FREE ISSUE

Covering Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, MA, RI, PA, & the Northeast

August / September 2026

Connecticut Cruise NEWS

New York Cruise News & Massachusetts Cruise NEWS

The Regions's Most Diversified Motorsports Publication — Motorcycle, Automotive, Entertainment and more...

Connecticut Cruise News Car & Motorcycle Season In Review

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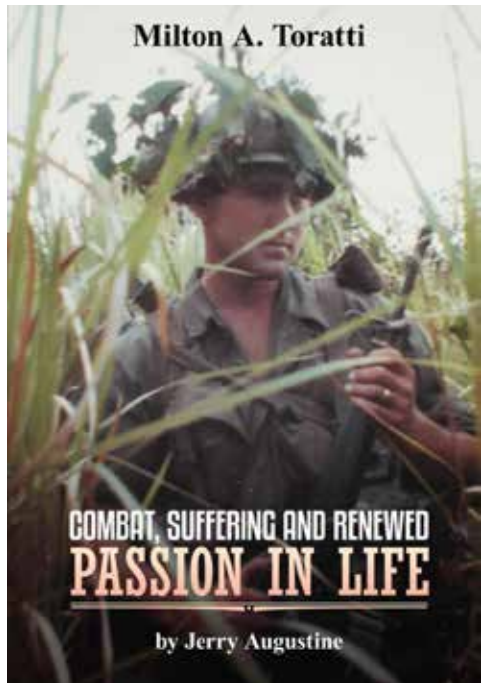
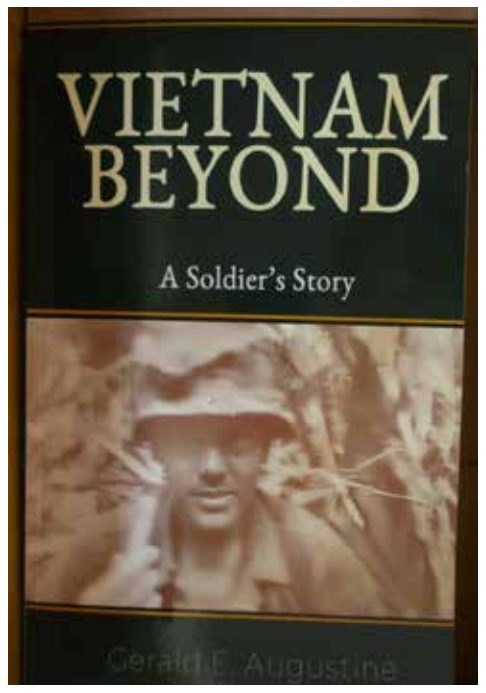
Letter to the Editor





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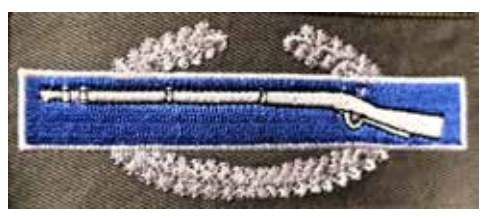

Send letters to the editor: Don Clady at dccj14@aol.com. Please include your name and contact information.

Connecticut Cruise NEWS
The Region's Most Diversified Motorsports Publication - Motorcycle, Automotive and more...

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Positively Speaking!

We need 'em both!

Divine Consciousness exists in complete perfection. To experience an ever-broadening range of experience and emotion a dark side was created for contrast. The antithesis of "ALL THAT IS", became necessary for life in form to exist and expand exponentially. The duality of dark-light, up-down, love-hate, joy-suffering all need to manifest to give possibility to the other. One cannot be without the other except in DIVINE AWARENESS where only magnificence exists as the wholeness of contrast in complete union.

Our individuated task as creative projections of DIVINITY is to choose and focus for ULTIMATE AWARENESS to have separate and diverse exposure.

God has projected un unlimited number of versions of ITSELF all without the Divine Awareness. Each representation, be it higher, lower, or even inanimate form is a projection of One Divine Conscious Energy attempting to experience Itself in as many ways as can be imagined by the individuated parts of the spirit. God experiences everything every creation experiences.

Some will know joy, others pain. Most will vacillate between. All will gradually be drawn closer to the light. Without our dark side, experience, emotion and condition would not be possible. We tend to shun all things that are not aligned with our highest good, yet without them, we would not know our highest good. Just as dark has no meaning without the existence of light and in means nothing without out. Imagine if a team of doctors saved the life of a child by harvesting a donated organ from an accident victim. Do they feel joy or sorrow. Or is it just another day at work. The child's life would not have been saved if a life was not lost.

Do not condemn the dark. Understand it. Appreciate the contrast. All conditions we could possibly imagine whether wanted or repulsed have a purpose and are necessary for life as we know to continue to unfold. GOD IS IN HEAVEN ALL IS RIGHT WITH THE WORLD!

Check Out My Book on Amazon: First Things First, Law of Attraction Basics

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Letter to the Editor

Hi Cindy,

I just read your latest article and you wrote how you like reading emails and there's a lot of stories out there. I thought I would send over this one which is laced with a bit of hidden humor, but, in all seriousness, you are a champion fighter when it comes to life.

When I venture to Torrington, which isn't much. I pick up the Connecticut Cruise News at the Doughnut Station.

I read your battle with breast cancer article and the other updates about that and your life. I certainly haven't had anything like that and I admire your strength and openness about it. I just read the recent one about riding the Harley. I've been riding dirt bikes since middle school and never got into a lot of street riding for reasons I would rather not get into. I eventually did, but it was out of necessity rather than weekend fun. That is a whole story in itself.

I've had friends who were in the real estate business, but they seemed to fade away after cell phones took over the job of pictures for listings. I did a good number of photo's back in the film days when you had to know what you were doing vs the device doing it for you. I have over 40+ years behind the lens. What happened from the days of film to digital is of course a story in its own.

I'm the old school type, I grew up when the now "Classic" was our daily driver. Our family had a nice variety of 1950's – 1980's cars/trucks. A few notables were my dad had a 69 Mustang he bought new in 69. It was the 2 door coupe inline six, four headlights and had the hood scoop with the blinkers in it. One of my cars was a 1970 Firebird and my brother had a1969 Buick GS. I should have focused on my own goals and dreams rather than spending years working to loose myself. I currently have a 1974 Dodge D100 here, I work on and love the simple engineering and function. I had 4 years of Auto Mechanics in High School and have been working on various vehicles, motorcycles, tractors and small equipment ever since. Growing up in the 1970's doing engine and transmission swaps on my car in my parents driveway and working on those engines with Carburetors and simple engineering was so much better than some of the vehicles I work on now that are computer controlled with a dozen plus sensors. With 47 years of experience starting in high school I'm thankful I have the knowledge to do my own repairs. My motorcycle, ATV and snowmobile experience also started back in the 1970's. My last big project was an engine swap and customization of a 1982 Suzuki GS650E in 1997 *See below reason. Unfortunately due to a couple of arrogant and disrespectful guys who had and still have a deep seeded hatred for me, I had to sell my bike after dealing with vandalism and theft of my personal stuff. That's a whole story in itself, but the last straw was the small nuts that were put in the oil fill that froze my engine right up while going down the road. Yes, a story in itself here too. Actually there's several intertwined stories that spanned the last 30 years. I've met lots of people who are not on the same page over the years and of course tere are several stories along the road to this moment.

There's more information about me in my web site and the about page. You can see some of my repair projects there. People can only follow me at my web site or in YouTube (YouTube has project videos). I do not have Facebook, (Meta), Twitter (X), Instagram or any of those other popular and bizarre social media places. Visit the about page in my web site to see pictures and more details on my life experience.

https://lamonicapictures.com/

Thank you for your time,
Mark LaMonica

Hi!

I read your story in Ct Cruise News as I was at the car show today. Thank you, your writing is beautiful and inspiring!!!

All the Best,
Sue

Hi Sue!

I'm so happy you enjoy!!!! Thank you so much for taking the time to reach out. You're a sweetheart!!

Enjoy your summer and thank you again for your support!!

Warmest regards,
Cindy

It Is What It Is With Cindy Sevell

Friendship – lately, I've been thinking about this a lot. There are friends and then, there are FRIENDS. I define a true friend as someone who has your back BEHIND your back, someone who truly wants the best for you, someone who loves and accepts you as you are, someone with whom you can be your goofy self with, someone you can laugh and cry with, someone who is happy when you succeed and someone who simply feels like home.

Let's talk about Deb. Deb is in a category all by herself. She isn't just someone I call a friend. She is more like a permanent fixture in my life. Deb is my Laverne to my Shirley, my peanut butter to my jelly, my Rose to my Blanche (Golden Girls), my Yin to my Yang. She knows the good, the bad, the embarrassing, the ridiculous and the "Dear God, Cindy, please don't ever do that again" moments. She has seen me at my best, my worst and every questionable version of myself in between. After all these years, over 40 years (shhhhh we're not that old!), she is still here and we are closer than ever, if that's even possible.

Deb has been there through my divorce, my breast cancer journey, my tears, my laughter, my reinventions, my dreams, my disappointments and all of life's unexpected plot twists. She has seen me celebrate and she has seen me fall apart. She has probably heard stories I've told 500 times and still somehow manages to act like she hasn't heard them before.

As I previously mentioned, I've always said that a true friend has your back BEHIND your back. That's my Deb. A real friend doesn't just support you when you're doing something fabulous. A real friend supports you when you're making questionable decisions, too. Sometimes support sounds like, "Go for it!" Other times it sounds like, "Cindy, absolutely NOT." And sometimes it sounds like, "Okay, I'm going to let you do it, but don't come crying to me when this goes sideways." And somehow, that is still love.

Friendship is easy when life is good. Let's be honest. When you're dressed up, laughing, going to dinner, drinking wine, taking vacations, shopping and celebrating, everybody wants to be your friend. But then life happens. And life doesn't exactly send a text saying, "Hey Cindy, just giving you a heads-up. Your next chapter is going to be a little rough." Nope. Life just kicks open the door. My divorce was one of those moments. I was married for thirteen years, and when that chapter ended, there were plenty of emotions. But Deb was there. She listened to me vent. She let me cry. She let me repeat myself. She probably wanted to say, "We've already discussed this approximately 72 times," but she didn't. That's friendship. Or maybe that's sainthood.

Then came breast cancer. And that was a whole different kind of chapter. Breast cancer changed my life in ways I never expected. I had a double mastectomy and ten major breast surgeries. Yes. TEN. At some point, I should have had a punch card. "Congratulations, Cindy! You've completed nine surgeries. Your tenth one is FREE!" But seriously, it was hard. There were scary days, painful days, emotional days and days when I didn't know what the next day would bring. And Deb was there. She didn't have magic words. She couldn't make it disappear. She couldn't fix everything. But she could be there. And she was. That is what you remember. Not the person who said the perfect thing. Not the person who sent the perfect card. You remember the person who showed up. And Deb showed up. Deb always showed up and continues to, to this day.

We are a package deal. We have our own language, our own stories, our own jokes and our own facial expressions that can communicate an entire conversation without saying a word. Deb is my "I have no idea what I'm doing" to my "Me neither, but let's do it anyway." My "That's probably a bad idea" to my "That's exactly why we should do it." My reality check. My emergency contact. My unofficial therapist. My unpaid life coach. My personal historian. And quite often, my accomplice. Deb has witnessed enough of my life that if she ever wrote a book, I'd have to move. She knows the embarrassing stories. She knows the relationship stories. She knows the "I can't believe I actually did that" stories. She knows the things I swore I'd never tell anyone. And somehow, I keep telling her more knowing full well whatever I tell her is sacred and goes nowhere.

She has seen me dressed to the nines and she has seen me looking like I lost a fight with my alarm clock. She knows what I look like when I'm happy. She knows what I look like when I'm angry. She knows what I look like when I'm sick, when I'm tired, when I'm struggling and she loves me regardless. She loves me no matter what's going on in my life and she supports me in every way she can. When someone knows the whole story and still loves you, that's when you know you've got something special. When someone truly wants the best for you, celebrates your successes and is sincerely happy for you, that's a true friend. That's ride or die.

Let's talk about the real beauty of friendship. You don't have to impress your best friend. You don't have to suck in your stomach. You don't have to wear uncomfortable shoes. You don't have to pretend you didn't eat the entire dessert. You can show up in sweatpants. You can have no makeup on. You can complain. You can cry. You can laugh. And nobody is going anywhere. Friendship is love without the pressure. Love without the performance. Love without the Spanx. And frankly, that's a beautiful thing.

One of the most amazing things about a lifelong friendship is watching each other change. We aren't the same women we were years ago. We've grown. We've learned. We've made mistakes. We've experienced heartbreak. We've celebrated victories. We've gone through things we never expected. And yet, somehow, when we're together, part of us is still those younger versions of ourselves. We can pick up a conversation like we never stopped. We can laugh about something that happened years ago as if it happened yesterday. And we can look at each other and say, "Remember when..." And suddenly we're right back there. That's the magic. Time passes. People change. Life gets complicated. But few friendships feel like home. I'm truly blessed to have this type of friendship with Deb. Deb is home and nothing feels better than home.

As I've gotten older, I've realized that family isn't always about blood. Family is chosen. Deb is my chosen sister. Family is the person who answers the phone when you're having a meltdown. Family is the person who says get dressed, we're going out. Family is the person who sits by your bedside, holding your hand, when you're sick. Family is the person who brings you to get second and third opinions when you are completely botched after your double mastectomy and is there when you wake up from surgery after surgery to give you a hug and make sure you're ok. Family is the person who laughs with you. Family is the person who cries with you. Family is the person who listens to the same story for the 900th time. That's Deb. She's family. She's part of my history. She's part of my story. She's part of some of my funniest memories. She's also probably responsible for many of them.

People come and go. That's life. Some friendships last a season. Some last a few years. Some disappear after one awkward disagreement or act of disrespect. That's one thing I don't handle well – being disrespected. I'm good to everyone but once you disrespect me, it's buhhhh byeeee. But then there are friendships that survive everything. Deb and I have survived changes. We've survived distance. We've survived life. We've laughed. We've cried. We've argued. We've forgiven. We've celebrated. We've supported. We've shown up. And after all these years, we're closer than ever. That's not an accident. That's loyalty. That's history. That's love. That's TRUE friendship. That's sisterhood.

Deb, I hope you know how much you mean to me. You were there through my divorce. You were there through my cancer journey. You were there through the hard days. You were there through the good days. You were there when I needed someone to listen. You were there when I needed someone to laugh with. And you're still here. That's what makes you so incredibly special. You have my back when I'm standing right next to you. And you have my back when I'm nowhere around. That's the definition of a true friend. We've got history. We've got stories. We've got inside jokes that nobody else understands. We've got memories nobody can take away. And we've got plenty more ridiculousness ahead of us. So here's to all the years behind us and all the years ahead. Here's to the laughter, the tears, the adventures, the nonsense, the serious conversations, the inappropriate conversations, the questionable decisions and the stories that absolutely should never make it into print. Here's to growing old together.

That's my Deb. My Bestie. My sister. My ride or die. My true blue. My chosen family. The real deal. The woman who knows way too much and still loves me anyway. Deb is one of the greatest gifts life has ever given me. When life gets crazy, there is nothing better than knowing someone is standing beside you saying, "I've got you." And Deb? She always has. And if I ever end up in trouble, I'm calling her first. Not because she'll get me out of it. But because she'll probably be right there with me. That's the true definition of a friend.

As always, I thank you all for your love and support! Thank you for your wonderful emails. Thank you for reading and enjoying my articles every month. I absolutely LOVE writing for Don's CT Cruise News and I LOVE hearing from all of you. Feel free to share your thoughts and stories with me at cindy@cindysevell.com. I read and I respond, I promise! Happy Summer, stay safe and live your life as fully as you can. Lastly, I pray you have a friend like my Deb because friends like her make our lives so much richer!

Ya know what really GRINDS MY GEARS?

Everyone expecting immediate results!!!

Why is it nowadays everyone wants things NOW! That point, click, buy, delivered mentality that Amazon has given us has spilled over to our everyday train of thought! It's like nobody wants to put effort into anything anymore. This instant gratification nonsense has ruined what the backbone of our country was built upon! It's like the era of blood, sweat and tears is slowly ending. Let's just look at our phone and place an order! Very sad times we are living in now.

Many of my customers somehow now think that they are my only client and expect me to just be waiting by the phone for me to answer their calls. If I don't answer (because I'm busy ..duh!) they get all edgy and keep calling, texting and leaving voicemails! This immediate acknowledgment everyone expects needs to end now!! Patience is no longer the norm I guess. Even when new candidates are elected to office, people complain that they are not following through on their promises! Changes take time! Calm down, relax and enjoy your life! Stop living your life in the "IT'S ALL ABOUT ME" attitude!

GRRRRR-Tom GEARGRINDER2024@gmail.com

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Auto Race Tracks in New York and New England

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Director, CT Seaport Car Club
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BIG CAR.....BIGGER MAN

By John Pagliuca

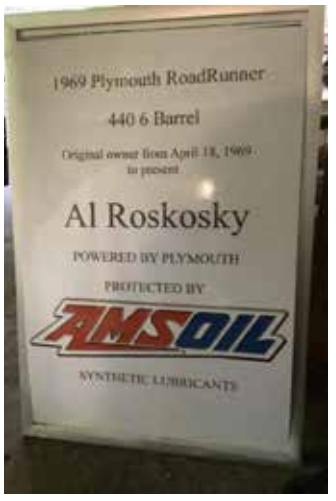
When Alfred (Big Al) Roskosky took delivery of his 1969 Plymouth Road Runner in April of that same year,he was overjoyed. But the 6 foot 5 inch multi-decorated Vietnam Veteran could not .have imagined the joy he would bring to others at Car Shows and Cruises in the following years to the present. The “gentle giant” loves those who appreciate the muscle car and he loves them back. It’s almost like he has a cult following everytime the car is on display anywhere he goes. Big Al is easy to talk to. And his atomic powered brain is full of automotive knowledge most of us forgot or even knew. His infectious smile and magnetic charisma keep the multitudes showing up to his site. Some pay homage and some just want to speak to this “big guy with the big car”.

Al Roskosky has every right to feel honored and proud by his fan base. Nothing came easy for him. He had to parry many of life’s sucker punches. Al’s mother passed away when he was in high school. He was the main source of comfort for his younger sister and father until drafted in to Army in 1965. While serving in Vietnam, his father passed away. He was able to make it back on the day of funeral but had little time to grieve. He was sent back to the Central Highlands in ‘Nam with an additional 4 months added to his tour. He did 16 rather than the standard 12 months.

When Al returned stateside and processed out of the Army, his pay travel pay came up short, and he had to hitch hike back to New York. And with the help of 3 long distance truckers he did so.

