

M-24 Awash in Cruise-Ins, Cruises and Classic Autos

Country Cruise, Poker Run Wrap-Up

Photos by William Springer, story by Gerald Scott

"Well, we've already gone through 500 hot dogs and a roast pig – and the day is only half over."

Or so exclaimed Kate Lundy, co-manager of the popular Roadside Attractions! memorabilia store on M-24 north of Metamora-Dryden Rd.

Roadside Attractions! was part of both the Culver's Poker Run and the Lapeer Road Country Cruise, both coincidentally held on Saturday, June 16, obviously a big cruising date in northern Oakland County.

The parallel road runs made for heavy classic car traffic along M-24, starting at the Culver's in Lake Orion and then northward into Lapeer County.

"We had a great turnout, everybody involved in the Poker Run had fun," said Joe Zimmer, the owner/operator of Culver's of Lake Orion.

The winners of the first annual Culver's Poker Run included first place – Charlie Zany, \$500; second place – Mary Summerfield, \$150; third place – Mike Barley \$100, and fourth place – Bruce Bunker, \$50.

For the Poker Run participants, there were 10 merchants that served as official stops along the route, including Culver's, Golling GMC, O'Reilly Auto Parts, Buffalo Wild Wings, Auto Works of Oxford, Oxford Tap, White Horse Inn, Advance Auto Parts of Lake Orion, 4 M Collision – and Roadside Attractions! was the northern turnaround point.



Rambler Station Wagon cruises into Metamora.



Wait Staff break into their own sock hop at the White Horse.

The Poker Run was a free cruise with an opportunity for the participants to have fun and be eligible for the cash prizes listed above.

Elsewhere, in Metamora, the White Horse Inn hosted a sock hop that included customers and wait staff as participants, and a barbecue.

Lapeer Auto & Truck Plaza

on M-24 served as the northern turnaround point for the Lapeer Road Country Cruise. Prizes were given, and the Auto & Truck Plaza started an evening Cruise-In of its own, where R&R DoubleTake performed on Wednesday. There were 55 cars present, and the intention is to hold this event every week (see photo below).



R&R DoubleTake - Richard and Robert Fay performed Wednesday at the Lapeer Auto & Truck Plaza.



The Preacher's daughter, Daniyel Clark, uplifts the Cruisers with her gospel voice.

Rev. Marine Says Preacher's Run Was 'Our Biggest Car Show Ever'

Story and photo by Gerald Scott

The Preacher's Run Cruise-In at the North Auburn Hills Baptist Church was a big hit for both area cruisers and the host reverend.

It was held on Saturday, June 16, a cruise day coincidental to Culver's Poker Run as well as the Lapeer Road Country Cruise. The Preacher's show drew some cars from each of those events, the organizer said.

"This is our 12th year doing the show and usually we get 60 to 70 cars – but already today we're over 100 cars, so it's safe to say that this is our biggest show ever," said Rev. John Marine of North Auburn Hills Baptist Church.

"I grew up as a cruiser. I graduated from Ferndale High. I used to cruise Woodward from the Totem Pole to Ted's, the great stops in that era. I have my own 1946 Plymouth on display at this show and I still go to other car shows today. I go to Culver's on Tuesday nights, I know Joe Zimmer real well."

Meanwhile, the annual Preacher's Run is a friendly mix of cars and Christ, one might say, as the church makes the Cruise-In a very family-friendly event.

For the kids, the show has tattoos, ping-pong ball toss, shooting gallery duck boat



Rev. John Marine of the North Auburn Hills Baptist Church greets a visitor at the Preacher's Run car show on June 17, a big cruise date in northern Oakland County.

and bean bag toss.

In the community center, hot dog and hamburger cruiser-themed lunches could be had for reasonable prices.

And for entertainment, Marine's own daughter, Daniyel, sang at intervals throughout the show, including celebrating the American flag to kick off the show and singing gospels and spirituals at mid-show.

Said Daniyel to the audience, "We pray for our community and if you have a special need, we'll pray for you, too."

Daniyel sang familiar spirituals such as "Go Tell It on the Mountain" and "Through the Fire."

"Daniyel and I go to the

NSRA's (National Street Rod Association gathering) in Kalamazoo every year (to meet their spiritual needs)," Pastor Marine said.

The North Auburn Hills Baptist Church is an independent Baptist Church that began as the North Perry Baptist Church in Pontiac back in 1969.

Meanwhile, Pastor Marine said that the mission of the church is "Going with the Gospel," which is found in Matthew 28: 19-20 in the Bible. This same quote can be seen on the home page of the church's public Web site, it might noted.

