

# Macomb Park 'N' Cruise



GATEHOUSE NEWS SERVICE

Kent Paisley, of Rushville, shines up his 1966 Mustang fastback Friday at the Park 'n' Cruise event in downtown Macomb.

By Ryan Hagan  
GateHouse News Service

**MACOMB** — Macomb's Park 'n' Cruise event, now in its eighth year, started because McDonough County automobile enthusiasts felt they needed an event, besides Heritage Days, to share their love of cars.

Local residents Jim Huff, Sonnie Meredith, Leon Buetner, Eldon Morrison and

Bob Harwick were the founders of the event. Although he was a consultant for the show in the beginning, Chuck Laird is now the Cruise Committee Chairman and enjoys showing his 1979 Camaro. He said the event usually brings in between 100 and 130 cars, many of which are Corvettes and 1960s to 1970s muscle cars.

In addition, Laird said the event's social aspect draws

people even if they don't care much about cars. He said businesses on Macomb's square, especially restaurants, do well on nights when the event is held.

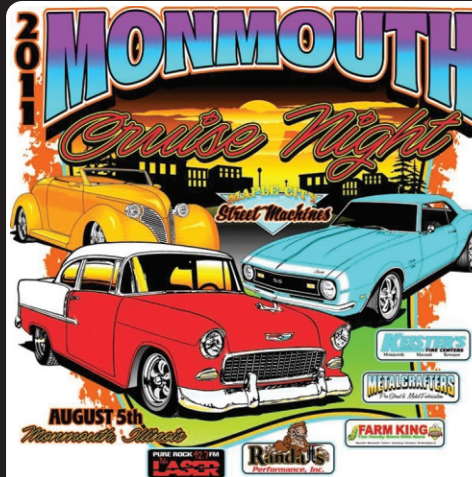
Since the cruise does not place cars into classes and no trophies are awarded, the evenings are an opportunity for car connoisseurs to share their cars in a laid-back atmosphere.

Sponsors provide funding

for a DJ for May's event and a band for the remaining months. The Park 'n' Cruise is held once a month from May through September.

In the beginning, it was held on the first Friday of each month — now the dates vary somewhat to best fit the community's schedule.

The next two Park 'n' Cruise events will be on Saturday, Aug. 6 and Friday, Sept. 9 in downtown Macomb.



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