But Al had no home to go back to so his high school friend Mario invited him to live with his family. Things started to move for him a positive direction. He ran 2 successful repair shops with his partner and fellow ‘Namvet Danny. Did a stint with the Operating Engineers Union up until the last 25 years of his working life. He spent those years as a Mechanic and then Parts Expediter at Central Avenue Chrysler, White Plains,NY. The largest Chrysler Dealer in the area if not the country, supplying parts to other dealers and body shops from Hawthorne, NJ to the Port Authority of NY. Big Al got the right parts to the right place on time at the right time.

Al is a devoted family man on all counts. He has an elegantly gracious wife, 2 stunningly attractive, well educated daughters, and 3 energetic grandchildren. JP



Veteran's Garage

One More Time-

by Jerry Augustine
Chaplain- DAV Chapter #7

I sent in my registration form for the upcoming Empire State Building Run Up, or ESBRU for short.

Only 10% of registrants are chosen. I was happy to receive a reply a week later. I was accepted to compete on Oct 6, 2026. I have begun my training for this world competition. The last time I competed was in 2007 at 61 years of age. Here is my story of the past challenges. Hope my body holds up. Wish me well---

EMPIRE STATE BUILDING RUN-UP: Jerry Augustine, 55, of Middletown was the top finisher in the 50-59 age group in this year's run up the stairs of the Empire State building in New York City.

Augustine completed the race from the first floor to the observation deck (86 floors and 1,576 steps) in 15:18. He was 39th overall of the 116 male finishers. Nearly 200 participated.

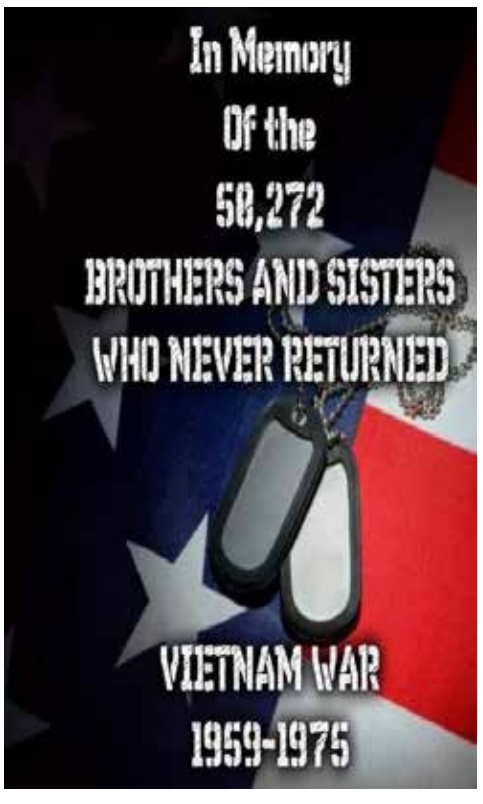
Augustine is a memebr of the Middletown YMCA and the Hartford Track Club.

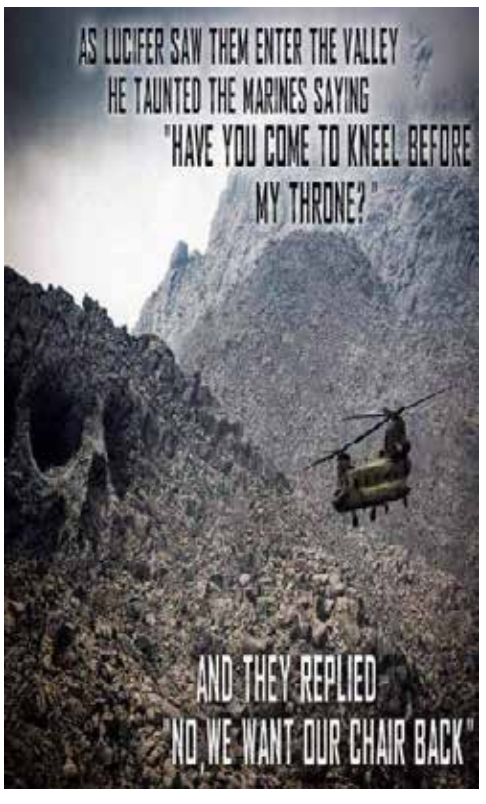
Local paper article

1576 Steps – Another 8 Year Quest

In the summer of 1995, my running friend and competitor, Dave Jacobs, suggested that I enter the Empire State Building Run-Up. I had been competing in road racing along with Dave for three years and trusted him. I took him up on his offer and questioned him as to what was involved. He explained to me that I would have to send in an interesting resume of my running history and health to the New York Road Runners Club no sooner than Thanksgiving Day for the following February competition. Dave had competed in the race for eleven years so he was quite knowledgeable on the subject. He then informed me that hundreds apply and I would be lucky if I was chosen to be one of the approximately 150 that were allowed to compete. I was also informed that once you are chosen you would be allowed to compete annually if you so choose. The following is a manuscript I wrote and submitted in an annual writing contest at our local library. The subject was to be about an "adventure." I was awarded a second place.

"I've made the trip eight times on the Metro in New Haven during February from 1996 through 2002 and again in 2007. The train took me to Grand Central Station where I disembarked with my little gym bag and walked 21 blocks to 34th Street and Fifth Ave. where the Empire State Building stands. I was committed to run (ESBRU), or the Empire State Building Run-Up, and win my division. ESBRU is a world-wide invitational race put on annually by the New York Road Runners Club. Over 2000 athletes enter annually submitting a resume of their athletic and running history. Approximately 160 competitors are chosen out of the entrance submissions on the basis of their backgrounds. I submitted my resume during Thanksgiving week prior to the February 1996 competition. It was the first time I entered. I was fortunate to be chosen to compete. The race would consist of running 1,576 stairs, or 86 floors of the world-famous building. I became a competitive runner just 3 ½ years prior at the age of 47, when giving up medications and finding an alternate method to relieve stress. I had been running in road races weekly so was in prime shape to enter the competition, or so I thought. February 22, 1996 came too soon. I boarded the 7 a.m. Metro Line in New haven like a child on his first day of school. As I was riding to Grand Central, my mind was in a state of wonderment, filled with questions such as; "What did I get myself into, did I train enough?" "Am I up to competing with these world-class athletes?" When I arrived in the lobby of the Empire State Building, I was abruptly guided to the basement where I was greeted by a tall fellow in a George Washington costume. It was Washington's birthday. A King Kong likeness was also mingling in the crowd of competitors. Before we knew it, we were ushered to the starting line on the first floor. I was amazed by the media positioned nearby. Cameras, bright lights, and reporters were there to capture the event. I found myself in the middle of the pack, as the younger runners were fighting for position to be closer to the starting line. When the air-horn went off, it was mass hysteria. Through the flashing lights and roar of the crowd, I literally was carried the 30 feet down the hall to the doorway of the stairwell. As we tried to funnel through the doorway, I could hear screams of pain from runners who were bruised and elbowed. When I started to ascend the first staircase, I quickly learned that one step at a time would burn me out. With leaps and bounds, two steps-at-a-time, was the way to go.





Veteran's Garage

I also discovered that pulling myself up by the railings enhanced my performance. Besides the approximate 172 landings, there were three hallways to run down, accessing new staircases. Water stations were located in these hallways. Runners had to be careful not to slip and fall or run into custodians who were mopping up all the spilled water. Paper cups were strewn everywhere. Each floor that we came upon had a stenciled number on its entrance door. The rules specified that we could exit the race at any time if we felt ill or were unable to make it to the finish. As I made my way up the stairs, concentrating on my form and speed, running full boar, I happened to glance at an entrance door. It read Number 37. I was spent, totally exhausted and hurting. I didn't want to think that there were 50 more floors to climb. "Is this where the second wind is supposed to kick in?" I thought. From here-on, it became mind-over-matter. My throat was raw due to the breathing in of the dust being kicked up, plus the higher we ascended, the hotter it became. Heat rises. Another thing I'll never forget, was when an exit door opened abruptly on one of the upper floors. Two custodians were there, leaning on their brooms, looking curiously into the stairwell at the commotion. As I was going by, our eyes met and their expressions changed from curiosity to a look of horror. It was if they had just met the craziest person on earth running up the stairs. I don't think they were aware that there was a race going on. When I did make it through the finish line, and collapsed against a wall, after a few minutes of gasping for air and recuperating, I began to search for the results printout. I finished the race in 14 minutes and 58 seconds, second place in the 50-year-old division, 29th overall out of the 150-plus runners. That experience sparked a desire to continue to compete annually in the ESBRU. In 2001, my 6th year of competing, I traveled to Las Vegas to train in a tall building, something I never had done. It was a week before ESBRU, I stayed at the Hilton Hotel. Each morning for a week, I woke up at 6:30 a.m. and ran three heats of the 38 floors as fast as I was able. My hard work paid off. Each day my elapsed times improved. My 6th attempt at ESBRU had finally arrived. It was the year that the most competitors in my division would compete, 18. When I warmed up on the long staircase from the basement to the first floor, I immediately knew that I would have not only a good race, but a great one. I was in terrific condition. Low and behold, this was my day. I finally won the 50-year-old division, at 55 years old. I was truly elated to win a world-class competition. Over the eight years that I competed in ESBRU, I was able to place 2nd four times, 3rd three times, and winning the division once. This certainly has been quite an adventure."

I had been told by fellow competitors, that if you can run to the top of this building in under fifteen minutes, you are of Olympic caliber. I am proud to say I've done it four times, in my fifties.

On February 19, 1998, my third attempt at ESBRU, I ran my quickest time, 14:28. I was able to defeat the following: 1st place runner from the NY Fire Dept. age 32, 14:39; 1st place runner from Mexico, age 27, 14:45; 1st place runner from Canada, age 26, 15:02; 1st NY Police Dept. age 40, 15:17.

I must admit, the success I have had in the ESBRU competitions, was due to thirty years of being a roofer. I constantly carried 80-100 lb. materials up ladders throughout my career. The labor made my legs super-strong. The physical work also kept me in tip-top shape.

Author at Empire State Building Run-Up with winners' medal

Author with "King Kong" and Dave Jacobs First year running ESBRU

Author in lobby just prior to ESBRU 2007

Author with running friend and ESB-RU competitor

jerry — First name
augustine — Last name
1987 to present — Year(s)
FIND
Search history for only one event (optional)

Race Name, Date	Finisher Name	Gender/ Age	City, State	Team	Distance (miles)	Gun Time	Net Time	Pace/ Mile	Overall Place	Gender Place	Age Place
Empire State Building Run-Up February 6, 2007	Augustine, Jerry	M61	Middletown, CT		.2		16:57		105	88	3
Empire State Building Run-up February 5, 2002	Augustine, Jerry	M56	Middletown, CT	HTC	.2	15:35			52	48	3
Empire State Building Run-up February 7, 2001	Augustine, Jerry	M55	Middletown, CT		.2	15:18			47	41	1
Empire State Building Run-up February 23, 2000	Augustine, Jerry	M54	Middletown, CT	HTC	.2	14:53			41	37	2
Empire State Building Run-Up February 25, 1999	Augustine, Jerry	M53		HTC	.0	15:19			53	48	3
Empire State Building Run-Up February 19, 1998	Augustine, Jerry	M52		HTC	.2	14:28			31	29	2
Empire State Building Run-Up February 20, 1997	Augustine, Jerry	M51		MOHE	.2	14:50			38	35	2
Empire State Building Run-Up February 22, 1996	Augustine, Jerry	M50		MOHE	.2	14:58			36	29	2

Archives of New York Road Runners Club

The Pets Who Grow Old Beside Us

"They depended on us when they were young. They trust us even more when they're old."

One day, you bring home a puppy or kitten, and somehow, almost without noticing, the years pass.

The face looking back at you begins to gray. The steps become a little slower. Naps become a little longer. And the pet you once cared for in its youth begins to need you in an entirely different way.

There is something incredibly special about having the privilege of watching a beloved dog or cat grow old beside you.

When Did They Get So Old?

It seems to happen overnight.

The dog who once raced through the house or couldn't wait to chase a ball now takes a little longer to get up from his bed. The cat who effortlessly jumped onto the highest piece of furniture may suddenly choose the easier route, or decide that a warm spot on the couch is just fine.

We notice the gray hairs, the slower movements, and the longer naps and wonder the same thing:

When did you get so old?

Of course, the years didn't pass overnight.

We were there for all of them.

And so were they.

Our pets are beside us through so many chapters of our lives, moves, career changes, new relationships, growing families, celebrations, heartbreaks, and countless ordinary days we probably don't even remember.

They are simply there. Day after day, year after year.

And somewhere along the way, that puppy or kitten becomes our old friend.

The Relationship Begins to Change

Caring for a senior pet often requires us to adjust right along with them.

Walks may become shorter. Food may need to change. Veterinary visits may become more frequent. Older dogs and cats may need medications, softer bedding, help navigating stairs, or easier access to their favorite places.

Sometimes the changes are subtle.

Maybe your dog no longer wants the three-mile walk he once loved, but he'd still like to slowly wander around the neighborhood and investigate every mailbox along the way.

Maybe your cat can't jump onto the bed anymore, but a small step or ramp allows her to continue sleeping in the spot she's claimed for the past 15 years.

These little adjustments may not seem significant to us.

To them, they can mean everything.

A Different Kind of Love

When our pets are young, so much of our attention is focused on what's ahead.

Training. Adventures. Long walks. Toys. Playtime. All the years we assume we have together.

As they get older, something changes.

We start paying closer attention to the little things.

Is he eating normally?

Is she comfortable?

Is that limp new?

Did he enjoy his walk today?

Is she still doing the things that make her happy?

Our focus gradually shifts from keeping them busy to keeping them comfortable.

It's a different stage of pet ownership, and in many ways, a deeper kind of love.

They Teach Us to Slow Down

Senior pets also have a wonderful way of reminding us that life doesn't always have to move so quickly.

An older dog may no longer want to race down the sidewalk. He might prefer stopping every few feet to investigate an interesting smell.

Let him.

Your senior cat may spend far more time curled up beside you than she did when she was younger.

Sit with her.

These moments can seem insignificant while they're happening, but one day they become the moments we treasure most.

Our aging pets teach us something we humans aren't always very good at:

Slow down.

Be present.

Enjoy what's right in front of you.

Returning the Love They've Given Us

Loving a senior pet isn't always easy.

There can be difficult decisions, unexpected veterinary expenses, and days when we worry more than we'd like to admit.

But there is also something beautiful about being able to return the loyalty and love they've given us for so many years.

We cared for them when they were young and depended on us for everything.

Now, as they age, they trust us to care for them in a different way.

To notice when something has changed.

To make things a little easier.

To advocate for their health.

And sometimes, simply to sit beside them.

Don't Rush These Years

We all wish our pets could stay young forever.

Unfortunately, they can't.

Perhaps that's part of what makes our relationships with animals so meaningful. Their lives remind us just how precious time really is.

So take the slower walk.

Sit on the floor with your old dog.

Let your senior cat have the best spot on the couch.

Buy the softer bed.

Give the extra belly rub.

Take the pictures, even if you've already taken thousands.

And when that familiar gray face looks back at you, remember what a privilege it is to have an animal who has traveled through so many chapters of life beside you.

They may move a little slower now.

But somehow, after all those years together, they occupy an even bigger place in our hearts.

Author Bio

Kathryn Lasky is the founder of KAZ Marketing Solutions, a locally owned marketing agency working with small businesses and community organizations. An animal lover and advocate for pet adoption, she believes in the powerful role companionship plays in keeping people active, connected, and engaged throughout life. She can be reached at kazworldwideventuresllc@gmail.com

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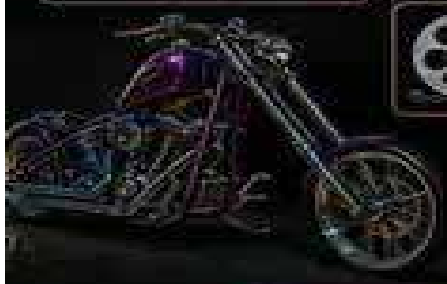

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OXFORD CAR SHOW	10 RINGS	JULY 11
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COMPETITION MACHINING SERVICES CRUISE NIGHT	5 RINGS	JUNE 17
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MORONEYS BORDER WARS	20 RINGS	JUNE 27
DANBURY SPRING CAR SHOW	10 RINGS	JUNE 28
CRUZIN' NEW MILFORD	40 RINGS	JULY 26
NEW MILFORD FIRE WORKS CAR SHOW	10 RINGS	JULY 3
COMPETITION MACHINE SERVICES CRUISE NIGHT	5 RINGS	JULY 15
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WHORTELLEKILL CAR SHOW	10 RINGS	AUG 2
ITALIAN AMERICAN POLICE SOCIETY CAR SHOW	10 RINGS	AUG 9
BRIDGEWATER WHEELS 4 MEALS CAR SHOW	10 RINGS	AUG 2
COMPETITION MACHINE SERVICES CRUISE	10 RINGS	AUG 19
BACKYARD BEATERS CAR SHOW	5 RINGS	AUG 22
WICKED WHIPS CRUISE NIGHT MAHOPAC, NY	10 RINGS	AUG
PARADICE CLASSIC CRUISERS MONDAY NIGHT RING NIGHT	10 RINGS	AUG 31
PARADICE CLASSIC CRUISERS MONDAY NIGHT RING NIGHT	10 RINGS	SEPT 14
COMPETITION MACHINE SERVICES CRUISE NIGHT	10 RINGS	SEPT 16
RIDGEFIELD CROSSING	10 RINGS	SEPT 19
RODS & ROSES CAR SHOW	10 RINGS	SEPT 20
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TRICITY MUSCLE'S FALL RING EXTRAVAGANZA ALBANY, NY	25 RINGS	OCT 2-4
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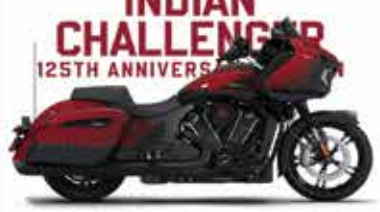

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Cruising New Milford 250th Anniversary of America Car Show

Photos by Dave Moulthrop

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Cruising New Milford 250th Anniversary of America Car Show

Photos by Dave Moulthrop

LoStocco Auto Parts Adds Three NAPA Auto Parts Stores To Its Operation

On June 1, 2026, LoStocco Auto Parts purchased three NAPA Auto Parts stores - Monroe on 495 Monroe Turnpike, Newtown on 111 South Main Street and New Canaan on 26 Cross Street. These, added to their existing store locations in Danbury, Litchfield, New Milford, Norwalk, Ridgefield, Stamford and Waterbury allows LoStocco Auto Parts to serve greater Fairfield County with all of their automotive needs.

The story began in 1992, when Joe and Paul LoStocco decided to venture out into the auto parts business. They chose NAPA because of its excellent reputation for quality. Their mission is simple, to provide their customers with outstanding customer service, including knowledgeable and trained parts professionals, fast and accurate deliveries and a solid inventory.

