

Cruise Night on Main
Start Your Engines to Sunday Funday



Middletown is Virtually Cruisin' 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Start Your Engines to Sunday Funday – Middletown is Virtually Cruisin' was a Success!

(Middletown, CT.) Chairman Don DeVivo and Event Chairman Joe Santaniello of the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce invited the community to ride with the Middlesex Chamber last Sunday for an exciting virtual event on National Flag Day to support the Middletown Youth Programs, First Responders, and Healthcare Workers.

The day was filled with sunshine, American spirit, and amazing cars. The Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce couldn't have asked for a more perfect day!

This innovative, virtual event showcased 288 classic and antique vehicles that traveled a 3.8-mile route throughout beautiful downtown Middletown, which passed the police station, fire personnel and Middlesex Hospital. As participants passed, they beeped their horns to give a big thanks to our first responders, front line and healthcare workers! The virtual festivities began at 1:00 p.m. at the NAPA parking lot on Newfield Street.

All car enthusiast and virtual riders donated to the Middletown Youth Programs, which includes the Hal Kaplan Middletown Mentor Program, Middletown Recreation Programs and the Middletown Summer Youth Employment Program.

The Middlesex Chamber also had support from their sponsors, which included: Presenting Sponsor: NAPA; Hot Rod Sponsors: Key Chevrolet, Downtown Business District and iHeartMedia; Car Show Sponsor: Liberty Bank; Cruiser Sponsors: Middlesex Health at One MacDonough Place, The Flood Law Firm and Department of Children and Families; Chrome Sponsors: Carlson & Dumeer, LLC Attorneys at Law; Middletown Toyota; Willowbrook Spirit Shoppe, Inc; and Virtual Sponsor: Landmark Arctic, P.C., McInerney's Flower Shop, Access Health, and Untouchable Towing LLC. Additional event supporters include: The Eastern Chapter Over the Hill Gang Car Club, the Connecticut Military Car Club, The Garage Guys Car Club, Mohawk Manufacturing, and Personal Auto Care. Also, a big thanks to the City of Middletown for their outstanding commitment and partnership to help kickstart this virtual event.

Event Chairman Joe Santaniello noted, "The day was picture perfect, not a cloud in the sky and the cars were rolling in. After 22 years, Middletown's Cruise Night on Main Street has become a signature event for our city, and I could not be prouder of how this year's first Virtual Car Show

celebration went as we practiced social distancing. The success of the event was really a team effort. We have an amazing committee of dedicated volunteers and Chamber staff. We are extremely lucky to have the guidance and experience from the Over The Hill Gang, they are masters at running this type of event. I would like to give a huge shout out to Woody at Mohawk Manufacturing for letting us take over his space for the day. The committee would also like to thank our camera guy Dan Nocera from SAMDOG Films, LLC and Officer David Mocarsky from the New Britain Police Department who help make our virtual event a success.

This virtual event was another great example of how we have the most innovative Chamber around. I am grateful to everyone who has made this day such a tremendous success, year after year to help support our Middletown Youth Programs. Thank you to everyone who participated last Sunday on National Flag Day to show their appreciation to our first responders and healthcare workers.”

Chamber President Larry McHugh noted, “I was very pleased to see such a great turn-out in support of such a great cause. I would like to thank the Middletown Police and Fire Departments and SAMDOG Films, LLC along with Joe Santaniello and the Middletown Car Cruise Committee for making this annual event into a virtual event in such a short time period. I can’t wait to see what we will do next year! Also, a huge thanks to the Chamber staff lead by Vice President Johanna Bond. Finally, I would like to give a big thank you to all of our first responders and healthcare workers and everyone who has participated in our event on National Flag Day.”

Incase you missed, “Start Your Engines to Sunday Funday – Middletown is Virtually Cruisin’ 2020” you can find photos and videos on Cruise Night on Main Street’s Facebook page.

About Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce- Established in 1895, the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce is the largest Chamber in the state. Located in Middletown, CT, this dynamic business organization boasts over 2,175 members that employ over 50,000 people. The Chamber strives to be the voice of business in Middlesex County and the surrounding area with nine geographically based divisions that meet on a monthly basis as well as industry-based committees and councils throughout Middlesex County that work hard to provide a valuable service to their members. In addition to being an effective and dynamic business organization, the chamber strives to be a community organization. Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce runs a number of events and programs that support veterans, youth development, and substance abuse prevention. For more information visit www.MiddlesexChamber.com

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