

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Families Invited to Waltonwood of Royal Oak's Annual Woodward Dream Cruise Sock Hop

Royal Oak, MICHIGAN July 30, 2015: It's time to dust off those poodle skirts and blue suede shoes again! As the Woodward Dream Cruise approaches, residents at Waltonwood of Royal Oak, a premier senior living community, are busy reminiscing about the cars of yesteryear that will fill the streets for this long-cherished event. **Waltonwood of Royal Oak invites the public to take a ride down memory lane as it hosts its annual Woodward Dream Cruise Sock Hop** Friday, August 14th from 5 to 7 p.m. The community is located just off Woodward Avenue at 3450 W. Thirteen Mile Road. Guests will enjoy an evening of fun, food and live entertainment by "Las Vegas-style" entertainer Jerry Armstrong. There will also be a car show, and guests will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite. The residents and staff at Waltonwood of Royal Oak are looking forward to hosting this nostalgic event that will highlight experiences from the Motor City's heyday.

92-year-old Waltonwood of Royal Oak resident Betty Mio cannot wait for the event, as she has a special connection to automobiles, specifically the Ford Motor Company. Three generations of her family have worked with or for the Ford Motor Company –her father and mother, herself and her son. Mio was a part of the company during World War II as a true "Rosie the Riveter." As Ford ceased automobile production in order to create planes and men were being drafted to the military, it was up to the women to continue the fight at home. Mio learned how to weld and drill rivets into planes alongside other local women, something she says she'll never forget.

"I never had any experience welding before, but they trained us on the job," **said Mio**. "When I hear people talk about Ford, it fills me with pride that I was able to help my country during the war by working for the company. The car show lets me relive so many wonderful family memories and share my experiences with others. I'm looking forward to the sock hop again this year as it gives me a chance to reminisce about some of the most special times of my life. I am honored to be a part of Ford's history along with other generations of my family. We have seen a lot of change in the company and industry, and I love that my son still owns a Ford. He will be showing it off at the event, and I look forward to admiring it and others."

This is a highly anticipated event for the entire community, and it is getting the residents ready by hosting a virtual tour entitled “Car City to Cairo” the week of the Dream Cruise.

“We love seeing the residents’ faces light up when they’re surrounded by memories of their younger days,” **said Executive Director Julia Wellings.** “This event is such a great tie-in to the Dream Cruise and allows families another way to spend time together and do something new. We welcome families to come out to share their memories and make new ones.”

The cost to attend the event is \$15 per person. Children 12 and under are free. Admission includes a BBQ-style dinner, ice cream soda bar, car display and live entertainment. There will also be a raffle that benefits the Alzheimer’s Association. **Please RSVP by calling 248-504-0405.**

If you are a member of the media interested in covering this story or setting up an interview, please contact Susan Hoover via phone at 214-890-7912 ext. 31 or email at shoover@fortegroupinc.com or Amy Jones via phone at 214-890-7912 ext. 30 or email at ajones@fortegroupinc.com.

ABOUT WALTONWOOD OF ROYAL OAK

Founded in 1999, Waltonwood of Royal Oak offers seniors a dignified, individualized community where residents thrive and enjoy life worry-free. The community has 81 private studio and one-bedroom apartments that offer 11 floor plans to suit a variety of needs, with a walking path and private courtyard throughout its grounds. Residents receive the most up-to-date advances in senior living, including a specially designed Forever Fit program, which utilizes European-designed, air resistance exercise equipment built especially for seniors. The community is located close to Detroit and Birmingham and area shopping, dining and entertainment. Waltonwood of Royal Oak also offers short-term stay services for caretakers who may need a little extra help. If you are interested in learning more about Waltonwood of Royal Oak, please visit www.waltonwood.com or call 248-504-0405.

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Photos courtesy of Waltonwood of Royal Oak

Photo 1: “Las Vegas-style” entertainer Jerry Armstrong will serenade the crowd with his classic celebrity impressions ranging from Elvis to Frank Sinatra at Waltonwood of Royal Oak’s Woodward Dream Cruise Sock Hop.

Photo 2: Guests will have the opportunity to view classic and modern cars while at Waltonwood of Royal Oak’s sock hop and have the chance to vote for their favorite car.