Now, with over thirty years of experience in selling quality NAPA auto and truck parts, they employ over one hundred and thirty-five people - including family and friends, and maintain a combined inventory of over ten million dollars that ranges from all kinds of automotive and truck replacement parts, accessories, paints, supplies, tools and equipment. And last year, LoStocco Auto Parts decided to take on limberlandPRO, expanding into clothing and footwear and offering their customers work boots, shirts, tees, sweatshirts, jackets, pants and even belts and wallets! You really should see their dedicated room of top selling limberlandPRO products that they have, all at great prices.

So, stop in to one of LoStocco Auto Parts' stores soon or go to their website at LoStoccoAutoParts.com and check them out for any and all of your automotive, clothing and footwear needs. You'll be glad that you did!

Pick up your Connecticut Cruisers at any of the following LoStocco Auto Parts' locations:

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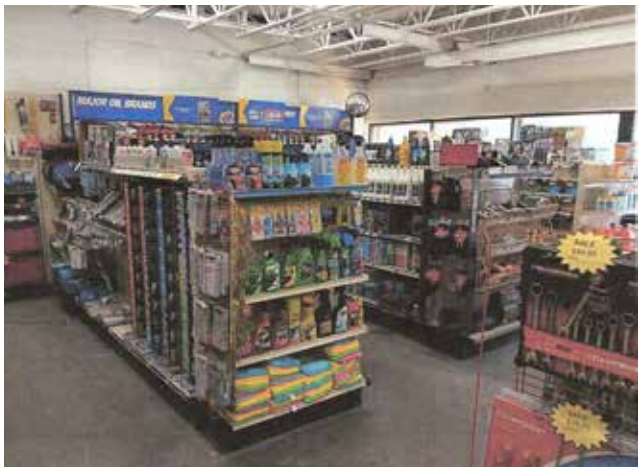
IOC Prospect Hill Rd New Milford, CT	60 Main St. Norwalk, CT	113 Danbury Rd, #12 Ridgefield, CT	62 Camp Ave Stamford, CT	2558 E Main St Waterbury, CT

Monroe

New Canaan

Danbury



Stamford

Newtown

Arlene Smith — The Powerful Voice of the Chantels

Arlene Smith was one of the pioneering voices of the early girl-group era and the unforgettable lead singer of the Chantels. Born October 5, 1941, in the Bronx, New York, Smith discovered her love of music at an early age. She received classical musical training and even performed at Carnegie Hall when she was only 12 years old.

While attending St. Anthony of Padua School in the Bronx, Arlene sang in the school choir with Jackie Landry, Renee Minus, Lois Harris and Sonia Goring. The girls originally sang Latin hymns and Gregorian chants, but Smith encouraged them to experiment with popular songs and develop their own harmony style. In 1953, the group that would become the Chantels was formed.

Their big break came in 1957 when Richard Barrett, a member of the doo-wop group the Valentines, heard the girls sing. He recognized something special in Arlene's powerful lead voice and helped arrange an audition with record executive George Goldner. The Chantels were soon signed to End Records.

Their first release, "He's Gone," was written by Smith and became a modest hit. Then came the song that changed everything: "Maybe." Written by Arlene when she was still a teenager, the record featured her dramatic, emotional lead vocal surrounded by the girls' beautiful harmonies. "Maybe" reached No. 15 on the Billboard Hot 100 and No. 2 on the R&B chart, selling more than a million copies. It became one of the defining records of the early girl-group movement.

The Chantels went on to appear on American Bandstand and tour with major performers including Chuck Berry and Ike & Tina Turner. Unfortunately, the group experienced the exploitation that was common for young performers of the era, including lost royalties and questionable business practices.

Smith left the Chantels in 1959 to pursue a solo career. She recorded "Love, Love, Love" in 1961 with the young Phil Spector, but her solo career never achieved the success of the Chantels. She later studied at Juilliard, earned a master's degree in education, and became a music teacher in the Bronx. In 1973 she formed another version of the Chantels and continued performing for many years.

Ten memorable Arlene Smith/Chantels recordings

1. Maybe (1957)
2. He's Gone (1957)
3. Every Night (I Pray) (1958)
4. I Love You So (1958)
5. How Could You Call It Off (1958)
6. If You Try (1958)
7. Sure of Love (1958)
8. The Plea (1957)
9. I Can't Take It (There's Our Song Again) (1959)
10. Goodbye to Love (1959)

Smith also recorded the solo singles "Love, Love, Love" and "He Knows I Love Him Too Much" with Phil Spector.

Arlene Smith died in New York City on July 29, 2026, at age 84. The Associated Press reported that she died from a heart attack.

Arlene Smith's legacy is enormous. With her commanding voice and the Chantels' beautiful harmonies, she helped establish the sound that would inspire the Shirelles, Ronettes, Supremes and countless girl groups that followed. "Maybe" remains one of the greatest and most emotional doo-wop recordings ever made.

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A Book Worth Checking Out: A Promise Kept by Rachel L. Nota

For those of us who share a passion for cars, we know that being an enthusiast is about more than what sits in the garage. It's about the stories, the memories, the people we meet along the way, and the passions that stay with us through the years.

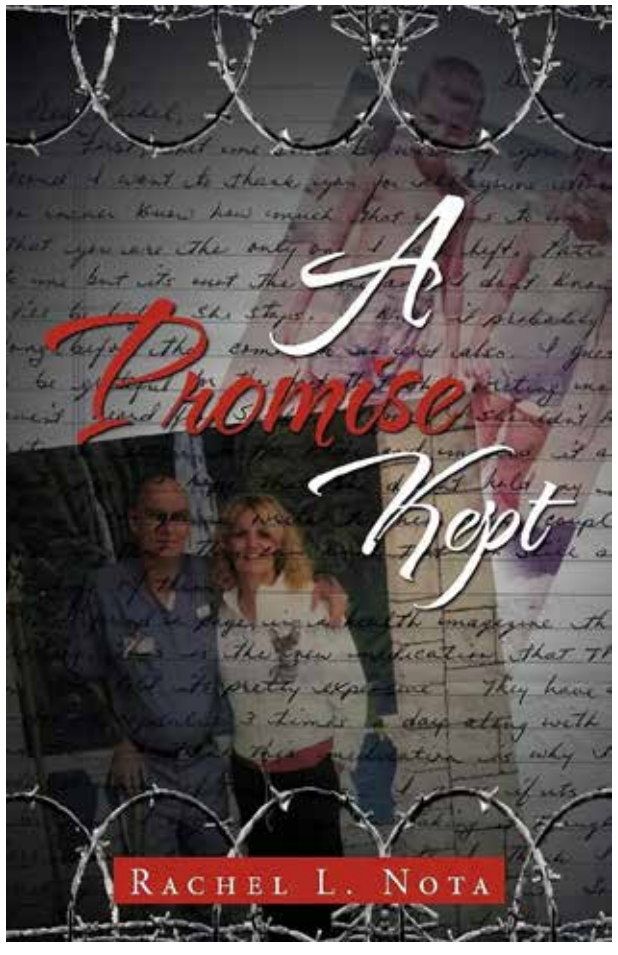
We'd like to spotlight Rachel L. Nota, author of A Promise Kept—and, even better, a fellow car enthusiast.

Rachel brings that same appreciation for passion and dedication that we see throughout the car community into her writing. A Promise Kept offers readers an opportunity to step away from the garage for a little while and enjoy a different kind of journey through the pages of a book.

Written almost twenty years ago, A Promise Kept is a poignant story of a brother and sister relationship that survived and endured despite the choices the brother made throughout his life.

Whether you're an avid reader or simply looking to support a fellow enthusiast who has turned her passion into something meaningful, A Promise Kept is worth putting on your reading list.

Support a fellow enthusiast. Support a local author. And give A Promise Kept a read. Available on Amazon.



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People in the News

New Episode Special Cruising with Classic Cars and Hot Rods.

Gary Nevola, ceo NVP / CCCHR Productions
Cruising with Classic Cars and Hot Rods
Written, Produced, Directed, and Edited by Gary NeVo
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Musician/car Guy John Oates and Former VP of Global Design for GM Ed Welburn Featured on Latest Classic Auto Mall Shows

Popular podcast, hosted by by Stewart Howden, closing in on 20 million views and rising MORGANTOWN, Pa. (August 11, 2026) – The latest Classic Auto Mall weekly podcast on YouTube features musician/car guy John Oates and former VP of Global Design for GM Ed Welburn.

Formerly of the group Hall & Oates, a race-car driver and vintage and specialty car nut, Oates talks about his car collection and other fun topics, while Welburn discusses his years behind the scenes at GM's Design Center.

These are just two of dozens of spirited interviews of racing celebrities and industry icons conducted by Classic Auto Mall co-founder and president Stewart Howden.

Since the Classic Auto Mall Show launched in 2018, viewership is closing in on the 20 million mark and continues to rise.

To view these latest podcasts, go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-TOTr9rNl-Q4 (Oates) and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J9nZo2d6xk-k&t=18s (Welburn)

Other Classic Auto Mall podcast interviews, available at www.youtube.com@classicautomall, include such racing and industry celebrities and pioneers as Zak Brown, Peter Brock, Ray Evernham, Linda Vaughn, Bruce Meyer, Don Prudhomme, Lyn St. James, Matt Hagan, Ron Capps, Alexis DeJoria, Bobby Rahal and more.

To subscribe to Classic Auto Mall podcasts, go to www.classicautomall.com.

About Classic Auto Mall:

Classic Auto Mall is a world-class consignment house located in southeastern Pennsylvania with indoor showroom space for up to 1,000 collectible and special-interest vehicles offered for sale. It is conveniently located just west of Philadelphia and south of New York City. CAM's one-of-a-kind building is climate-controlled, security-monitored and is the ultimate destination for classic and specialty car lovers. CAM accommodates groups hosting car-related trade shows, car shows, car product launches and private events for car clubs. CAM's consignment program allows classic car lovers to store and offer their prized possessions for sale. CAM markets vehicles worldwide and gets top dollar for one special car or an entire collection. www.classicautomall.com

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Letter to the Editor

To My Fellow Cruisers,

I would like to give a huge shout-out to the two amazing groups of volunteers that helped make each of our last two car shows a tremendous success. With regard to our First Annual 'New Milford Cares' show held on July 19th, the volunteers from MVPSOS/KIDS FIRST, (which I am very proud to be on the Board of Directors of), dedicated so much time and eTort to ensure that the benefit to both KIDS FIRST and the New Milford Food Bank would be significant. They exceeded that goal! Special thanks as well to the student volunteers from Canterbury School! They were amazing!

On August 2nd, our 1st Annual 'Wheels For Meals' show at The Pratt Pavilion in Bridgewater surpassed all expectations! Again, an amazing team working together for a great cause. Our team consisted of the Bridgewater Republican Town Committee. What a pleasure to work alongside this phenomenal group. All proceeds from this event go to the Bridgewater Food Pantry and will surely benefit and be appreciated by many local families. Again, I can't say it enough. What a pleasure to work with all of these people who gave so uch personally to ensure both events were huge successes!

While the weather this season has been challenging, (hottest July on record!), we had some decent Tuesday Cruise nights at Panera Bread in New Milford. As well as a few with light attendance. I appreciate the calls, texts, emails and those reaching out to me in person to thank me and Paradice Classic Cruisers, Inc. for two well run, enjoyable shows.

After speaking with members of other clubs as well as the management and owner of Litchfield Crossings, we have made the decision to move our cruise nights to Monday evenings beginning with August 31st. We will still meet on the two Tuesdays before that.

Monday, August 31st will be a CT Cruise News (10 Ring) Ring Event! We will also have other trophies, raTle prizes and 50/50. Along with our DJ…. Racer X! We will also have Ring Nightson 9/14 & 10/19.

We have a couple of other shows planned. Please follow us on Facebook at: Paradice Classic Cruisers, LLC. Our website is: ParadiceClassicCruisersCT.org. Or, feel free to email us at : paradiceccfoundationinc@gmail.com. If all else fails, call or text me at 203-617-9713.

As promised over 5 months ago, Paradice Classic Cruisers, LLC has been resuscitated! Come join our fun, exciting and yes….Drama Free club with many enjoyable events on the horizon! As always, wishing everyone a very happy, fun and safe cruising season! Be well, John

Connecticut Cruise News Hometown Mayor Pete Bass

ESY students from NMHS and SMS come by for their tour of Town Hall! Thank you to the Teachers, Staff of this wonderful program and the students for allowing me to show them our wonderful Town Hall!

Congratulations to NMHS Alumni Jackson Olsen, who is now with the Savannah Bananas, who is featured in the Aug Sports Illustrated" Star- A -Peel" by Lauren Green. Outstanding!
Rebecca Shaw: Sonny Shaw would be so proud as he coached him in little league

Ribbon-cutting at the Lanesville firehouse.

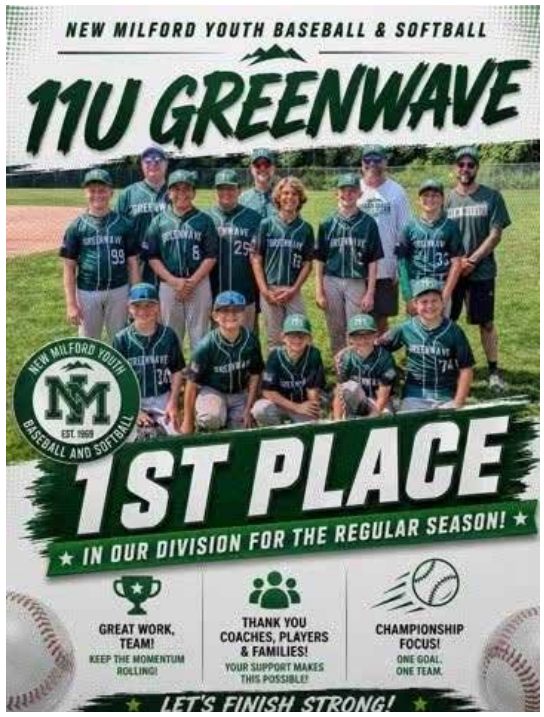
Thank you to Watch Witch Chief Delaney, Water Witch Fire, Lanesville Fire Board of Trustees, NM Fire, NMPD, NMAmbulance, NMDPW, and NMCERT for their attendance. Thank you to the public who attended today. Thank you to Water Witch 2nd Chief Titus for MC'ing the event.
Thank you to Water Witch Acton for the invocation, St. Francis Deacon Gambone for the Blessing of the firehouse, Water Witch Fire Mark Haber - Water Witch Building Committee Chairperson and Chief Delaney for his remarks. Thank you, Chairman Rob Beebe and the entire Municipal Building Committee for their work on this project New Milford Proud and Strong!

*** Thank you to Bernie for some of these great pics!

New Milford Proud and Strong!

From the Desk of New Milford Mayor Pete Bass

Connecticut Cruise News Hometown Mayor Pete Bass



Congratulations to the NMYBBSB 11U Greenwave!
1st place in the Division! Outstanding!

Thank you to everyone that came to our Purple Heart Ceremony where we Honored our Purple Heart War Hero's ! Thank you to America Legion Commander Delancy for opening the ceremony.

Thank you to Purple Heart Recipient John Avalone US Marine Corp Vietnam War - 1969 wounded in combat - Thank you to Christine Lalli - who represented her Father Nicholas Hnyda- US Army 1st infantry division (The Big Red One) - Purple Heart recipient. Thank you to all 8 New Milford Purple Heart recipients! Thank you to State Senator Harding for attending our Ceremony!

God Bless America and the Troops that Support it!

New Milford Proud and Strong!

From the Desk of New Milford Mayor Pete Bass

New Milford Mayor - Pete Bass Asked State Representative Bill Buckbee to attend the 250th celebration in Hartford representing New Milford as we re-declared. One person from each town across the state was chosen to sign. Bill was asked since one of the 5 writers was Roger Sherman, a man who once served as our state rep, in the same position he serves today.

He was was truly honored. Also in attendance was Rep. Christie Carpino including Julie Wechter who also signed, on behalf of Warren, CT! God Bless America, and here is the the next 250 years!

Doc's Motorcycle Parts Celebrates 57 Years with Annual Customer Appreciation Day & Bike Show

WATERBURY, Conn. — One of Connecticut's longest-running motorcycle traditions returns to Waterbury this September as Doc's Motorcycle Parts hosts its 57th Annual Customer Appreciation Day & Bike Show on Sunday, September 13, 2026, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Held at Doc's Motorcycle Parts, 1625 Thomaston Avenue in Waterbury, the annual event brings together riders, motorcycle enthusiasts, families and longtime customers for a day celebrating motorcycles and the people who have supported the family-owned business for nearly six decades. The September 13 event is also listed on RIDE-CT's 2026 Connecticut motorcycle event calendar.

A Waterbury Tradition Since 1969

Doc's roots in Waterbury stretch back to 1969, when the business began as Waterbury Cycle Specialists. According to the company's history, founder "Doc" saw a need for a shop willing to provide parts, service and customization for riders at a time when customized motorcycles were often turned away by traditional dealerships.

That history has remained an important part of the business. Doc's notes that its first Customer Appreciation Day was held in 1969, making this year's celebration the 57th edition of an event that has grown alongside the shop itself.

The tradition continues today under the next generation of the family, while Doc's remains an independent motorcycle shop serving riders throughout Connecticut and the Northeast.

Motorcycles Take Center Stage

At the heart of Customer Appreciation Day is Doc's Custom & Vintage Bike Show, which welcomes an assortment of motorcycles ranging from meticulously restored classics and vintage machines to highly customized modern bikes.

Previous Customer Appreciation Days have drawn substantial crowds. When the event returned in 2022 following a two-year pandemic-related hiatus, RIDE-CT reported that more than 1,000 people attended, with motorcycles lining Thomaston Avenue and filling the surrounding area.

The tradition remained strong in 2025, when RIDE-CT again covered the event and reported a strong turnout and a colorful collection of motorcycles on display.

For 2026, Doc's is putting more than $2,000 in cash and prizes behind the bike show. Awards include $600 for Best in Show, $500 for People's Choice, $400 for Best in Show Second Place and $300 for Most Patriotic, along with additional awards for third place and Best Paint.

More Than a Bike Show

The September celebration is designed to be more than a motorcycle competition. Throughout the day, attendees can enjoy vendors, food, music, free raffles and other activities, with the event serving as Doc's way of thanking the motorcycle community that has supported the business for generations.

Additional cash contests will add to the festivities, including Biker Babe, Best Beard, Best Male Tattoo and Best Female Tattoo competitions.

For Doc's, however, Customer Appreciation Day has always been about something bigger than prizes.

During the 2022 event, Mike D'Occhio explained the philosophy behind the gathering when attendees thanked Doc's for bringing the event back. His response summed up its purpose: "This is customer day. We're thanking them."

That sentiment remains at the center of the 2026 celebration.

Doc's 57th Annual Customer Appreciation Day & Bike Show takes place Sunday, September 13, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Doc's Motorcycle Parts, 1625 Thomaston Avenue, Waterbury, Connecticut.

