

Annual car cruise still rollin' despite road project

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WAYNESBURG - The ninth annual '50s Fest & Car Cruise, set for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, will take place in downtown Waynesburg once again, even though the Streetscape project is in progress.

"We want to assure people that construction will not prevent the festival," said Doug Wilson, chairman of the '50s Fest committee and deejay for the event's co-sponsor, WANB Radio.

"We will adjust the parking of vehicles to avoid the areas that are affected by the Streetscape construction and expect we will still have ample space available. Attendees can expect all the same fun as in past years."

Waynesburg Borough is working with festival planners to ensure that the annual event occurs much the same as in prior years.

"We are making every effort to assure that the Streetscape project will progress in such a way as to interfere as little as possible with the '50s Fest & Car Cruise," said Bruce Wermlinger, Waynesburg Borough manager.

"We anticipate that the blocks under construction at the time of the '50s Fest will be outside of the area normally blocked off for parking of the classic cars - and there really shouldn't be any reason that the festival and cruise won't happen just like it always has. We're looking forward to it. It's a great day in downtown Waynesburg."

The event, presented by Waynesburg Prosperous and Beautiful, typically draws more than 200 classic vehicles to downtown Waynesburg.

According to Wilson, there will be a wide assortment of hot rods, street rods, rat rods and other classic cars, trucks and motorcycles.

Along with the car show, the festival offers numerous activities reminiscent of the 1950s. Kids of all ages can participate in the twist contest, limbo contest, bubblegum blowing contest and hula hoop contest.

The daylong festivities include a live broadcast of '50s favorites by WANB Radio's "Greene County Greaser" Wilson; classic movies showing at the Waynesburg Theater & Arts Center; contests and prizes; plus unique shopping, specials and giveaways from downtown merchants and restaurants.

In addition, event co-sponsor Hot Rod's House of Bar-B-Que will be offering a unusual new amenity for cruisers this year - curbside service. Waynesburg University athletic training students earning funds for their mission trip will serve as order takers, traveling each block throughout the day to take orders and deliver food directly to the cruisers right at their own cars.

There are no admission or registration fees for the festival. During the festival, High Street from Morgan to Morris streets will be closed to regular traffic. For more information on the ninth annual '50s Fest & Car Cruise, contact Wilson at 724-627-5555 or thegreaser@windstream.net. Copyright Observer Publishing Co.