Or, as baseball spiritualist Yogi Berra once put it so succinctly, you could look it up.

Orion Fireworks June 30

by Gerald Scott

"It's the third-largest fireworks show in the state."

Or so declared Carl Cyrowski, president of the Lake Orion Fireworks Association, speaking on behalf of this year's event, which is scheduled for Saturday, June 30, with the following Saturday, July 7, as the backup "rain" date.

"It's a good show, it's been going for 38 years now," Cyrowski said. "It started out where one guy was shooting off fireworks in his backyard and it grew from there."

"Now we do the fireworks from off of a barge (on Lake Orion)," he added. "Around the lake there are huge parties. The estimate from the Village of Lake Orion Police Dept. is that 100,000 people will be here on the night of the fireworks show."

Note that one of the main fundraisers for the show is the ticket raffle, supported by area merchants, and one that helps raise money to pay for the event as well as to reward ticket buyers with a whole series of large cash prizes.

Tickets are \$25 and there are 20 prize payouts including 1st place – \$10,000; 2nd place – \$5,000; 3rd place – \$4,000; 4th place – \$2,000; 5th place – \$1,000; 6th place – \$1,000; 7th place – \$500; 8th place – \$500; 9th place – \$200; 10th through 14th place – \$100; and 15th through 20th place – \$50 each.

A dozen local stores and eateries are selling the tickets, including:

- Applebee's
- Christi's Bar & Grill
- Buffalo Wild Wings
- Sagebrush Cantina
- Hollywood market
- Pugh's on Lake Orion
- Valero of Lake Orion
- Fireworks store, M-24 at Silverbell

• Fireworks store, M-24 in the Village of Lake Orion

• Chief Pontiac Credit Union on Brown Road near the GM Orion Assembly Plant.

Cyrowski added that waitresses at local eateries wear those "Ask Me!" badges and when customers ask, they're told of the ticket offering to support the fireworks show.

"The badges and the ticket sales are really going well," Cyrowski added.

Fundraising for the show is a constant endeavor for the Fireworks Association, by the way.

"We start in January, we do those Texas Hold'em games," he added. "Next year, we're going to do the concessions at a Tiger game (at Comerica Park) to raise money to pay."

CORRECTION

In last week's story about Auburn Hills Economic Developer Laurie Johnson, city manager Peter Auger was misidentified as Roger, and Great Lakes Crossing as Square Lakes. We regret the reporter's errors.



With the Trico Supplier of the Year awards from Chrysler are, from left, Tom Finelli (Chrysler); Scott Kunselman (Chrysler); James Findlay (Trico Products); Margaret Kubasiak (Trico Products); James Wiggins (Trico Products); Dave Parker (Trico Products); Vilmar Fistarol (Chrysler) and Mike Terrell, Jr. (Chrysler). Chrysler's awards were in the Electrical support and Mopar support categories.

Trico: Supplier of Year Supported Chrysler Initiatives

Chrysler Group LLC recognized Trico Products with two Supplier of the Year awards at its recent Chrysler Group Supplier Awards ceremony.

At this year's event, the automaker focused on technology innovation achieved through collaboration. Trico was recognized in the Electrical Category for its OE wiper system performance, and in the Service Parts Category for products and support of Mopar wiper initiatives.

The awards, which recognize Chrysler Group suppliers

in 12 judged categories, measure all suppliers in the areas of innovation, quality, delivery, cost, warranty, partnership and a focus on product execution and excellence.

More than 1,400 global suppliers, Chrysler Group and Fiat S.p.A executives attended the event at the Fox Theatre in Detroit. Margaret Kubasiak, vice president, accepted the awards on behalf of Trico.

"The collaborative environment and passion for excellence throughout Chrysler and Fiat enables Trico to de-

liver quality products with style and exceptional performance that consumers value," said Kubasiak.

"Chrysler's growth and success contributes to our legacy of creating innovative designs engineered and manufactured for performance. We are proud to be recognized for what we do best – wiper system and blade design."

"Trico's wins in both the Electrical and Mopar areas demonstrate the level of excellence they bring to their work," added Sig Huber, head

of supplier relations and Mopar purchasing at Chrysler.

"Their overall high level of performance across all aspects of their supplier scorecard, plus their strong commitment to making high quality parts really allowed Trico to stand out this year."

"In addition, they supported key company initiatives with our dealerships that allowed us to take great care of our customers through Mopar. We very much appreciate the strong support of Trico's employees and management."