For additional information, call 203-757-0295, email docsmotorcycle@snet.net, or visit Doc's Motorcycle Parts.

57 years. Generations of riders. One day dedicated to saying thank you to the motorcycle community.

Danbury Police Cadets

We're Honored To Be the 2026 Beneficiary Organization!

Join us at the Danbury Car & Truck Festival benefitting the Danbury Police Cadets, supporting cadet scholarships for NERLEEA's annual Cadet Police Academy on Sunday, September 6, 2026 from 10:00AM-4:00PM - with a rain date of Monday, September 7, 2026

The event is free to spectators, with support of local food trucks sharing food for purchase, and some of the best shops in the Greater Danbury area located in our Vendor Village. Bring the family to scope out vehicles of all makes and models. Stroll through and admire these beauties!

Don't forget to indulge in the many food trucks on premises that will have a wide selection of offerings. Enter the 50/50 raffle and shop the vendor displays of goods and services. What a great way to close out summer by spending some quality time with the family at a community event! Make it a family affair and support an important cause!

We would like to thank all our sponsors and supporters from 2025 and look forward to continuing the relationship in 2026. The funding from 2025 was used to pay full scholarships for 21 Cadets to go to the 2026 Cadet Police Academy this past July. Additionally, an additional 11 Cadets were able to attend the Cadet Police Academy with partial support from our program. Danbury was able to send 32 Cadets to the Cadet Police Academy in total this year.

Check out our gallery from the 5th Annual Car and Truck Festival below: https://lightroom.adobe.com/shares/86cefb2d1d0540d1b9b09c-d55a015c24

Whortlekill Rod and Gun Club Car Show

Photos by Beth Dee

Whortlekill Rod and Gun Club Car Show

Photos by Beth Dee

Culture Corner

Jon Norrman is the owner of rusted repurpostery and is responsible for some of the most out of this world one of a kind auto themed piece de resistance's you will ever encounter…..

but wait there's more. He repurposes all sorts of antiques and collectibles not just automobile related..Bringing new life to items that would have otherwise been discarded never to be seen again. This is what drives him.. The revitalization and repurposing of automotive bits and pieces is his passion and forte'. But also Coca Cola machines, Old signage,lighting fixtures, almost anything as long as it can be turned into something supremely cool. Jon has owned numerous cool cars through the years, some listed below

69 lemans convertible 1 st car
63 falcon convertible
69 impala convertible
69 firebird
55 Chevy
65 rambler
61 corvair rampside pickup and Loadside currently driven everywhere.

He started this business approximately 8 years ago, having built for residential use and commercial businesses

Jon is a person who enjoys building cool things and he started doing this just for himself but the response to his art was so resounding that he then branched out and started making these creations for sale and the enjoyment of others.

Pieces that are too far gone to be used for restoration of vehicles are perfect to be reborn into art objects and functional decor.

The patina of each piece tells a story in its own right. And Jon knows exactly what to do to maximize the artistic impact of these visually arresting works of art that he creates. I know first hand, I have some of his creations in my living room.

Jon has several barns full of front ends, rear clips, hoods, fenders, grills, headlights, taillights, dashboards, turn signals, and miscellaneous antique car parts of all makes and models just waiting to be turned into that one of a kind conversation piece.

He is always willing to accept new commissions and works with his clients to create the ultimate in mancave personalized uniquities.

He can be reached by text at 508-579-1123 or email jnorrman@charter.net

You can find Jon sitting in a coke cooler couch in the back of his ultra-rare Corvair rampside pick-up at car shows, swap meets and always at Sheltons field at Brimfield antiques week May-July and Sept space Ff37

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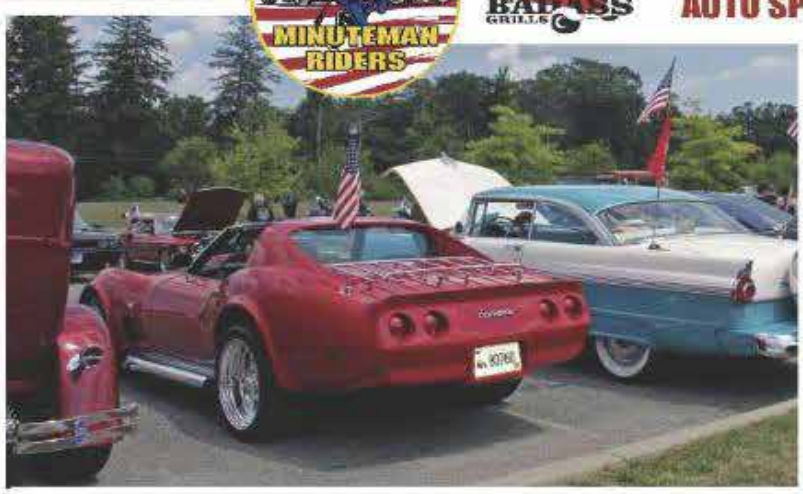

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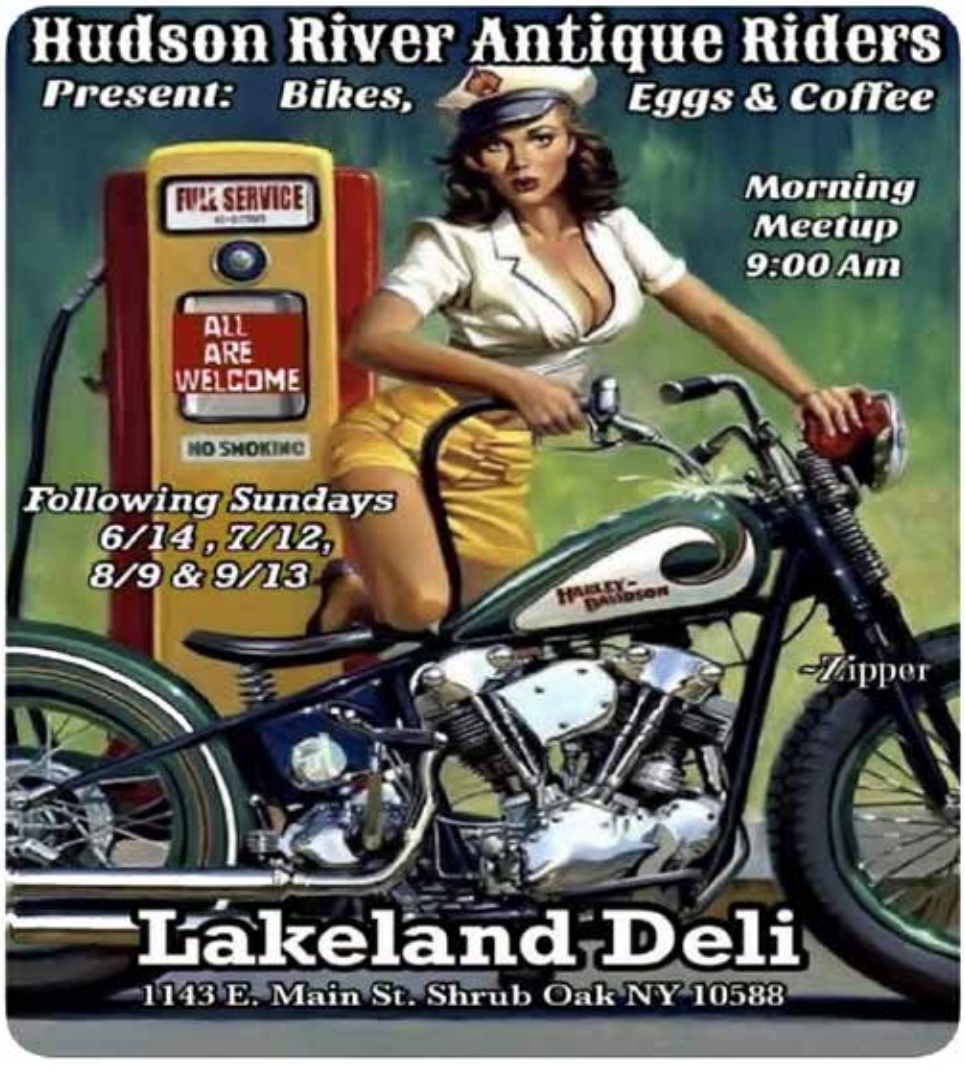
email dccj14@aol.com or visit us online at www.ctcruisenews.com



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The Best Car Show Might Be Right in Your Backyard

By Judy Szablak

You don't need a plane ticket to Pebble Beach, a passport to Monaco, or an invitation to some velvet-rope concours d'elegance to spend a great day surrounded by incredible cars. Sometimes all you need is a Sunday morning, a cup of coffee and a short drive.

Throughout Connecticut and the surrounding area, car shows, cruise nights and automotive gatherings pop up on weeknights and almost every weekend during the warmer months. Some attract hundreds of cars. Others might fill a town green, parking lot or local park. Some are carefully judged events where owners have spent weeks preparing their cars. Others are wonderfully informal: where the owners just show up, park, open the hood and start talking to spectators. And that is part of what makes them so much fun.

If you have never gone to a local car show or "cruise night" as a spectator, you may be surprised by what you'll find. There might be a beautifully restored 1950s Cadillac parked next to a Chevelle SS, which is parked next to a Volkswagen Beetle, which is parked next to a Ferrari. Keep walking and you may find a Model A, an old pickup truck, a Corvette, a Porsche, a hot rod, a resto-mod or a station wagon exactly like the one your parents drove when you were a kid. That last one might be the car that stops you in your tracks. Car shows have a funny way of doing that.

Cars are like time capsules. One glimpse of a particular dashboard, hood ornament or even upholstery pattern can suddenly bring back a memory you haven't thought about in decades. Maybe your dad or grandfather drove a similar car. Maybe you learned to drive in one, or had a friend in high school who owned one. Maybe you had one yourself, sold it years ago and still remember it fondly. You're not just looking at an old car anymore. You're remembering part of your life.

You Don't Have to Be a "Car Person"

One of the biggest misconceptions about car shows is that you have to know cars to enjoy them. You don't. You don't need to know horsepower, production numbers, or be an expert like Marisa Tomei in "My Cousin Vinny". You can simply walk around and look.

Pick the cars you like. Look at the colors and interiors. Read the signs owners sometimes display explaining the history of their cars, and go ahead, ask questions if you want. Most owners love talking about their cars. Ask how long they've owned it, where they found it, whether it has been restored or what that strange lever on the dashboard does.

You may get a two-minute answer. You may also get the owner's complete automotive autobiography. Consider yourself warned.

Nearly every interesting car has a story attached to it. Some have been in the same family for generations. Some were discovered sitting in barns or garages. Some were bought in terrible condition and brought back piece by piece over many years. Others are remarkably original survivors that somehow escaped being modified, wrecked, rusted away or simply used up. The story behind the car can be every bit as interesting as the car itself.

Expect the Unexpected

Another reason people love going to shows is that you never quite know what you're going to see. Yes, there are cars we all recognize: Mustangs, Corvettes, Camaros, Thunderbirds and plenty of beautiful European classics. But then there are the "one-off's", such as unusual customs and rare cars you may never have seen before.

You might find a forgotten make you haven't seen since childhood, a bizarre option you never knew existed, an enormous luxury car with enough chrome to affect nearby satellite reception or a tiny European microcar that makes a Volkswagen Beetle look enormous. Those are often the cars that draw the biggest crowds.

At a local show, you can usually get closer to a fascinating automobile than you ever could in a museum. You can look through the windows, hear the engine when the owner starts it and sometimes even talk with the person who restored it. You might be surprised how many of these extraordinary cars were painstakingly restored by their owners over many years. That kind of access is hard to beat.

The Price of Admission Is Pretty Good, Too

Many local shows are free for spectators, and many benefit fire departments, veterans' organizations, animal rescues, community groups and other local charities. You can spend several hours outside, see dozens or even hundreds of interesting cars, meet people, grab something to eat, take pictures and possibly discover an automobile you never knew existed. That's a pretty good Saturday, Sunday or weeknight evening out.

And you don't have to own anything remotely exotic to enjoy the atmosphere. Bring your kids. Bring your parents. Bring the friend who claims not to care about cars. Especially bring that friend. Give them 20 minutes. Eventually they'll point at something and say, "Okay, THAT is cool."

Start Close to Home

You might be amazed by how many automotive events are happening within a relatively short drive. Check community calendars, local car clubs and social media, as well as the paper you are reading right now, Connecticut Cruise News. Ask around at repair shops or parts stores. Once you start looking, you'll discover shows you never knew existed.

And don't overlook cruise nights. They're often smaller and more casual than traditional car shows, but that's precisely their appeal. Stop by for half an hour or stay all evening. Walk around, talk to people and watch the cars arrive and leave.

You may also start seeing familiar faces, and that's when you realize something else about the car hobby: it's a community. The cars may be what initially bring everyone together, but friendships develop around them. People trade information, locate impossible-to-find parts, recommend mechanics, help solve problems and celebrate each other's restorations. Sometimes they just stand around looking under a hood and offering six completely different diagnoses. That's part of the tradition, too.

Go See What's Out There

We spend a lot of time planning entertainment. We buy tickets months in advance, drive hours to destinations and sometimes overlook what's happening practically around the corner. Car shows are different. One weekend you may see a million-dollar automobile. The next weekend, the car you remember most might be a perfectly preserved 1973 station wagon with fake woodgrain down the side. That's the beauty of it. You don't know what you're going to see.

So the next time you see a sign advertising a local car show or notice a line of classics pulling into a parking lot, turn in. Walk around. Ask questions if you want. I can pretty much guarantee that the owner would love to tell you a story about their car, and don't be surprised if you stay a lot longer than you planned.

Because one of the best automotive experiences of your summer may have been hiding right in your backyard all along.

Submitted by Judy Szablak, Realtor® and Unapologetic Automotive Aficionado

The Manchester and Putnam Main Street Cruises

Reno Nevada has Hot August nights. Detroit has the Woodward car cruise. Syracuse Nationals, Lake George. So many to choose from limited only by geographical distance, time constraints and costs to attend.

Seems like every year there are more and more choices of car cruises/ shows to attend. Often as many as ten on a given Saturday or Sunday. Sometimes Biggest isnt always best. Here are two exceptions. These Two ARE “THE BEST” The Manchester CT main street cruise happens Early August the Sunday before Putnam CT ’s Main street cruise covering the entire Downtown Main street area with a couple thousand Super Cool Cars. Then the following Sunday Putnams “Main Street” cruise is spread out all over town beyond main street. Manchester charges an entrance fee for show cars and also allows Vendors, Putnam is entirely free for show cars and spectators and has family friendly activities in the park. Each town has its own unique attractions.Both feature Celebrity and TV/Movie vehicles. NOTE: IMPORTANT to arrive early to both Main Street cruises to get a spot, Manchester has been known to fill up by 9 am. And Putnam closes the access roads often by 9:30 am.This year Putnam appears to have exceeded Manchesters 2000 car estimate. You will see stock, mild, Kustom, Hot rod Ratrod versions of almost every make and model. This year I gave “WARNING INSANITY HAS REPLACED REASON IN THE MODIFICATION OF THIS VEHICLE” stickers to the most over the top examples I encountered. These two events are like the WOODSTOCK music festival BUT for Car people. A fully sanctioned takeover almost surreal in scope.Camaraderie is everywhere and new friends quickly become old friends on the spot. Mark your calendars and dont miss either one. 2027 Dates are still to be determined but will be published in this column as soon as they become available. TWO MUST ATTEND EVENTS TO BE SURE !!

The Manchester and Putnam Main Street Cruises

Cruisin' in the Kitchen

By Dan and Kim Varano

Bonjour a Tous! Hello every one and welcome back to our trip around the world! Can you guess where we are travelling to this month??? So now you are thinking of France as the culinary epicenter of Wine, cheese, cream, butter, bread and chocolate…and it is, but we want to share with you the basic, every day cooking practices that the French people use. Its not always about the heavy sauces but easier dishes that can be put together quickly and simply with basic staple ingredients that are usually on hand in a French home kitchen. Baked Chicken, traditional Quiche Lorraine, salad Nicoise eaten during their hot summers and maybe a fancy chocolate dessert for good measure. We hope that you will consider trying these recipes and adding them into your rotation.

On the Car Show and Cruise circuit we are busy! This year it seems that there are multiple places to go during the week and on the weekends. Some days we pull a "double header", hitting a car show during the day and a cruise in the evening. It can be exhausting but we know that our window of opportunity comes to an end quickly as the summer dwindles and fall begins. We hope that you are taking every opportunity to enjoy the car show season as much as we are, but don't forget that its all about having fun! So make sure to enjoy yourselves, be kind, wear your sunscreen and Happy Cooking!

Chicken Provencal (serves 4)

Ingredients:

8 bone in skin on chicken thighs
½ cup flour
1 cup cherry tomatoes
1 cup green olives
4 Fresh thyme sprigs
4 Fresh rosemary sprigs
2 lemons, halved and cut into thick slices
1 whole bulb garlic, peeled
Salt and pepper to taste
1/3 cup white vermouth
Olive oil for drizzling
3 tbsp Herbs de Provence spice blend or ½ tsp dried thyme, ½ tsp crushed dried rosemary, ½ tsp dried oregano, ½ tsp dried basil
2 large shallots peeled and quartered or 1 small red onion peeled and quartered

Instructions:

1. Rince and pat dry the chicken. Season with salt, pepper and herbs de Provence, then dredge each piece in flour.
2. Coat the bottom of a large roasting pan with olive oil and place in the chicken pieces a few inches apart. Arrange the tomatoes, green olives, thyme and rosemary sprigs, lemons, shallots and whole cloves of garlic around the chicken. Season again with salt and pepper.
3. Pour vermouth evenly over the dish and drizzle with more olive oil.
4. In a pre-heated 400-degree oven roast the chicken and vegetables for 45 minutes to 1 hour until the chicken reaches 165 degrees internal temperature. Check the chicken half way through cooking and if it looks dry add a cup of water or chicken stock.

Classic Quiche Lorraine (serves 4)

Ingredients:

1 frozen, pre-made pie crust
½ pound bacon strips, sliced into ½ inch pieces
½ medium onion, dices
1 cup shredded gruyere or sharp cheddar cheese
1 ¾ cups half and half (or equal amounts of heavy cream and milk)
4 large eggs
Salt and pepper to taste
¼ tsp smoked paprika
1/8 tsp ground nutmeg

Instructions:

1. Prepare the pie crust by rolling it out to a 12-inch round on a lightly floured surface. Transfer to a classic quiche pan or 9-inch pie pan. Press the dough into the pan with your hands and freeze for 30 minutes.
2. Remove the pie pan from the freezer and poke the bottom of the dough with a fork every inch or so. "Blind Bake" the crust by lining it with foil and placing either pie weights (if you have them) or pour a 1-pound package of dried beans onto the crust. Bake in a 350-degree pre heated oven for 30 minutes until the crust just starts to turn golden.
3. While the pie shell is still baking, cook the bacon in a medium skillet until crisp. Remove from the skillet, retaining the bacon fat and add the onions, cooking until translucent. Transfer onions to the bacon and discard the fat.
4. In a large bowl whisk together the eggs. Add the half and half, salt pepper, paprika and nutmeg, combining well. Stir in the cheese, bacon and onion and pour into the pre-baked pie crust.
5. Bake the quiche in a 350 pre heated oven for approx. 50-55 minutes until a knife inserted into the middle comes out clean and the center jiggles slightly. Let the quiche sit for 10-15 minutes before cutting.

