

A family event for ‘a family town’

Eastpointe’s Cruisin’ Gratiot to roll June 17

By [Bria Brown](#)



Cruisin’ Gratiot President Harvey Curley explained why Cruisin’ Gratiot is important to Eastpointe. It’s important to our city because it highlights our city. People who come for the first time can see the businesses we have now and how the mayor and council have kept up our city,” said Curley.

Eastpointe Mayor Suzanne Pixley noted that the automotive industry’s influence on the region is part of the cruise’s appeal.

“We have a lot of people who enjoy this cruise who used to build these cars,” said Pixley.

This year’s event will spotlight an Eastpointe father.

“What we’d like to do is pay attention to a resident in Eastpointe. The cruise has always been the day before Father’s Day, but we’d like to highlight Father’s Day this year,” said Pixley.

“We are interested in having a resident in Eastpointe as being the grand marshal for the cruise,” she said.

Individuals who’d like to nominate their father and explain why their father should be the grand marshal should email their nominations through the “Contact” page at www.cruisin-gratiot.com or mail their entries to 17285 Stephens Road, Eastpointe, MI 48021. The letter should be no longer than 500 words, and the grand marshal nominee must be an Eastpointe resident. Letters should be sent to the committee by April 30.

Look to the May 31 Eastsider for the announcement of the 2017 grand marshal. The grand marshal will ride in Ken Poynter’s 1942 Hudson convertible and be the first car in the parade, along with receiving some gifts.

For additional information on Cruisin’ Gratiot, visit www.cruisin-gratiot.com.

EASTPOINTE — Cruisin’ Gratiot is an annual tradition for Eastpointe, and the board members who organize the cruise are preparing family fun, entertainment, awards, raffles and more for a weeklong celebration June 12-17 leading up to the cruise

A car show will begin at 3 p.m. Monday, June 12, at Big Boy Restaurant, 22765 Gratiot Ave., and more classic car shows will be happening throughout the week:

- 3 p.m. Tuesday, June 13, at Cloverleaf Restaurant, 24443 Gratiot Ave.
- Wednesday, June 14, at First State Bank, 16100 E. Nine Mile Road.
- 3 p.m. Thursday, June 15, at Villa Restaurant, 21311 Gratiot Ave.
- 3 p.m. Friday, June 16, at East Detroit High School, 15501 Couzens Ave.
- 9 a.m. Saturday, June 17 at East Detroit High School, 15501 Couzens Ave.

The second annual 5K fun run at the Eastpointe Gratiot cruise will start registration at 8 a.m. June 17, and the 5K run will begin at 9 a.m. at Odd Fellows Hall, 23322 Gratiot Ave.

Registration costs \$20 per adult ages 18 and older and \$10 per child ages 10-18. Kids younger than 10 may participate for free with a parent participant. A slow-roll bike ride will set out five to 10 minutes before the runners in the 5K run.

Brian Barr, past grand master of the Odd Fellows, explained why Odd Fellows is adding both the slow roll and the 5K run.

“We want to get people active this year. This event supports our local businesses and local charities. It’s a huge event,” said Barr.

For more information or to register, visit www.facebook.com/eastwoododdfellows496, call Susie Barr at (586) 202-9488 or email angelhrtsz2277@gmail.com.