dream Cruise.

# Taste of Royal Oak and vintage hot rods top city's events

With the Woodward Dream Cruise just days away, the City of Royal Oak is hard at work gearing up for the festivities. The Dream Cruise in Royal Oak will offer something for everyone from epicurean delights to concept and classic car displays.

The Michigan Hot Rod Association will feature over 75 vintage cars at Northwood Shopping Center located at 13 Mile and Woodward. According to Dave Birchmeier, MHRA president, car owners from all over southeastern Michigan will be participating in the display. The vintage cars that will be showcased include a wide variety of autos from a 1923 Model T Rod Pick-Up to the muscle cars of the sixties. Birchmeier said members of his association are especially excited about the Woodward Dream Cruise because many of the MHRA members, including himself, spent many summer nights cruising Woodward during the Fifties and Sixties.

Also featured at Northwood Shop-

ping Center will be Ford Motor Company car designers Joe Siler and Paul Arnone. This creative team will be on hand to sketch and create caricatures of cruise attendees' cars. Many merchants at Northwood Shopping Center will be getting into the spirit of the cruise by offering sales events and specials.

Memorial Park will be a place not to be missed as over 15 Royal Oak restaurateurs will be serving up "A Taste of Royal Oak." Restaurants represented in "A Taste of Royal Oak" include: Pronto, Mongolian Barbeque and The Oxford Inn, just to name a few.

Memorial Park is also the site for Chrysler Corporation's intriguing concept car display. Cruise attendees will have the opportunity to view the Viper GTS and 1997 Prowler. Along with these cars, Chrysler will display classic MOPAR Street Cruisers, Dodge Ram Truck Racers and the Neon Race Car.



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