Classic Nicoise Salad (serves 4)

Ingredients:

1-pound red skin potatoes, sliced 1/3 inch thick, pre-cooked until fork tender
2 tbsp dry white wine
10 oz thin green beans, trimmed, pre-cooked until fork tender
4 large eggs (hard boiled)
¼ cup white wine vinegar
T tbsp minced shallots
2 tbsp Dijon mustard
1 tbsp chopped fresh thyme
4/4 cup olive oil
Salt and pepper to taste
8 cherry tomatoes halved
1 head Boston lettuce, washed and leaves separated
6 radishes, trimmed and quartered
1 can solid white tuna, drained and flaked
½ cup Nicoise olives (or calamata olives)

Instructions:

1. Make the dressing by whisking the vinegar, shallot, mustard, thyme and salt and pepper to taste in a bowl. Slowly whisk in the oil until emulsified.
2. Toss the tomatoes in a bit of dressing until coated. Peel and quarter the hard boiled eggs.
3. Divide the lettuce among 4 plates, arrange the potatoes, green beans, radishes, eggs, tomatoes and tuna evenly on top. Drizzle the remaining dressing over the salads and top with the olives.

Chocolate Pots du Crème "Custard" (serves 4)

Ingredients:

1 ½ cups heavy cream
½ cup milk
3 oz semi sweet or bitter sweet chocolate, chopped
1 oz of unsweetened chocolate, chopped
4 egg yolks
3 tbsp sugar
A pinch of kosher salt
Whipped cream for topping

Instructions:

1. In a heavy sauce pan bring cream and milk just to a simmer. Remove the pot from the heat and whisk in the chopped chocolate until smooth. Set aside for 5 minutes to cool slightly.
2. In a large bowl, whisk the yolks, sugar and salt until smooth. Slowly pour the cream/chocolate mixture into the yolks, whisking constantly until smooth. Strain the mixture to remove any lumps and divide evenly between 4 ramekins, custard cups or small coffee cups.
3. Place the cups into a large baking pan and set it on the middle rack of a 350-degree pre heated oven. Add hot tap water to the bottom of the pan filling it ½ way up the sides of the cups. Cover the pan with foil and pike several holes into it. Bake for 30-35 minutes until edges are slightly set and the center is still a bit giggly. Remove from pan and refrigerate for at least 2 hours before serving with a dollop of whipped cream.

Send letters to the editor, events and photos to Don Clady at dccj14@aol.com. Please include your name and contact information.

Join Me In Supporting Sierra Delta On September 21

On Monday, September 21, Sierra Delta is hosting its annual Golf Classic at the newly renovated Silver Spring Country Club in Ridgefield, CT. It's an opportunity to spend a great day on one of Connecticut's premier courses while helping veterans continue serving in a different way—through the bond with a dog they've trained themselves.

As a combat veteran, retired firefighter, therapist, and Regional Ambassador for Sierra Delta, I've seen firsthand how connection, purpose, and community can change lives. Sierra Delta is one of the organizations doing that work exceptionally well.

Last year, we helped 155 veterans train their own dogs—their largest impact to date. They're already well on their way to surpassing that number this year, and this tournament plays a major role in making that possible.

If you're able, I'd love for you to be part of it.

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Whether you register a foursome, sponsor a hole, or simply help spread the word, your support directly impacts veterans and their families.

If you can't attend, please consider sharing this with someone who might be interested or making a donation to support Sierra Delta's mission.

I hope to see many familiar faces out on the course.

Thank you for continuing to support those who have served.

With gratitude,
Jason Culbreth, LPC
Founder & Clinical Director | Cadence Wellness
Regional Ambassador | Sierra Delta

The Connecticut Air & Space Center's 14th Annual Corsair Car Show

The Connecticut Air & Space Center, is proud to be hosting their 14th Corsair Car Show this year. The popular show will be held on September 20, at a truly amazing location which can't be beat! Short Beach in Stratford will be the place to show off your car while you enjoy the sun, sand and surf of one of Connecticut's scenic beaches!

The Connecticut Air & Space Center is a non-profit aviation museum whose goal is to preserve and educate visitors on the long and rich aviation history of Connecticut.

From Gustave Whitehead's 1901 flights in his delicate, No.21 powered aeroplane, to the mighty FG-1D Corsair WWII fighter designed by Chance Vought right here in Stratford, to the birthplace of the helicopter, when Igor Sikorsky designed tested and flew the very first one, CASC continues to strive and tell these amazing stories in a fun and educational way.

Their current focus and fundraising efforts are on the restoration of the 1929 Curtiss Flying School Hangar, which hosted many of aviation's greatest pilots! Amelia Earhart, Charles Lindbergh, Howard Hughes, Igor Sikorsky, and Pan Am's Juan Trippe all have spent time in the Curtiss Hangar which, when finished, will more than double the museum's display space! "And we'll fill it!" states CASC President, Mark Corvino. "Finally, we can display all our restored aircraft and displays!"

Visit us at 225B Main Street in Stratford, Open Weekends 10:00am to 4:00pm.

To donate to our Hangar Restoration or find out more visit ctairandspace.org

Let us know what you've got planned.

Send events to: Don Clady at dccj14@aol.com. Please include your name and contact information.

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Stars & Stripes Show 2026

Well, another one is in the books. The 5th Charlemont (MA) Lions Club fundraiser car show was a huge success. We didn't get an exact count, but we think there were about 240 cars, trucks, big rigs, motorcycles, and farm tractors this year. We just keep getting bigger!

There are 3 core organizers, backed up by the local Lion's Club, and their family members. All involved in the set up, break down, advertising, sponsor getting, sign ups, even the guy who takes our trash away, are all volunteers. All proceeds go to the Lion's Club.

We had some great food vendors, a local band, Waterloo Clyde, and a few other vendors. That is something we want to build on. We also would love to incorporate a swap meet, it just hasn't received the vendor interest for that, yet.

This year, the group of judges had trophies to award as well as the new collector rings. With the Connecticut Cruise News' connection, we gave out 10 Super Bowl-style rings. They seemed to be a hit.

It was a hot, sunny day and everyone seemed to have fun. Once the awards were handed out, most people headed home. A few die-hards stayed for the burnouts. We have a cement pad that participants pull up to the curb and have a minute to do some tire spinning. The crowd cheers for their favorite and the winner gets a custom made award by Gwyn's Garage.

We hope to see some of you, readers, at the 6th Annual Stars and Stripes Car Show next July!

Devon Clark

Southport's Inaugural Car Show Is Well Received! Easton Cancels Hill Climb Revival

By Gwen & Parker Ackley, photos by Henry Kutash, Lissa Seeberger & Mark Milosky.

On Saturday, August 1, 2026, the historic Pequot Library in Southport, CT held its first fundraising car show on its Great Lawn. The VELOCITY in VOLUMES Car Show celebrated both literary and automotive works of art!

Brass era cars starting from 1911 through sports cars up to 1974 were invited from several local car clubs. The many spectators were dazzled by the rarity and the quality of about forty cars that attended.

Rare vehicles included marquis from Austin Healey, Bentley, Cunningham, Mercedes Benz, Pierce-Arrow, and a Riley Ulster Imp race car. In addition, our 1911 Hupmobile Model 20 Roadster was very popular with an audience who asked many questions.

Shenton King, president of the Fairfield County Region Horseless Carriage & Antique Automobile Clubs of America (HCCA/AACA), coordinated the event's planning with Pequot Library's executive director Peter Van Heerden. Further assistance in the preparing and cars exhibiting was generously provided by Lissa Seeberger, the director of the CT Seaport Car Club.

Also invited to join in the festivities were close friends at The Vintage Sports Car Club of America and the Model T and A Clubs of America. Ford Model A's were very well represented and formed a very nice grouping next to Pequot Avenue that drew in more visitors passing by.

Music from the 1920s, 30s and 40s created wonderful ambiance for the occasion. Several car owners dressed in period clothing to complement their vehicles. Two food vendors provided beverages, pastries, and pizza.

A car game from the 1950s was held. The now famous Bumpy Bubbles Champagne Challenge, where cars drive over logs with a passenger trying to balance full champagne flutes was in full effect! After a false start, a 1911 Cadillac Touring Car made it all the way over the logs, only to spill the glasses when it came to a full stop.

The Pequot Library reports that they have received considerable positive feedback, and are considering making the car show an annual event! Car owners that I spoke with afterwards all agreed that it was great fun, was relaxing, and really enjoyed doing it.

Another annual car event, that we were looking forward to, was the Sport Hill Climb Revival and Car Show in Easton. Postponed from the Spring due to heavy rain, another date for late August was selected. However we received this message from Kobus Reyneke of The Vintage Sports Car Club of America, "Regretfully the Easton hill climb reenactment has been canceled due to scheduling conflicts in the town. We'll regroup and return for a bigger and better event!" We will keep our readers posted when these events are scheduled for next year.

Caroline Billetts Rensselaer N.Y.

the HOT ROD GIRLS
FOCUS ON WOMEN IN MOTORSPORTS

...That work on them, not just drive them By "DINO"

Caroline grew up in a family that has always been passionate about drag racing, and her dad is the one who introduced her to the sport. In 2021, at 14 years old, she got my first job handing out time slips at Lebanon Valley Dragway. That opportunity gave her a behind-the-scenes look at the sport and introduced her to the Jr. Street program. Later that summer, she earned her Jr. Street license driving her dad's Dodge Ram 1500. In September, family friends gave her the opportunity to earn her Junior Dragster license as well.

Throughout her time in the junior ranks, she earned four wins in the truck and two wins in the Junior Dragster. Her journey was far from easy. During her first two years, she dealt with ongoing car issues while also battling multiple health challenges. Despite those obstacles, she never let them keep her out of the driver's seat.

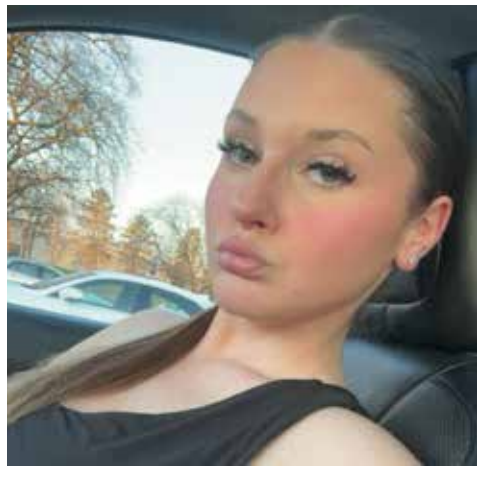
Now, in her first year and a half racing a full-size car, she's continued to build on that experience. Even though it's a Chevrolet, she had a successful start, earning one Open Trophy victory last season along with three runner-up finishes. She also earned her dragster license in her dad's dragster and plans to complete her door car license at the end of this year in her grandfather's Plymouth Road Runner.

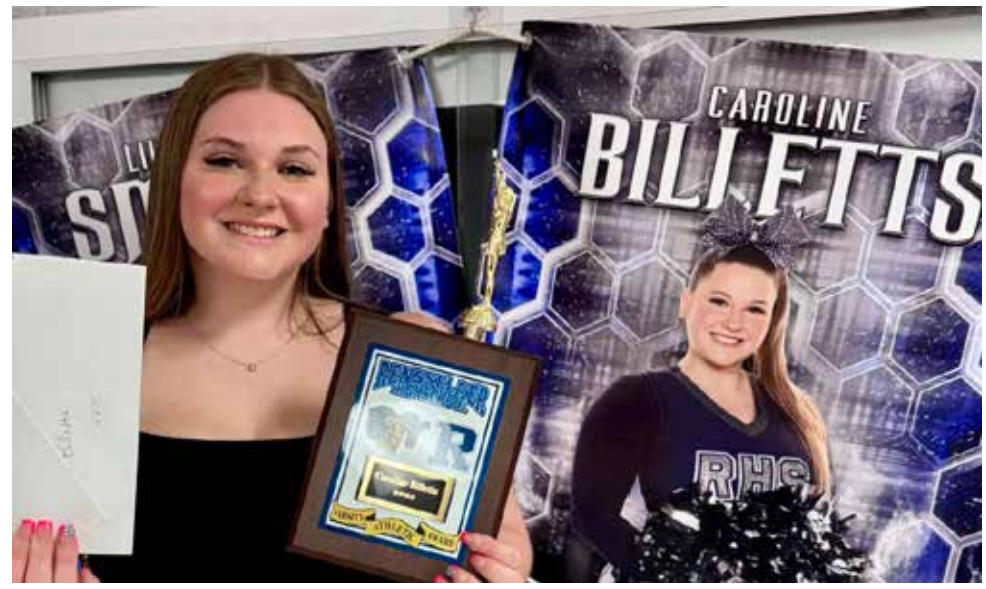
Looking ahead, she is currently building a 1965 Dodge Dart with the goal of making it Stock Eliminator legal and having it race-ready by the time she graduates from college.

Outside of racing, she is a student at the University at Albany, majoring in Atmospheric Science while pursuing minors in Homeland Security, Emergency Management, and Cybersecurity. She also balances three jobs: serving as the Saturday Handicapper at Lebanon Valley Dragway, work as a Summer Student Aide for the New York State Teachers' Retirement System (NYSTRS), and work as a bartender, server, and front desk associate at East Greenbush Bowling Center and Del Lanes.

Before racing became her primary focus, she was a competitive All-Star cheerleader from the age of five until she was fifteen. During her first full season at the highest level, she finished fourth in the world in her division and earned a national championship. Throughout her cheer career, she won five national championships, finished second in the United States twice, and third once. Unfortunately, an elbow injury ended her competitive career but was grateful to stay involved as a coach until She started college.

Both cheerleading and drag racing have taught her the value of perseverance, discipline, and resilience. Whether overcoming injuries, health challenges, or mechanical setbacks, she learned that success comes from determination and hard work. Those lessons continue to shape her both on and off the racetrack as she pursues her education, career, and racing goals.





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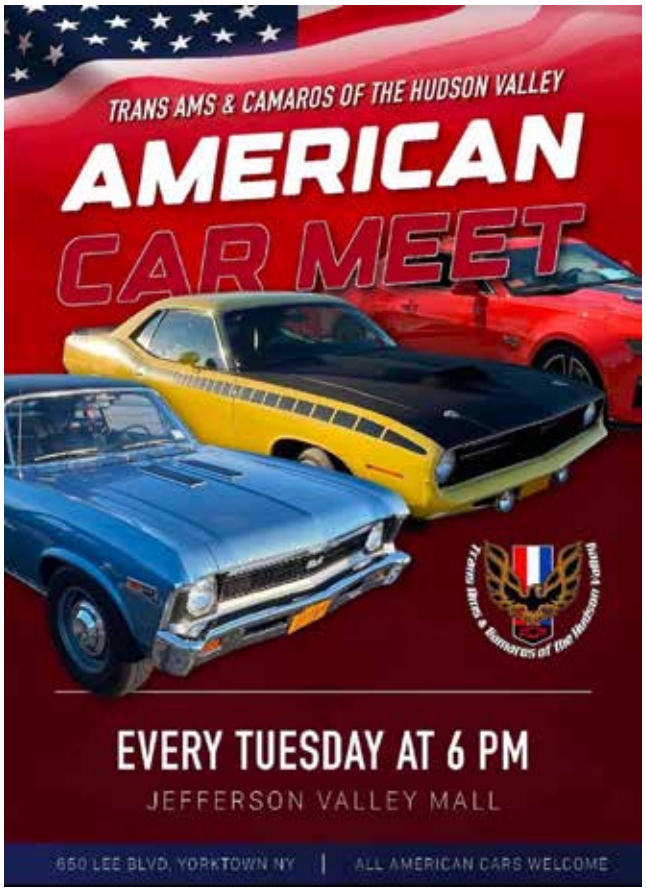

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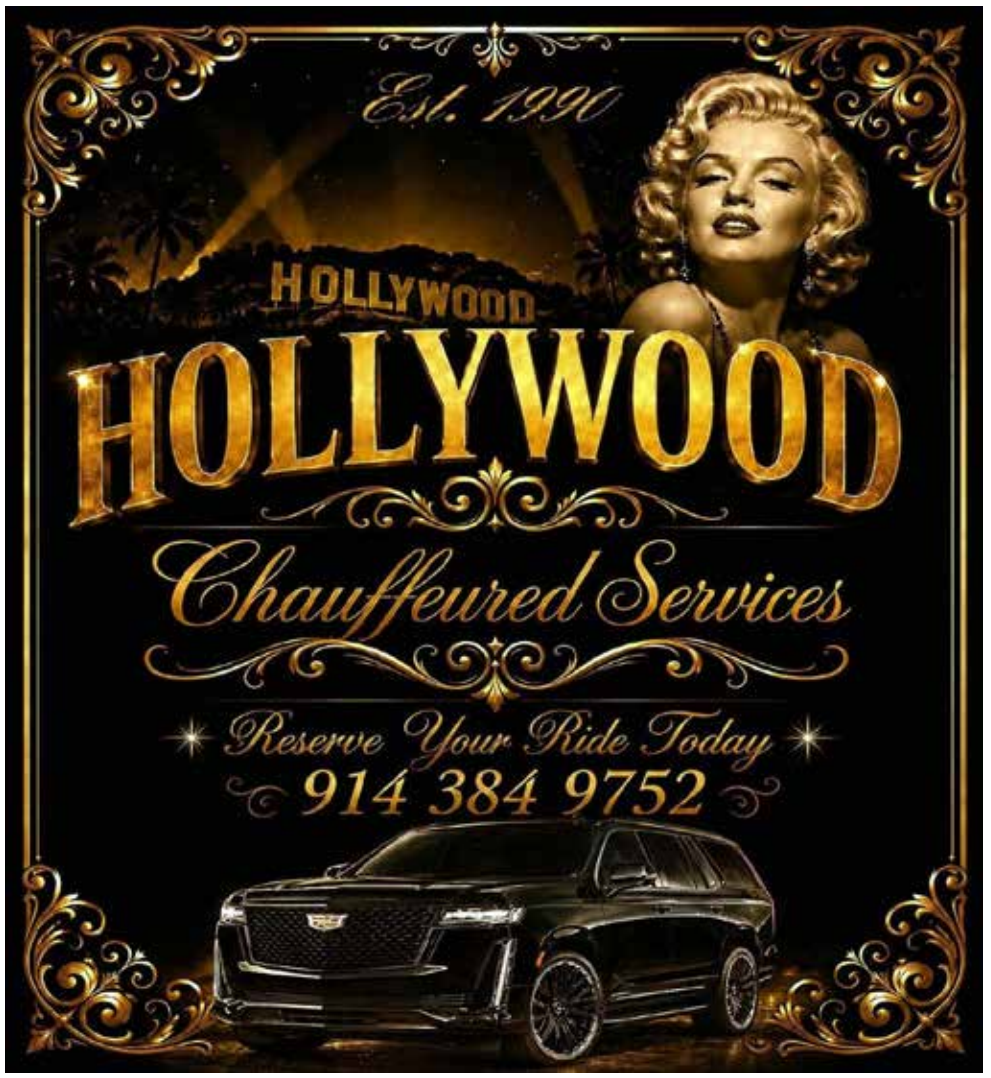
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This year's event will begin with a motorcade and a Rolling Thunder of motorcycles. The Bristol Warren Regional High School Band will then kick off the Cruise In, followed by an array of antique military vehicles.
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Help us make this year's Cruise In another great success — we hope to see you there.
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Special thanks to: Doug Botelho and Vic Barboza music; M/C Phil Paleologos; Signature Printing; and all participating clubs and entrants.

