

Cars Roll in to Franklin Park to Support HeroHomes

About 150 modern and antique cars cruised up to Franklin Park last Saturday afternoon, August 26 for the second annual Cruise In to benefit HeroHomes. This fun-filled, family event also included activities for the kids, music and local food vendors.

Hundreds of car enthusiasts got to take a close up look at the 150 registered new and antique cars and trucks including a monster truck called Killer Bee and a M16 Halftrack with Quad 50 cal. mount.

The event was moved from 21st Street to Franklin Park this year to ease logistics and to make viewing the cars easier.

HeroHomes Board Member Scott Gessay said, "The turnout for Saturday's Cruise In was exceptional. The weather was great and participants were enthusiastic about the new venue at Franklin Park. Overall, we achieved our fundraising goals and increased the awareness of HeroHomes' mission to provide homes for disabled veterans in western Loudoun County."

Although the event was free, donations were accepted. This year's event raised almost \$20,000 with additional funds still rolling in at press time.

All three of the nonprofit organization's recipients, Brian Haas, Jarrad Davenport and William Slease attended the event.

Co-Founder Jason Brownell was pleased with the turnout at the event and said, "The

Cruise In was a big hit at Franklin Park this year. We had awesome cars, vintage military vehicles, disabled veterans, first responders, a very enthusiastic crowd, lots of community volunteers and we made money for the next HeroHome in Hillsboro. What else could we ask for?"

A number of trophies were awarded at the event:

- Best of GM - Bob Brown - 1957 Chevy BelAir
- Best of Ford - Al Dodson - 1936 Ford Coupe
- Best of MOPAR - Gary Forman - 1970 Plymouth GTX
- Best Pre 1945 - David Kidwell Jr. - 1937 Studebaker Coupe
- Best Import - Larry Pangle - 1969 VW Baja
- Best Motorcycle - Andrew "Batman" Miller - 2002 Harley Davidson Sportster

HeroHomes thanks its sponsors: Meltzer Group, Securitec Screening, JB Properties, Transport Specialists Inc, and Augustine Plumbing and Loudoun Valley Floors. They also thank the food vendors Chick-Fil-A and Renzi's Pizza.

HeroHomes is a non-profit organization whose mission is to build homes in the western Loudoun community for severely wounded veterans. For more information, visit HeroHomesLoudoun.org.



David Kidwell Jr.'s handsome 1937 Studebaker Coupe



HeroHomes Board Member Scott Gessay, Zach Kendall, and US Army veteran William Slease, for whom Hero Homes is providing a new home



A window full of iconic drive-in goodies adorns a stunning red 1957 Chevy convertible



Lee Phillips' exceptionally rare 1928 Whippet Model 98A is one of only five known to still exist and originally sold new for less than \$600



Marsha Kidwell's 1931 blue Ford Roadster with a small friend



WW II 21 foot long, 10-ton M16 Multiple Gun Motor Carriage half-track, mounting quad .50 caliber machine guns as main armament



Purcellville VFD Station 602 provided the welcoming American flag for the Hero Homes car show



Cliff Baker's truly one-of-a-kind 1929 Ford Model A



Palmer Robeson sits behind the wheel of his 1944 Willys Jeep, "Nelliebelle", alongside passenger Wayne Bladen



Buster Costello's beautiful red 1927 Chevy T-Bucket sports a 350 Chevy engine



Matthew Lowers (President of HeroHomes), Jason Brownell (Founder of HeroHomes) and Liz McDonald, welcome well over 100 incoming classic cars to their 2nd Annual Hero Homes Car Show



A beautifully presented red 1931 Chevy pick-up



Jason Brownell (Founder of HeroHomes) and Matthew Lowers (President of HeroHomes) occupy the crew compartment of the beautiful WW II M16



Dianna Dodson, Barbara Edwards, Carol Holsinger, Sharon Hurne and Sharon Williams spent the day registering more than 100 classic cars for the show