



From left: Bob Lott, Foundation Board; Cameron Hosner, CEO; Kelli Dobner, Chief Development Officer and Brad Zimmerman, Trustee, all of the Judson Center; Rob Farr, President & CEO Bank of Birmingham; Bernd Ronnisch, Trustee; Ann Rader, Advisory Board and Dave Zimmer, Trustee, all from the Judson Center.

Local Events: *Woodward Dream Cruise*

By: Susan Kehoe, PhD

"The Woodward Dream Cruise is the world's largest one-day automotive event, drawing about 1.5 million people and 40,000 classic cars each year from around the globe. Spectators can see... vehicles dating across several decades, especially those prevalent during the 1950s, 60s and early 70s..."-- Google

According to Google, The Woodward Dream Cruise is the grandfather of all car events. Residents from the cities along Woodward come together with many car lovers who travel far and wide to share in the excitement and view the unique, historical cars that made Detroit the Motor City.

This year I attended the CrusinIn View party hosted by the Bank of Birmingham to benefit the Judson Center. The Judson Center is a nonprofit agency providing autism, behavioral health, child welfare and disability services to children, adults and families throughout southeast Michigan. The Oakland county facility is located down the street on 13 Mile in Royal Oak and provides these specialized services that are critically necessary for autistic and disabled children and families in our community.

Guests and Judson Center supporters attended this well-planned event. In a brilliant use of space, rows of bleachers were erected

inside the air-conditioned bank, providing a ringside view of festivities outside. The Judson Center welcome crew was located in a huge tent behind the bank, loaded with food, drinks and desserts. A deejay was playing oldies that took everyone back to crusin' days, and a colorful ice cream cart held mouth-watering treats that thrilled children and adults alike. The Bank of Birmingham thought of everything, hosting a wonderful celebration of the not-so-distant past that conjured memories of another era.

As a former automotive employee, it's a thrill to hear the roar of engines and the squeal of tires at the Dream Cruise. Some see this event as an interruption of their daily activities and are oblivious to why people of all ages line the streets to view the historic vehicles that made Detroit the Motor Capital of the World. Even if you don't share in the appreciation of what the industry brought to this town as well as post-war America, the one-day event brings in millions of dollars, much of it benefitting our charities.

Bloomfield Hills is filled with automotive people who helped build this city into a magnificent place to live. In fact, many residents remember the original days of Crusin' Woodward, an experience so vivid and extraordinary that it inspired the largest automotive event in the world, and has done so for the past 21 years.



Aiden Lewis of Roseville and brothers Oliver and Isaac Lublin of West Bloomfield, tune up a Dream Cruise car.



Keith Lublin and son, Oliver, and Rob Osar with Aiden Lewis pose with a "Dream Car."

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