Cruisin' With The CT Seaport Car Club

By Lissa Seeberger
Director, CT Seaport Car Club

The CT Seaport Car Club has been busy holding cruises on Thursday nights this summer and is about halfway through our schedule. There's still more to come! We've had some great turnouts when the weather wasn't too hot or too iffy. You can find us at Elicit Brewing Company on the 1st Thursday of the month and at Port 5 on the 3rd Thursday of the month, weather permitting. Rain dates are the following Thursday.

All of our cruises feature great food/drinks, music, a 50/50 raffle, door prizes and three trophies are awarded to worthy recipients. It's always a tough choice.

Catch the CT Seaport Car Club at our upcoming cruises at 5:00-8:00pm on Thursday nights throughout the rest of the summer and into the fall. The next few cruises are at: Port 5 (69 Brewster Street, Bridgeport) on 8/20/26 and Elicit Brewing Co (111 Black Rock Turnpike, Fairfield) on 9/3/26. Check for a postponement on our website if the weather doesn't look good at www.ctseaportcarclub.com under upcoming events.

We look forward to seeing you!

Cruisin' With The CT Seaport Car Club

Entertainment

HERE WE COME…THE 60th ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION FOR MONKEES FANS

NORTH HAVEN, CT: In September of 1966, THE MONKEES TV SHOW debuted on NBC, and sixty years later, fans are celebrating the anniversary at "M60" in Connecticut.

M60 is the only convention in the U.S. for fans of THE MONKEES. On the weekend of September 4-6, 2026, fans from all over (including travelers from Australia) will be coming to the Clarion Inn Hotel, 201 Washington Avenue, North Haven, CT for a weekend of festivities honoring the band, its members, its music, the television show, and the legacy.

On Saturday, there will be a full day and night of bands, guests, vendors, and so much more. From Noon until 5pm the spotlight is on the Special Guests, Vendors, Authors, Exhibits, Panels, and a 60th Anniversary Special Launch. From 6PM-11pm, the event transforms into a Monkees-themed music festival with live concerts, special guest performers, and other attractions.

There are various prices for tickets which include options for single days, individual events, or weekend passes. Info and tickets are available from https://events.ticketleap.com/tickets/monkees-celebration/m60

The host hotel is the same location as the historic 2020 PETER TORK MEMORIAL MONKEES CONVENTION, where guests will be able to stay over for the Friday night VIP party, and a gala event the day after at "The Underground Frodis Adventure," CT's Monkees Museum on Sunday the 6th. Rooms at the Clarion Inn are still available by phoning (203) 780-8123.

The M60 Convention Special Guests include: Bassist JOHN BILLINGS, the Monkees touring band bassist and currently on tour with Micky Dolenz; bassist JOHNNY J BLAIR, who toured with Davy Jones and The Monkees; drummer FELIPE TORRES, who also toured with Davy and The Monkees, musician PEPPY CASTRO of the 60's band Blue Magoos, contemporaries of The Monkees; actor GREG EVIGAN, who starred in "My Two Dads," and in which Davy Jones was a guest star. More special guests are being added.

Live Musical Acts include: The Foggy Otis "I'll Be True to Uke" Show, which is a tribute to The Monkees by a ukelele virtuoso; The Mick Lawless "Loose Salute to Nez" Show, dedicated to Mike Nesmith; The M60s' "Music of the 60s for the M60 Anniversary" Show; The Characters (Official Convention Band" "All the Hits + More" Show; plus an all-star concert with the Special Guest Performers.

Special Guest Authors include: JOE RUSSO of the Monkees Pad Show and author of "The Monkees: Smoke-Filled Dreams;" ED REILLY of "Monkees Business Fanzine" fame and co-author of "The Monkees: A Manufactured Image;" FRED VELEZ of www.Monkees.net and the author of "A Little Bit Me, A Little Bit You" & "A Little Bit Me, A Little Bit You 2;" MICHAEL VENTRELLA co-Author of "Long Title: Looking for the Good Times; Examining the Monkees' Songs, One by One" and "Headquartered: A Timeline of The Monkees Solo Years;" MARK ARNOLD of Fun Ideas Podcast and co-author of "Long Title: Looking for the Good Times; Examining the Monkees' Songs, One by One" and "Headquartered: A Timeline of The Monkees Solo Years;" and CHARLES F. ROSENAY!!! producer of M60, original On-Air Personality at Monkee Mania Radio, and co-author of "The Monkees Comic Book Book" being launched over the convention weekend.

M60 will feature a large vendors room with Monkees memorabilia, records, DVDs, and endless collectibles and merchandise. Other attractions include the table reading of the world-premiere of a new Monkees musical intended for Broadway, Zoom interviews with other Special Guests, the opportunity to the Monkees pinball machine (only 2 exist in the world), and other surprises.

This is an all ages, family-friendly event, where new generation of youngsters are welcome and encouraged to share in the fun and positivity of The Monkees and their music!

M60 is proudly presented by Charles F. Rosenay!!!, producer of the "Fab 4 Music Festival" and many conventions through the years.

Info can be found on the website: www.MonkeesFanConvention.com, by emailing MonkeesFanConvention@gmail.com, by phoning (203) 795-4737, or visiting the Facebook Event Page: https://www.facebook.com/share/14jL-LyX9VmY/

WARNER THEATRE

TUSK: A Classic Fleetwood Mac Tribute

Saturday, October 3 at 7:30 pm
Oneglia Auditorium

Playing the hits and deep cuts spanning the career of Rock & Roll Hall Of Fame group Fleetwood Mac, TUSK has been crisscrossing the country since 2008 as The Classic Fleetwood Mac Tribute. Five pro musicians turned into masters of their trade through decades of individual music study, live performance, creative risk, and devotion to the art.

TUSK features note-perfect renditions of both the solo and full band songs, with each member specializing in one of the core lineup of Fleetwood Mac (Lindsey Buckingham, Stevie Nicks, Christine McVie, John McVie, and Mick Fleetwood). They possess an electric stage presence that can only come from well over a decade of touring together.

Truly the best at what they do, TUSK is unmatched in their tribute to one of the greatest bands of all time.

The Phil Collins Story

Oct 29 at 7:30 pm
Oneglia Auditorium

The team that brought you the smash hit tour The Simon & Garfunkel Story and R.E.S.P.E.C.T. – The Aretha Franklin Story has done it again with an all-new docu-concert: The Phil Collins Story! Chronicling his remarkable chart-topping time with Genesis to his multi-Grammy winning solo career to his Academy Award-winning work for Disney, The Phil Collins Story brings the artist's distinctive music to life in a way that resonates with audiences both visually and emotionally—up close and personal. This fully produced immersive musical journey stars talent from around the world and features intricate lighting design, state-of-the-art audio and dynamic projections.

Classic Seger Rock & Roll Never Forgets

Thursday, November 5 at 7:30 pm
Oneglia Auditorium

Classic Seger brings their legendary tribute to Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band for one unforgettable night of rock & roll. This special performance celebrates the 50th Anniversary of Bob Seger's iconic multi-platinum albums Live Bullet and Night Moves, delivering the raw energy, heart, and authenticity of a true 1970s rock concert.

A Clay Walker Family Christmas

Dec 19 at 7:30 pm
Oneglia Auditorium

Rumor Has It…it's shaping up to be a Clay Walker Family Christmas. This holiday season, Clay Walker invites fans to celebrate with him and his family for a special 90-minute Christmas concert and sing-a-long filled with music, family, and holiday tradition. The evening will include some of Clay's biggest hits ("If I Could Make A Living," "She Won't Be Lonely Long," "Live Until I Die," and many more) as well as a festive collection of Christmas classics. In the spirit of the season, Clay's family will be part of the celebration, with his children joining him for select holiday favorites.

Coming Soon to the Warner

Northwest Vocal Showcase - Aug 22
Blackberry Smoke - Sept 9
Girls Night: The Musical - Sept 19
John Crist Live - Sept 24
The Billy Joel Legacy - Sept 25
Hocus Pocus Live! - Sept 26-27
Graham Nash - Sept 30
TUSK - Fleetwood Mac Tribute - Oct 3
Whose Live Anyway? - Oct 10
Sips, Spirits & Snacks - Wine & Food Tasting - Oct 24
The Phil Collins Story - Oct 29
Behind The Scream with David Arquette - Oct 31
Classic Seger - Nov 5
Almost, Maine - Nov 6-15
Comedian Bob Marley - Nov 7
Almost Queen - Nov 14
A Clay Walker Family Christmas - Dec 19

WARNER THEATRE

Blackberry Smoke
25th Anniversary Tour
Sept 09 at 7:30 pm
Oneglia Auditorium

BLACKBERRY SMOKE RETURNS TO THE WARNER! Throughout their career, Blackberry Smoke have embodied Georgia's rich musical legacy, honoring the people, places and sounds of their home state. Their latest album, Be Right Here draws inspiration from Southern rock, blues-leaning classic rock and rootsy vintage country and is full of vivid and relatable characters that ensure the songs often resemble rich short stories.

Over the past two decades, Blackberry Smoke has amassed the following of a loyal fanbase, leading their last six full-length albums to achieve great chart success, including 2021's You Hear Georgia, which reached #1 on Billboard's Americana/Folk Albums chart and 2024's Be Right Here, which reached the top 5 on the Top Current Album Sales chart.

Touring relentlessly, the band know a little something about hitting the road in order to find a place to belong, and supported by the strong fanbase of Brothers and Sisters, legions of whom travel across the globe to support the band, they in turn give fans a palace to belong.

Over the years the band has appeared across the globe on stages such as Austin City Limits, Bonnaroo, Summerfest, Glastonbury, Download UK, to name a few, and has no plans to stop anytime soon. For Blackberry Smoke, embracing the light and finding the silver lining are once again at the heart of what they do best.

ALMOST QUEEN
A Tribute To Queen
November 14 at 7:30 pm
Oneglia Auditorium

They don't just pay tribute to the legendary band, Almost Queen transports you back in time to experience the magic and essence of Queen themselves. This deliberate four piece band is "guaranteed to blow your mind" with iconic four part harmonies and expertly executed musical interludes.

Almost Queen's impressive tribute to Queen is nothing short of breathtaking.

The band's authenticity shines through in their impeccable attention to detail and genuine costumes, while their live energy and precision will leave music fans of all ages with an unforgettable concert experience.

Almost Queen's concerts are a true testament to the band's love for Queen's music. Fans often travel long distances just to experience Almost Queen's carefully curated setlist featuring Queen's best-loved songs, like Somebody to Love, Don't Stop Me Now, Fat Bottomed Girls, and Radio Ga Ga. Almost Queen occasionally plays some lesser-known album tracks, such as Flash, Spread Your Wings, Love of My Life, as well as other hidden gems.

And of course, no Queen tribute concert would be complete without classics like Bohemian Rhapsody, We Will Rock You, and We Are the Champions! It's no wonder fans keep coming back for more, attending again and again to experience the music of Queen in a manner that only Almost Queen delivers.

ABOUT THE WARNER THEATRE

The Warner Theatre is a performing arts center located in the heart of Downtown Torrington, CT's Cultural District. The Warner's mission is to enrich, entertain and educate our communities through high-quality performing arts and arts educational opportunities, preserve the theatre as a historic landmark, and contribute, in partnership with others, to the betterment of our region's way of life and economic vitality. The Warner Theatre is supported by the Department of Economic and Community Development, Connecticut Office of the Arts. To learn more about the Warner Theatre, visit our website: www.warnertheatre.org.

STANDING OVATIONS LIVE AND THE WARNER THEATRE
ARE PROUD TO PRESENT BEHIND THE SCREAM
A LIVE CONVERSATION WITH DAVID ARQUETTE

Following a 30th Anniversary Screening of SCREAM
Saturday, October 31, 2026 at 8:00 PM at the Warner Theatre

TORRIGTON, CT – Get ready for an unforgettable Halloween night when David Arquette goes BEHIND THE SCREAM, a thrilling live conversation featuring a special 30th anniversary screening of the iconic horror film SCREAM, followed by an in-depth moderated interview and Q&A with the legendary actor, David Arquette, who played the beloved character Dewey Riley in the franchise. The event comes to the Warner Theatre's Oneglia Auditorium on Saturday, October 31, 2026, at 8:00 PM.

David Arquette will take the stage for an engaging discussion, sharing his insights, anecdotes, and the impact SCREAM has had on his career and the horror industry. Fans will have the opportunity to have their burning questions answered and hear firsthand accounts from one of the film's stars, making this a haunting night to remember.

A limited number of VIP tickets are available, offering the best seats in the house and an exclusive post-show photo-op with David Arquette.

Don't miss out on this rare chance to go "BEHIND THE SCREAM" with David Arquette. Secure your tickets now and be part of a night filled with suspense, stories, and special moments this Halloween.

Show Information:
Day/Date: Saturday, October 31, 2026
Time: 8:00 PM
Venue: Oneglia Auditorium at the Warner Theatre, 68 Main Street, Torrington, CT 06790
Tickets: On sale now at warnertheatre.org or by calling the Warner Theatre Box Office at (860) 489-7180.

ABOUT DAVID ARQUETTE

David Arquette has been a household name in Hollywood for over 30 years. The youngest of the Arquette acting dynasty (stretching all the way back to his great-grandparents), David recently reprised his role as Dewey Riley in the relaunch of SCREAM. David is also known for modern classics like BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER, AIRHEADS, JOHNS, NEVER BEEN KISSED, READY TO RUMBLE and 3000 MILES TO GRACELAND.

David can currently be seen in Robert Schwartzman's THE GOOD HALF alongside Nick Jonas, Brittany Snow, and Elisabeth Shue. David recently joined the cast of Peacock's MRS. DAVIS, a drama series written and Executive Produced by Tara Hernandez and Damon Lindelof. He will also star alongside Samuel L. Jackson and Pierce Brosnan in western adventure UNHOLY TRINITY.

David has also produced successful TV series like COUGAR TOWN and CELEBRITY NAME. Arquette is an investor in XTR, the leading premium nonfiction film and television studio in America, which has produced the critically acclaimed feature documentary on himself called YOU CANNOT KILL DAVID ARQUETTE, which follows Arquette as he attempts a rocky return to the sport that stalled his promising Hollywood career. Dangerously determined to redeem his reputation and reclaim his self-respect, Arquette stopped at nothing to earn his place in professional wrestling. With XTR, David also produced docu-series THEY CALL ME MAGIC, the real story of Magic "Earvin" Johnson.

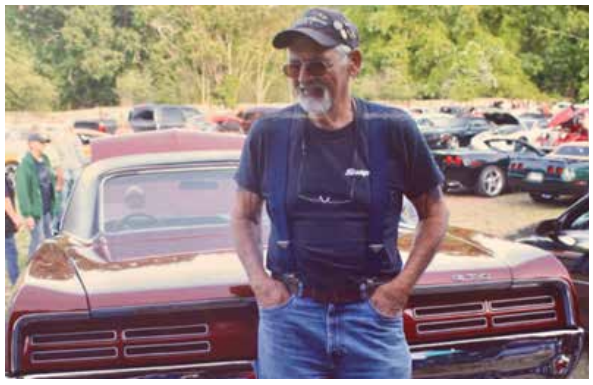
Arquette is also co-owner of the L.A. nightlife staple Bootsy Bellows alongside H.Wood Group's John Terzian and Brian Toll.

In 2021, David realized his childhood dream and acquired the rights to Bozo The Clown. Since then, he has been collaborating with clowns, artists and charities to create a clown-collective focused on promoting kindness, inclusiveness and pure fun throughout the world.

ABOUT STANDING OVATIONS LIVE

Standing Ovations Live's partners, John Trembler and Steve Lisciani, have decades of experience working with high-level celebrities & authors. They have produced or promoted hundreds of successful live engagements across North America and Europe showcasing fan-favorite icons including David Arquette, Macaulay Culkin, Rainn Wilson, Chevy Chase, and Mel Brooks.

Hotrods For Heroes Annual Charity Car Show



Written By Jamie DuPuis

This year's 12th Annual Hotrods for Heroes event hosted by the American Legion Post 356 was a special one for all who attended. The event was held at Strathmore Park in Russell Ma on June 27th but instead of a regular car show, it was a celebration and dedication in memory of its organizer / founder - George Hallock Jr.

I had the opportunity to speak to George's daughter, Melissa about her dad and his contributions to the Legion and the Veterans they supported. He passed away last fall as the current legion commander and the show was his idea 13 years ago to help raise money for his legion. His thought process was a simple one "This event brings together car enthusiasts and community members for a great cause—supporting those who have served and giving back locally."

One of Georges trade marks was his beautiful Pontiac GTO which he took great care of and from what I was told, always loaded with stuffed animals. The show featured his GTO on display surrounded by every make and model car you could think of, something he would have been proud to see. There was a dedication to his and all he had done for the legion and his community and the then the family presented a lucky show participant the first annual George Hallock Jr Award.

The event is a great cruise to through the Route 20 area off the Mass Pike and supported by numerous cars, friends and clubs. The Russell Police Department and other Public Service groups assist and support as well.

A great event for friends and family and one that will go on supporting the vision George Hallock had and supporting his local community and Veterans.

George's GTO that was on display

South Meriden Car Show

The South Meriden Car Show is gearing up for another great fundraising event on Sunday, October 4, from 1:00-5:00 pm, with a rain date of Sunday, October 11. The event will be held our new location: Centennial Plaza, 133 Centennial Avenue, Meriden.

All types of vehicles including cars, trucks, Jeeps and motorcycles are welcome join in the fun for a $10 entrance fee, and as always spectators are free of charge.

Live music will be performed by Smith & Wesson, offering classic rock for everyone's enjoyment and a variety of refreshments will be available for purchase.

A 50/50 raffle will add to the festive atmosphere along with a vast number of trophies including the Mayor's Trophy and People's Choice Award.

