

**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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18th ANNUAL CRUISIN' ON MAIN STREET PRESENTED BY TAYLOR RENTAL PARTY PLUS OF MANCHESTER AND FUELED BY CITGO

Manchester, CT Cruisin' on Main Street will be back to celebrate its 18th year of bringing together vintage vehicles, collector car enthusiasts and car lovers of all ages on Sunday, August 5th (Rain dates - Aug. 12 and Aug. 19). Show car registration opens at 8AM. The show opens to spectators from 10AM to 3PM.

Historic Downtown Manchester expects to welcome over 800 vintage vehicles including **antique and classic cars, trucks, sports cars and street rods 1987 and prior only for this one day cruise and show**. A one-mile stretch of Main Street in the Downtown transforms into a plaza-like viewing area where attendees can stroll the street and enjoy 360 degree viewing of the vehicles on display. Vehicles hail from CT and surrounding states.

For the second year the Gear Head Mafia Car Club partners with Cruisin' to put on the event, handling show car registration and parking, assisting with trophy selection and holding a **free Hot Wheels Racing Contest for kids**.

Attendees can expect to enjoy:

Diverse and Informative Sponsor Displays - Over 46 businesses have stepped forward to sponsor Cruisin' on Main Street 2018, led by Presenting Sponsor, Taylor Rental Party Plus of Manchester and Fueled by CITGO Fueling Good. With the addition of new show car parking areas this year, the one mile length of Main Street and abutting parking lots provide ample room for both show car and sponsor displays.

Special Interest Vehicles offering fun photo ops – Everyone enjoys seeing and photo sharing special interest vehicles. One example of photo friendly vehicles appearing this year is The Gear Head Mafia Zombie Patrol Truck – the Beast.

Music from one end of Main Street to the other – The Full Power Radio family of stations will bring three of its premier stations to the street including: 102.9 The Whale, 1360 Talk of CT and Radio 104.1. Along with DJ Dale “In the Groove”, the Northeast Surf Music Alliance and DJ Kevin Crane, the street will offer many music venues and options.

Delicious food – from a great array of street vendors and the diverse restaurants along Main Street. Taken together there will be over 37 choices of great eats from the Elks Black Angus Burgers to Manchester's new Ethiopian Restaurant, Walia.

Cruisin' Shopping - Spectators are encouraged to visit Downtown shops and stop-in at the Cruisin' Bazaar located in the Forest Street Parking Lot,

The Official 2018 Cruisin' T-Shirt and Baseball Caps– This year's official Cruisin' T-shirt features a 1952 red Ford pick-up truck owned by David Armata of Hebron. T-shirts will sell for \$15. New Cruisin' Baseball caps in navy blue and embroidered with the colorful Cruisin' on Main logo will be offered for the first time. Both t-shirts and the baseball caps will be sold at the show by volunteers from Key Bank and the energetic members of the Manchester High School Cheer Squad.

Registered show car owners can expect:

SPONSOR'S CHOICE TROPHIES

31 handsome etched glass Sponsor's Choice Trophies will be awarded this year. Talk of CT personality, Rob Ray, will preside over the Trophy Awards Ceremony.

OFFICAL CRUISIN' 2018 DASH PLAQUES

The first 700 registered show car drivers will receive a 2018 Cruisin' on Main Street dash plaque featuring the official Cruisin' 2018 car – a 1952 red Ford Pick-up Truck owned by David Armata.

NEW THIS YEAR – FOXWOODS FIVE

First year Cruisin' Local Community Sponsor, Foxwoods Resort and Casino, donated five, one night stays at their resort and casino to be awarded to the top five Cruisin' vehicles. Selection of the Foxwoods Five vehicles will be made by the Gearhead Mafia Car Club.

NEW THIS YEAR - CRUISIN' VIP DESIGNATION

Participants in this new preferred program will help raise money for the Cruisin' on Main John" Randy" Thrall Scholarship Fund. For an advance donation of \$100.00 Cruisin' show car owners receive free show car admission and entry via a special Cruisin' VIP show car admission point with no lines; preferred parking for their show car at Show Center and other special benefits. Participation in this preferred program is limited to 25 vehicles. For more information go to www.cruisinonmainstreet.org. Vehicles must conform to show standards and be 1987 or prior.

FUELING LOCAL CHARITIES

Charitable donations derived from Cruisin' 2017 equaling \$22,930 benefited 19 local not for profits as well as the Manchester Scholarship Foundation Cruisin' on Main Street John "Randy" Thrall Scholarship Fund.

HOW TO GET THERE & WHERE TO PARK

Getting to Cruisin' on Main Street is easy. Take I-84 to I-384 to Exit 3 to Downtown Manchester or approach Main Street via U.S. Routes 6 and 44. Follow the signs for show car entry or spectator parking.

Handicapped parking is located in the enclosed parking lot at the rear of Webster Bank on the corner of Main and Maple Streets. Wheelchair accessible van parking is located in the lot next to the Manchester Fires-Rescue-EMS Station at 75 Center St.

WHAT IF IT RAINS?

In the event of inclement weather, postponement information will be broadcast by 6 PM on the day before the event on the Whale 102.9 DRC-FM and posted on the Cruisin' web site www.cruisinonmainstreet.org and on Facebook at Cruisin on Main Street Manchester CT.

For pre-event and post event info on Cruisin' on Main Street 2018 visit us at www.cruisinonmainstreet.org

Find us on Facebook at Cruisin on Main Street Manchester CT.

Call the office of the Town of Manchester Dept. of Leisure, Family and Recreation at (860) 647-3085.

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Photos:

Caption: Special Interest Vehicle – Gear Mafia Zombie Patrol Truck – The Beast

Caption for Photo: Scene from Cruisin' 2017. *Photo credit Garaventa Photography*

Graphic: Official Cruisin' 2018 T-shirt graphic featuring 1952 Ford Pick-up Truck owned by David Armata