This is a great family-friendly event with the proceeds to benefit Christmas in the Village. The annual event, a spectacular holiday gathering, kicks off the Christmas season on Saturday, December 5, from 1:00 - 4:30 pm on Main Street in South Meriden.

For information, please contact 203-213-9308, southmeridenfestivals@gmail.com, or on Facebook at Christmas in the Village in South Meriden at https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064701995085

Hope to see you there!

Family Fun Powers the 2026 Carlisle Truck Nationals – Fun for All Ages Daily in Carlisle

Annual Showcase of All Things Truck Starts August 7 at the Carlisle PA Fairgrounds

Carlisle, PA – The automotive event season in Carlisle spans from April through October, and while each event provides unmatched automotive excitement and family fun, there isn't a more family-friendly event on the Carlisle Events schedule than the Carlisle Truck Nationals. This year's event is August 7–9 at the Carlisle PA Fairgrounds and promises to wow attendees of all ages.

Gates open at 7 AM daily, and from the moment the first truck rolls onto the grounds until the final award is handed out on Sunday, there is no shortage of action and incredible sights. Trucks of all sizes populate the Showfield, and with this being Carlisle's fastest-growing event over the past five years, showgoers can expect more than 2,700 trucks of all shapes, sizes, styles, and eras. You'll see antique firetrucks, cool custom vans, big rigs, heavy equipment and machinery, lowered trucks, lifted trucks—and a few creations that can only be described with one word: Wow!

With two great indoor displays, guests can choose between a gallery of Syclones and Typhoons in Building Y, or a "best of the best" gallery of trucks within Building T. This includes an Americana display and antique fire trucks. Additionally, the pavilion on the east side of the grounds welcomes Vanarama, while the south side hosts the Big Rig Show & Shine. Numerous clubs showcase their own unique features, including Sky High Rides, Old Body Styles, S10 Nation, the 717 Outlaws, and more. Of course, the trucks themselves and truck clubs are just the beginning. Event highlights include the following:

- Rolling Exhaust Contest
- Rolling Burnout Contest
- Low Truck Limbo
- High Truck Challenge
- Drop & Drag Contest
- Big Rig Glow Show
- Monster Truck Shows featuring Ramdemption & Raminator – brought to by Central Pennsylvania RAM Dealers – nothing stops a RAM!
- Monster Truck Rides with Virginia Giant
- Freestyle Motocross Stunt Jumps & Moto Motion Freestyle Trials Stunt Show
- RED 102.3's Annual Redneck Games Competition

Kids are in for a treat too! They can see real-life versions of the toy trucks they love, receive a free kids' goodie bag, enter to win an RC truck, help pick a winner in Building T, or take part in a fun Kids' Cash Grab.

The show also includes the National Parts Depot judged Showfield powered by eJudged.com, plus a massive automotive flea market offering truck parts, accessories, merchandise, and more. There's even a Manufacturers Midway, featuring top brand names in the hobby, late model parts, aftermarket upgrades and RAM Trucks, the official truck of the 2026 Carlisle Truck Nationals. Looking to buy or sell? The Truck Corral is your place to do just that.

Whether you're there to show, shop, spectate—or do all three—the 2026 Carlisle Truck Nationals is the ultimate one-stop destination for truck lovers and families alike. Spectator admission is $15, and kids 12 and under get in free. Student and military discounts are available at the gate with valid ID. Discount tickets and Showfield registration are available online now through August 3. On-site registration opens August 4. For complete event details, to register, become a vendor, or purchase tickets, visit CarlisleEvents.com.

Carlisle Events is a partner or producer of nearly a dozen annual collector car/truck events. Events are held at the Carlisle PA Fairgrounds (Carlisle, PA) and Allentown Fairgrounds (Allentown, PA). The season schedule includes automotive flea markets of varying sizes, multiple auctions, as well as individual specialty shows featuring Corvettes, Fords, GMs, Chryslers, trucks, imports, tuners, and performance sport compacts. Founded in 1974 by friends Bill Miller and Chip Miller, events hosted at Carlisle attract enthusiasts annually from all corners of the globe. More information is available at www.CarlisleEvents.com or www.CarlisleAuctions.com

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

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Registration 8:00am • Spectators 10am - 4pm

Judging Starts at 12pm • Trophy Awards at 3pm

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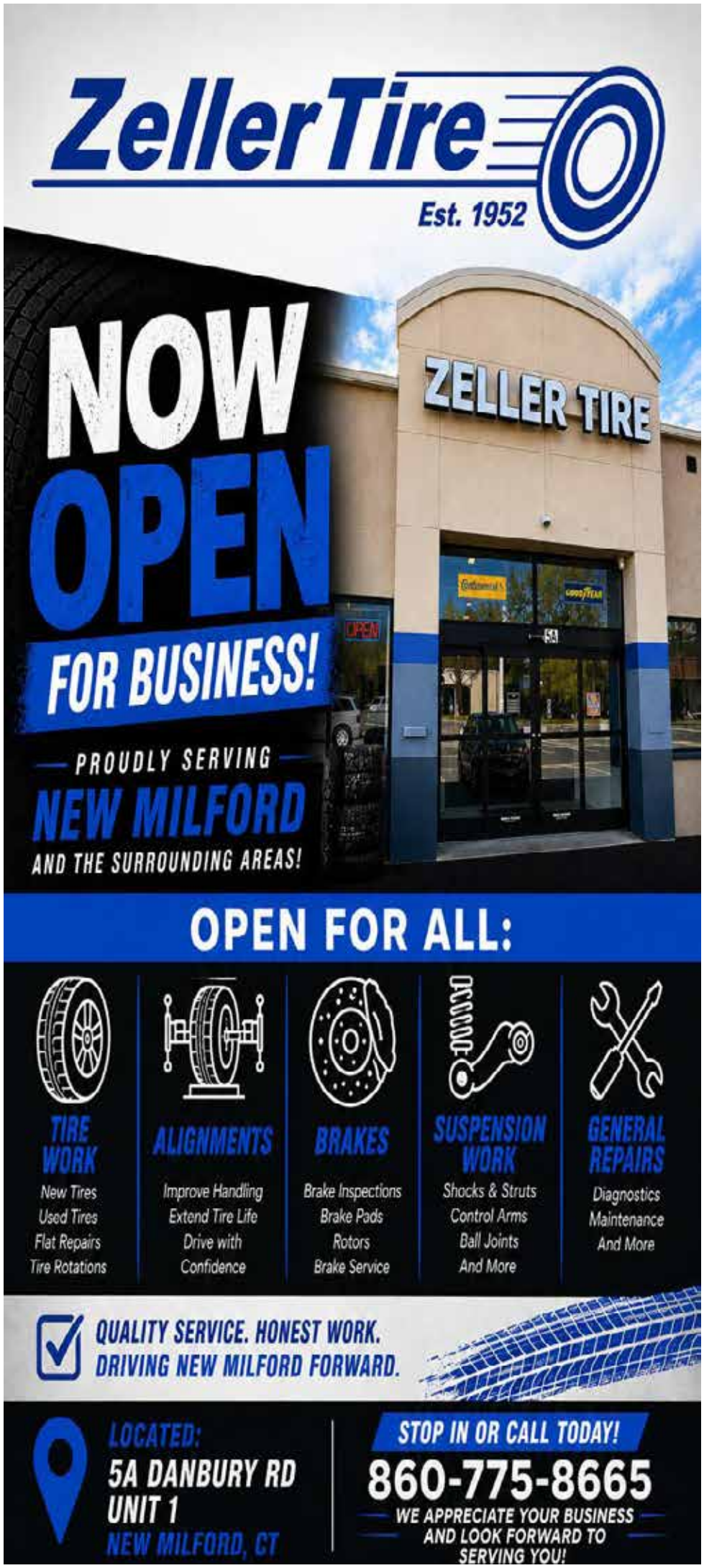
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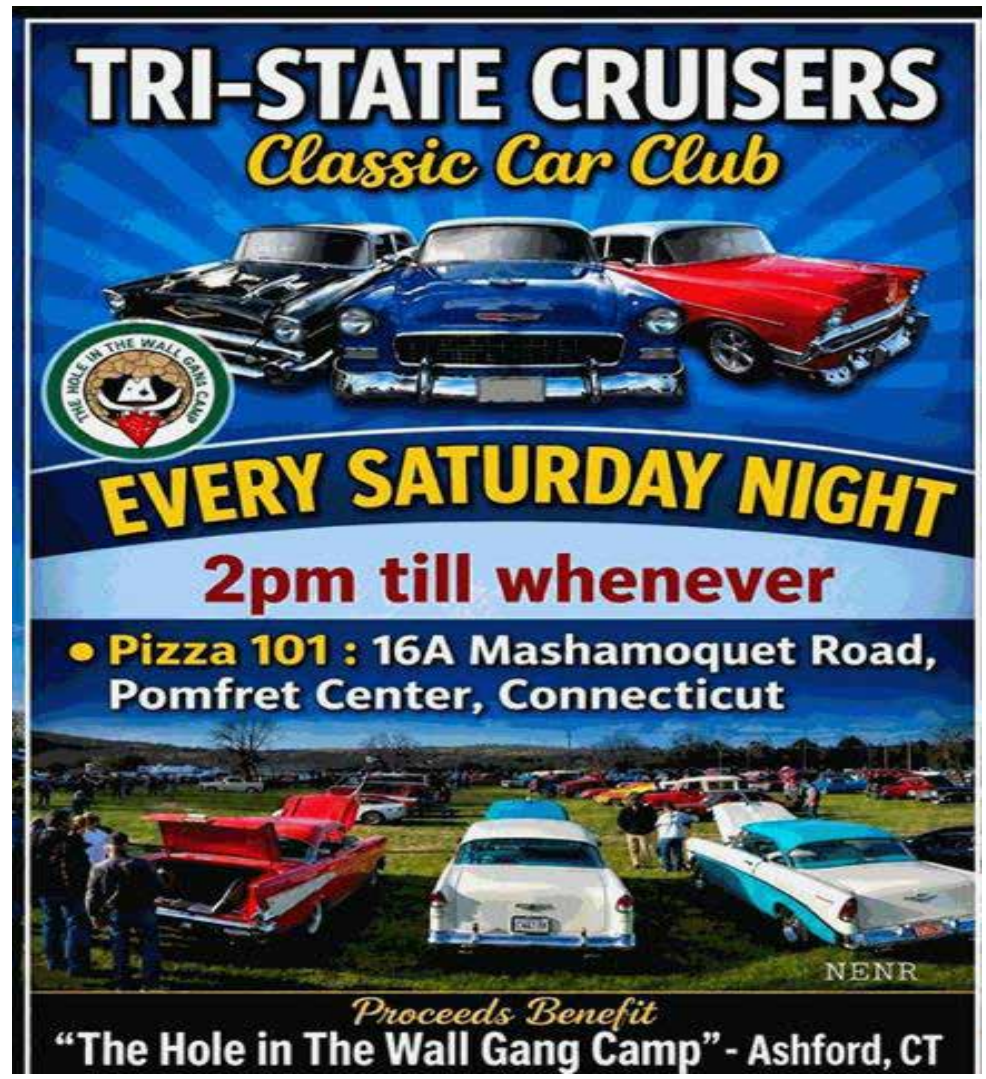
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2 - Full Burn
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16 - Maximum Dosage
23 - 5 Day Knight
30 - BRB Blues
August:
6 - Carl Ricci & The 706th Avenue
13 - Pete & Larry Key West's Sloppy Joe's
20 - Two Guys in Suits and Ties
27 - Paul Pesco and the Band of Brothers
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Please contact Bob D. at, (708) 846-4364, or rjd4261@comcast.net. For more photos and additional information about this car, scan the QR Code, or visit www.1969chargerhistory.com. Thank you.

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Sunday, October 11, 2026 | 9-4PM

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Ring Winners will be announced at 12PM | First 50 cars gets a free gift

Rain Date: October 18

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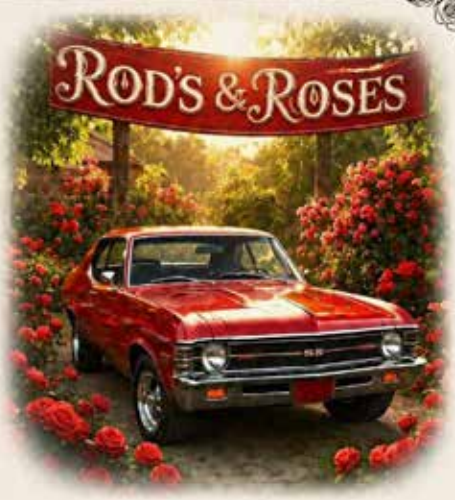

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Views From The Valley

By Dino Lawrence

WEST LEBANON, N.Y. www. Dragway.com

ACTION WEEKLY AT THE VALLEY OF SPEED

Mid-Summer Racing continues non-stop, rounding out August through September at Lebanon Vallely Dragway.

The track is running 4 times a week with Wednesday Street nights, Friday special events and always a full lineup. On Saturdays & Sundays. Sunday Sept. 23 will feature KING OF THE TRACK Sponsored by T&T Body King $1,500 Guaranteed to Win Pro Eliminator, $2,000 Guaranteed to Win Super Eliminator ,Plus Motorcycles, & Open Trophy.

Thursday, August 27–Saturday, August 29, It's the NHRA Northeast Division 1 Bracket Finals! The Best Bracket Racers from the Northeast Super ~ Pro ~ Motorcycle/Sled ~Sportsman ~ Junior Dragster ~ Junior Street…. Then It's the FALL MUSCLE-MANIA Car Show & Drag Races Featuring the FUNNY CAR Showdown, with 8 200mph, Full Quarter mile match racing Plus Super Car Shootout AND Affordable CDL Training School 1/8 Mile Top Dragster/ Top Sportsman. September goes out with the BIG ONE!

The 18th Annual Dover Drag Strip Nostalgia Drags & Reunion starting on Fri. Sept. 25, with test & tune. Saturday, it's a full day of quarter mile action with test shots of exhibition cars and attending groups will run Points eliminations. Other attractions include first day of Swap Meet, Vendors & displays, with the official event "Goodie Booth" of collectable items.

Sunday will be Non-Stop with Nostalgia Eliminator rounds, the big Time Tunnel Rod & Custom Car show, day 2 of Swap Meet Match Racing and Drag Alley nostalgia Race Car Display. To maintain its premier northeast event nostalgia theme, all Car Show entries and Drag Race cars will be 1992 or earlier. All event news and updates can be found at the Dover Drag Strip Facebook page. For Complete Track Schedule and details go to www.dragway.com (& visit Lebanon valley Facebook page)

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My Ride Events

If your car club or organization has dates for shows, email the details to myridehv845@gmail.com or by messaging on Facebook at My Ride of the Hudson Valley.

2026 Garden Tractor Pull: Orange County Farmers Museum, 850 Route 17K, Montgomery, enter on Berea Rd., Montgomery, pulls start at 9 a.m., family friendly event, concession on site, Aug. 23 (double), Sept. 5 (Chambers), Sept. 13, Sept. 27, Oct. 24 & 25 (Trunk or Treat), Nov. 8 (awards dinner). Ocfarmersmuseum.org. 845-208-0234.

AUGUST

Red Nights MC NY 33 3rd annual Shoot and Scoot: Aug. 15, rain date Aug. 16, starting point is at Washington Hollow Rod & Gun Club, 121 Tinkertown Rd., Pleasant valley, $25 per rider; $15 per passenger, ticket includes ride, food, drinks and entry for the door prize, bikes, cars and trucks welcome. On Facebook.

Rats Nest Run In Hot Rod Festival and Flea Market 2026: Aug. 13-16, Blackthorne resort, 340 Sunside Rd., Cairo, more than 500 pre 1972 hot rods, vendors, burnout pit, mobile tattoo parlor, pin up contest, live charity auction, lodging and camping, Saturday fireworks. On Facebook.

Dubois Farms and Tavern and Dutchess Cruisers Car Show: Aug. 15, 2026, rain date Aug. 16, Dubois Farms, 209 Perkinsville Rd., Highland, 9 a.m.-03 p.m., registration until noon, $20 per car, music, trophies, giveaways, 50/50, animals and more. On Facebook.

Mark's 4th annual Poker Run: Aug. 29, start and finish at Loch Sheldrake Fireman's Park, 815 Route 52, Hurleyville, registration starts at 9 a.m., $25 per rider; $10 per passenger, first bike out 11 a.m., live music, pig roast, all are welcome. Portion of the proceeds benefit the Lung Cancer Foundation. Hosted by the Bleeding Hearts LE MC NY. 845-807-6764, 845-857-5093.

SEPTEMBER

Mustang Club of Orange County Tunnel to Towers Foundation Car Show: Sept. 6, rain date Sept. 13, more details TBA.

Plattekill Day Veterans Car Show: Sept. 19, Thomas Felton Park, 11 Patura Rd., Modena, 9 a.m., registration 9 a.m.-noon, $20, multiple award categories. Hosted by the Ulster Cruisers.

Elsewhere

AUGUST

Corvettes at Carlisle: Aug. 27-29, Carlisle Pa., Fairgrounds, 1000 Bryn Mawr Rd., Carlisle, Pa. carlisleevents.com

SEPTEMBER

Dead Man's Curve: Sept. 3-6, Delta Hotel, Somerset, N.J., pre –'72 hot rods, gassers customs, registration starts Jan. 1, 2026, music celebrities, TV cars, vendors, swap meet, Thunder Alley, and more. Deadmanscurveusa.com. On Facebook.

Rods & Roses 3rd annual Car Show: Sept. 19, rain date Sept. 20, Wedekind Motors, 1595 State St., Schenectady, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., registration $15 per car, truck or bike, 50/50, Chinese auction, top 20, 5 specialty awards, Bubby's Memorial Pick, top 10 rings. Proceeds benefit the American Red Cross. 518-878-0104, 352-626-2406.

Fall Carlisle: Sept. 30-Oct. 4, Carlisle Pa., Fairgrounds, 1000 Bryn Mawr Rd., Carlisle, Pa. carlisleevents.com

OCTOBER

Fall Carlisle Collector Car Auction: Oct. 1-2, Carlisle Pa., Fairgrounds, 1000 Bryn Mawr Rd., Carlisle, Pa. carlisleevents.com

Cruise and Bike Nights

Sunday

Motorcycles and Motorheads, Cars, Coffee and Cold Brew: Every other Sun., starting April 12, Clover Knoll Farms, 3142 Route 207, Campbell Hall, 8 a.m. start, motorcycle parking in front of Shaker Smoothie, breakfast sandwiches, $5 hot coffee, unlimited refills, full shake bar menu, free raffle every meet up, drawing at 11 a.m. shakersmoothie@gmail.com.

Orange County Cars & Coffee: Every other Sun., starting March 22, Newburgh Mall, 1401 Route 300, Newburgh, 8-11 a.m., park in front of O'Reilly Auto Parts, do not park in handicap or area in front of store.

Wednesday

Bear Mountain Cruise Night: Every Wed., May-Sept., Bear Mountain Inn, 5-9 p.m., $5 entrance fee charged by the park. Bearmountaincruise.org

Bike Night: Every Wed., The RDI Bar & Road Kill Grill, 28 Route 55, Napanoch, begins at 5 p.m., good food. therunningdeerinn.com.

Thursday

RJR Memorial Cruise In: Every Thurs., Edenville Country Store, 240 Pine Island Trpk., Warwick, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m., any donation is welcome, weekly awards, music and food. All proceeds benefit the Richard Jacob Rudy Memorial Fund. RJRmemorialfund.org.

Raging Knights NY Raffle and Brews Bike Night: Every third Thurs., starting April 16 through Oct., Clemson Brewery, 22 Cottage St., Middletown, 5 p.m. to close, enter for a chance to win a Yeti cooler stocked with top shelf liquor. Portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Arthur C. Luf Children's Burn Camp. 845-775-4638.

Dutchess Cruisers annual Cruise Night: Every 1st, 2nd and 4th Thurs., starting May 7 through Oct., Giardino Italiano Pizza, 827 Route 32, Hopewell Junction, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Bike Night: Every Thurs., The Garage, 25 Western Ave., Marlboro, 4:30-8 p.m., food, drinks, bikes, all bikes welcome.

Friday

Hudson Valley Hot Rods Friday Night Cruise: Every other Fri., starting May 1 through Sept. 18, 40 Brotherhood Plaza Dr., Washingtonville, 5:30-8:30 p.m., open to all makes and models. On Facebook.

Sunoco Cruise Night: Every Fri., (weather permitting), through Oct., Sunoco, 211 Goshen Turnpike, Middletown, 5-9 p.m., American made cars only.

Saturday

Mustang Club of Orange County Saturday Bi-Weekly Car Cruise: Every second and fourth Saturday, starting May 9 through Oct., Ruby Tuesdays, 41 Orange Plaza Ln., Middletown, 4-8 p.m., all cars welcome, free registration. 50/50, music, coffee, donuts, must be present to win trophy. On Facebook.

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Carlisle Chrysler Nationals Celebrates Decades of Mopar Excellence with Thousands of Enthusiasts/Cars From Iconic Classics to Future-Focused Rides, Carlisle Delivered Another Memorable Weekend

CARLISLE, PA – The passion, performance, and history of the Chrysler brand took center stage July 10–12 as the Carlisle Chrysler Nationals welcomed nearly 3,000 vehicles and some 60,000 guests to the Carlisle PA Fairgrounds for a weekend dedicated to all things Mopar. From legendary muscle cars and rare classics to trucks, vans, modern performance vehicles, and new offerings from Dodge and Chrysler, the 2026 event showcased the incredible depth and diversity of the hobby. Hundreds of vendors filled 3,000+ automotive flea market spaces, while more than 100 vehicles were available for purchase within the Car Corral, creating a true destination for enthusiasts from across the country who were not only looking to check out the cars on display, but shop AND buy too.

A major focus of the weekend continued the celebration of Chrysler's legacy, this time with a focus on the 100th anniversary of the Imperial. Beyond that, Chrysler weekend also highlighted the automotive future, with Dodge and Chrysler representatives on hand to showcase the latest developments from the brands. Enthusiasts had the opportunity to see the new Purple Haze Charger and the newest Chrysler Pacifica, offering a unique opportunity to view the latest vehicles alongside the historic Mopars that filled the Showfield. Not only did Carlisle guests get to see them on display, but there were walk-arounds hosted by Ashton Munoz, Dodge Charger Product Manager, and Emily Pehling, Chrysler Pacific Product Manager. Munoz even did a burnout in the Charger, both at the stage and to kick-start the rolling burnout and donut contest.

Beyond the Showfield display cars, the Carlisle Chrysler Nationals delivered a full weekend of special displays and activities. Highlights included the aforementioned 100 Years of the Imperial display, 50 Years of the Dodge Adult Toys Program, featuring trucks, vans, and SUVs from the 1970s; and 60 Years of the Dodge Charger, recognizing six decades of one of the most recognizable names in performance. The beloved Mopar Survivors Display also returned, continuing its tradition of honoring original, unrestored Chrysler products that preserve automotive history exactly as they were meant to be experienced. Additional showcases highlighted F-Bodies (the Aspen and Volare), 60 years of the Street Hemi, plus 55 years of the 1971 Plymouth Duster 340.

Guests also enjoyed appearances from special guests, like Joe Zolper from TV's Garage Squad, Miss Direction Connection 1984, Claudia Abel, and racing legends like the Ramchargers, Herb McCandless, Paul Rossi, and Buddy Martin. Along with the guests, there were a wide range of activities throughout the weekend, especially those that put the wheels in motion. Track activities continued to bring excitement, including the Real Street Shootout, rolling exhaust competition, burnout and donut contests, and more opportunities for enthusiasts to put their vehicles in motion.

The Carlisle Chrysler Nationals once again proved that the Mopar community is built on more than just cars—it is built on friendships, memories, and a shared appreciation for the Chrysler brands that have shaped automotive culture for more than a century. This was never more evident than the bustling club scene and general excitement that could be seen from a mile away on the faces of all who attended.

With the 2026 event now complete, planning is already underway for the 2027 Carlisle Chrysler Nationals, returning to the Carlisle PA Fairgrounds July 9–11, 2027. Enthusiasts can expect another celebration filled with incredible vehicles, exciting displays, automotive vendors, and the same Mopar passion that has made this event a must-attend destination. In fact, 2027 will feature showcases of 60 years of the GTX and R/T, 60 years of the 1967 RO & WO Hemi Super Stock and foreign market Mopars like the Brazilian Charger and Australian Valiant. Make your plans today. For additional information, registration details, and updates on future Carlisle events, visit CarlisleEvents.com.

Carlisle Events is a partner or producer of nearly a dozen annual collector car/truck events. Events are held at the Carlisle PA Fairgrounds (Carlisle, PA) and Allentown Fairgrounds (Allentown, PA). The season schedule includes automotive flea markets of varying sizes, multiple auctions, as well as individual specialty shows featuring Corvettes, Fords, GMs, Chryslers, trucks, imports, tuners, and performance sport compacts. Founded in 1974 by friends Bill Miller and Chip Miller, events hosted at Carlisle attract enthusiasts annually from all corners of the globe. More information is available at www.CarlisleEvents.com or www.CarlisleAuctions.com.

Westchester Car Show September 27th Glen Island Park, New Rochelle NY

Westchester Street Rod Association (WSRA) has sponsored a car show for over 35 years, many of them in conjunction with the Westchester County Recreation and Parks Department. The show draws 400 to 500 cars annually, with many participants returning year after year. Attendees can typically see a variety of vehicles—everything from hot rods, classic cars, modified builds to modern muscle—while enjoying the energy of people who share a passion for cars. Beyond the car lineup, events include opportunities for photos, conversation with owners and builders, and a chance to learn what makes each vehicle special, whether it's the craftsmanship, performance upgrades, or a unique style.

Over 100 trophies, along with several specialty trophies, are awarded. Please join us this year on September 27, 2026 at Glen Island Park in New Rochelle, NY for a great day by the water with some of the best cars in the county and beyond.

(Rain date: October 4th)

Westchester Car Show September 27th Glen Island Park, New Rochelle NY

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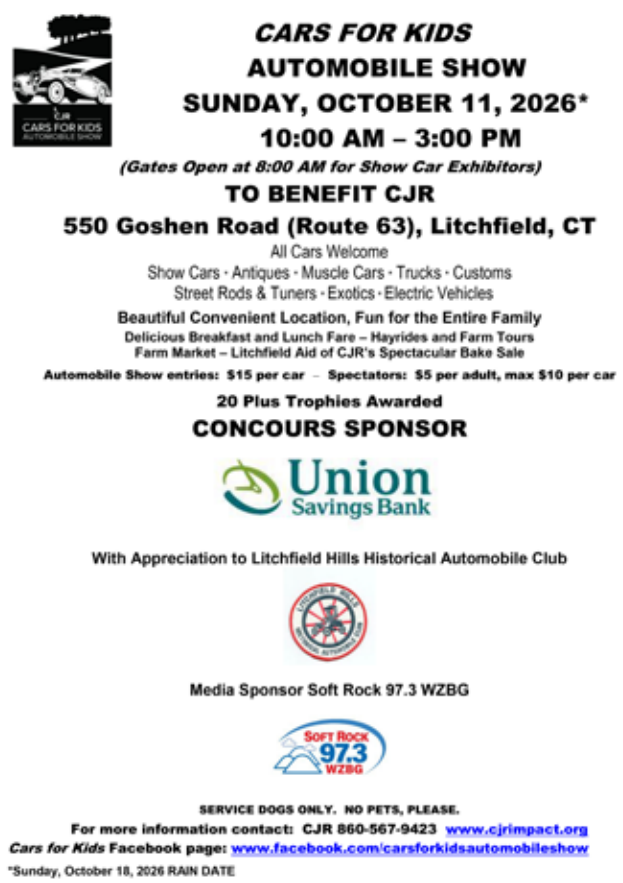

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Great Car Rides For Great Causes

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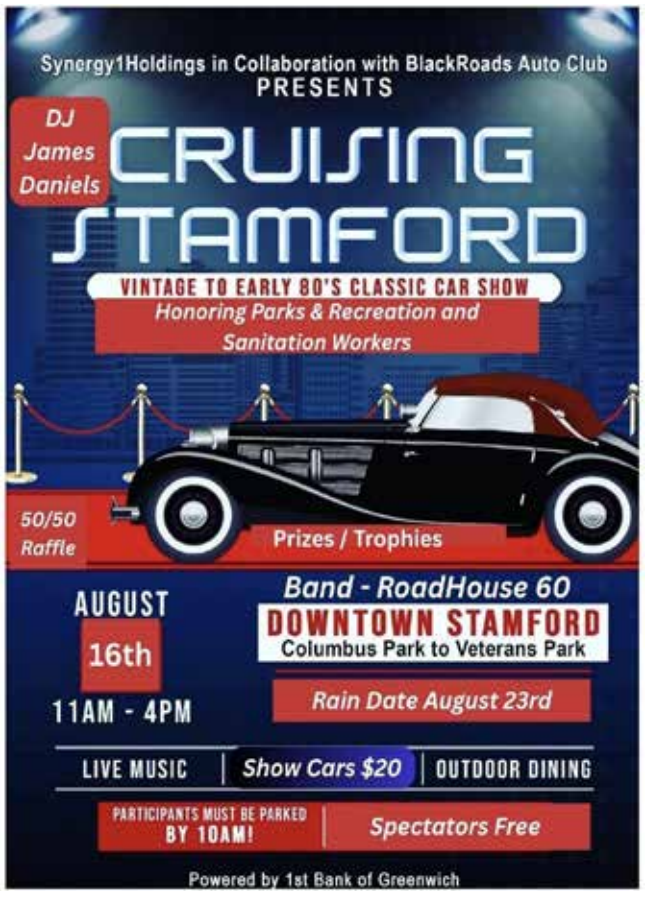
Rain date hot line 860-316-4045
Look for us on facebook



The Bristol Auto Club LTD
2026 Cruise Nights
Celebrating 51 Years 1975-2026

BRISTOL AUTO CLUB LTD.

10 MAIN ST, Bristol, CT
EVERY 1st & 3rd SATURDAY NIGHTS*
From May 2nd – through October 3rd
*** 3:00PM – 7:00PM ***

Cruise Nights: May 2 & 16, June 6 & 20, July 18, August 1 & 15, September 5 & 19, October 3rd ***NO RAIN DATES!***

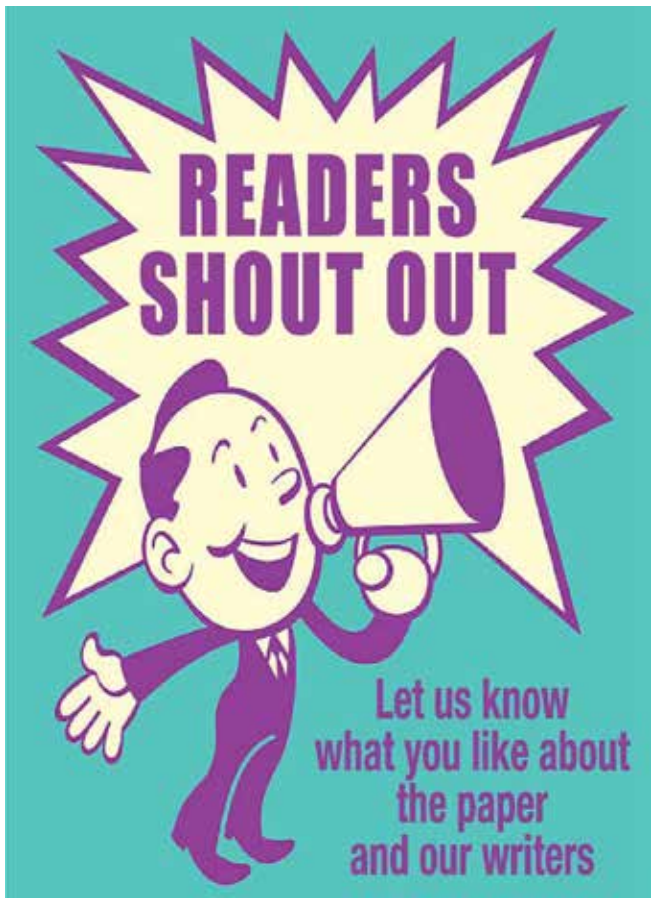
Free Admission
Raffle Prizes
3 Awards Each Night
Food at 10 Main St. Café

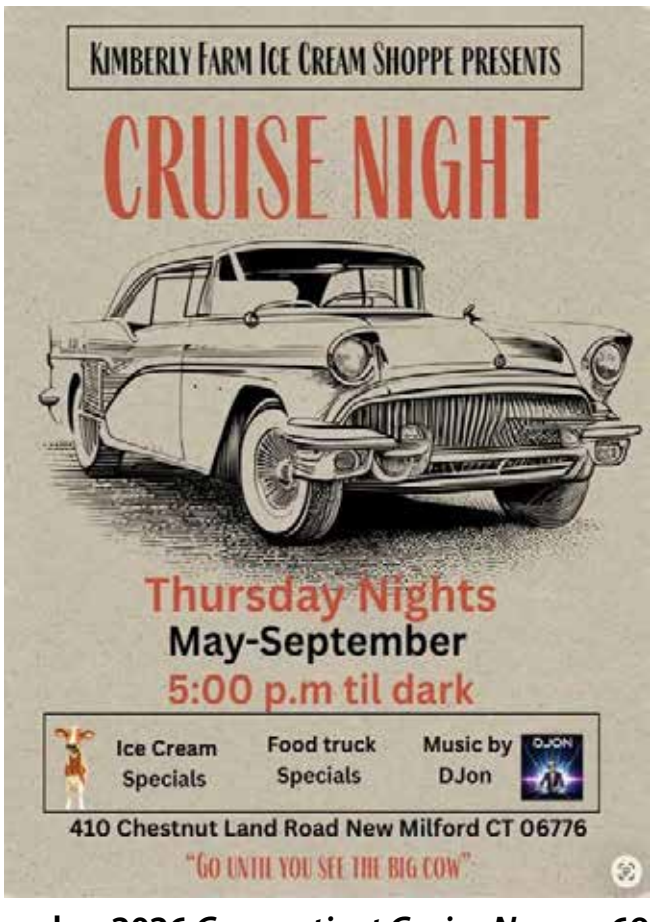
Oldies Music
50/50
Ample Parking
Bathrooms Available

No Cut-Off
No Pets
No Alcohol
No Burnouts
No Bicycles

Cars & Coffee: June 28, July 12, August 23 8-11am

Special Thanks to The D'Amato Family!
We reserve the right to refuse any vehicle
http://bristolautoclub.com





KEEPING THE MEMORIES ALIVE at the 18th Annual Dover Drag Strip Nostalgia Drags & Reunion

It's Back! The Nuway Truck & Trailer Repair Dover Drag Strip Nostalgia Drags, returns to Lebanon Valley Dragway.

Now the northeast's premier Nostalgia event, providing a weekend of nonstop action on and off the track. It's all about the tribute to that famous Drag Strip that operated from 1961 to 1976 in Wingdale, N.Y. Keeping the vintage theme, all Sunday Car Show entries and all race cars entered in the 8 nostalgia eliminators is for 1992 or earlier. Friday & Saturday will see plenty of action on the drag strip, with time trials, grudge runs, and participating Nostalgia groups also in attendance.

Saturday will also feature a Gamblers race with 100% payout, the first day of the swap meet and plenty of Vendors & displays of vintage racers. For the latest event news & updates, visit the Dover Drag Strip Facebook page, as new surprises continue to be posted. Sunday is the big day of so much going on, we suggest arriving early & not miss a thing. Full Quarter mile 200 mph Match Race madness features Nostalgia Funny cars, Extreme altereds, Front engined Dragsters, and Blown Gassers. Plus, the 8 Nostalgia eliminators will be running rounds, including our exclusive Gasser Eliminator, 409 Eliminator, 4-Speed eliminator and old style Competition eliminator for altereds and front motor Dragsters. Sunday also has the second day of the swap meet, the Swag Customs Time Tunnel Rod & Custom show ,which is a 'Ring Event" by Ct. Cruise News with our always Top 40 Show winners & giant Best Of show Trophy. Plus, Plus, ! Sunday Also has Drag Alley Nostalgia Race Car Display presented by Hillery Hotrods that's Free to Participate.

The original Dover Event "Goodie Booth" will again offer one-of-a-kind collector's item T-shirts, decals, and vintage signs & banners.

Stop By and visit Jen, our 'Dover-Ette', helping our staff. Commercial Vendor Space is still available but going fast. Contact Dino at dino@carolinasignworks.com or call landline-no texts at 910-997-4444 for flexible arrangements.

FOR ALL UPDATES & EVENT NEWS: Follow the Dover Drag Strip FACEBOOK Page
And contact "Dino" for all other inquiries: 910-997-4444 (landline -no texts)
Or : dino @ doverdragstrip.com

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EST. 19★69
MOTORCYCLE PARTS
MINUTES OFF RT.8 & 84
"like" us on facebook
Sunday
Sept. 13th
10-3:30PM
57th
CUSTOMER DAY
& BIKE SHOW!
VENDORS • FOOD • MUSIC • FREE RAFFLES & MORE!
Enter in Doc's CUSTOM + VINTAGE BIKE SHOW
OVER $2000 IN CA$H+ PRIZES!
CA$H PRIZES!
★ Best in Show - $600
★ Peoples Choice - $500
★ Best in Show 2nd Place - $400
★ Most Patriotic - $300
★ Best in Show 3rd Place - $100
★ Best Paint - $100
CA$H CONTEST!
★ Biker Babe - $200
★ Best Tattoo Male - $100
★ Best Beard - $100
★ Best Tattoo Female - $100
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