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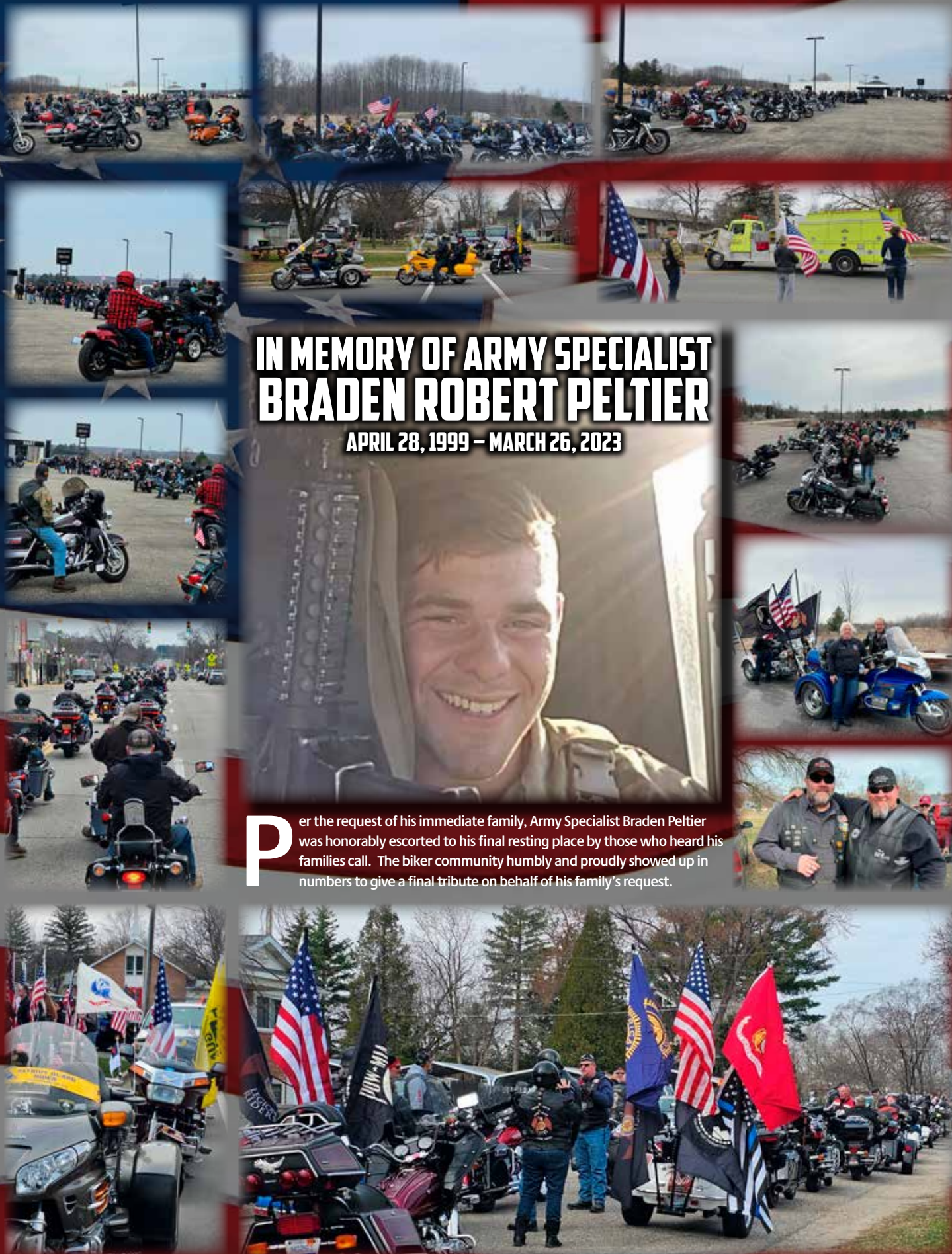
GILDNER'S H-D
60 YEAR
ANNIVERSARY

3RD ANNUAL
MACKINAW
RALLY

JUNE 9 - 11, 2023

MOTORS ♦ LAKES ♦ TRAILS





IN MEMORY OF ARMY SPECIALIST BRADEN ROBERT PELTIER

APRIL 28, 1999 – MARCH 26, 2023

Per the request of his immediate family, Army Specialist Braden Peltier was honorably escorted to his final resting place by those who heard his families call. The biker community humbly and proudly showed up in numbers to give a final tribute on behalf of his family's request.

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VEHICLE CITY HARLEY-DAVIDSON



BIKE NIGHTS RETURN!

FRIDAY NIGHTS 6 - 9PM

STARTING FRIDAY, MAY 5th

Check out our Facebook For The Bike Night Schedule!

BEER - FOODTRUCKS - LIVE MUSIC
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THUNDER ROADS MICHIGAN BIKE SHOW

FRIDAY, JULY 28th



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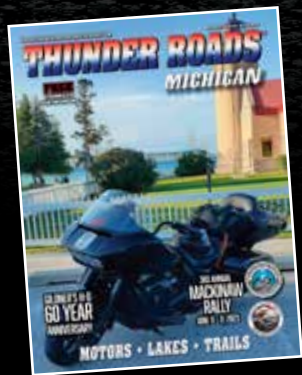
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ON THE COVER

3RD ANNUAL MACKINAW RALLY

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LETTER FROM OWNERS

Short Story Of The Donkey And The Tiger - When Arguing Is Futile

The donkey told the tiger, “The grass is blue.”

The tiger replied, “No, the grass is green.”

The discussion became heated, and the two decided to submit the issue to arbitration, so they approached the lion.

As they approached the lion on his throne, the donkey started screaming: “Your Highness, isn’t it true that the grass is blue?”

The lion replied: “If you believe it is true, the grass is blue.”

The donkey rushed forward and continued: “The tiger disagrees with me, contradicts me and annoys me. Please punish him.”

The king then declared: “The tiger will be punished with 3 days of silence.”

The donkey jumped with joy and went on his way, content and repeating “The grass is blue, the grass is blue...”

The tiger asked the lion, “Your Majesty, why have you punished me, after all, the grass is green?”

The lion replied, “You’ve known and seen the grass is green.”

The tiger asked, “So why do you punish me?”

The lion replied, “That has nothing to do with the question of whether the grass is blue or green. The punishment is because it is degrading for a brave, intelligent creature like you to waste time arguing with an ass, and on top of that, you came and bothered me with that question just to validate something you already knew was true!”

The biggest waste of time is arguing with the fool and fanatic who doesn’t care about truth or reality, but only the victory of his beliefs and illusions.

Never waste time on discussions that make no sense. There are people who, for all the evidence presented to them, do not have the ability to understand.

Others who are blinded by ego, hatred and resentment, and the only thing that they want is to be right even if they aren’t.

When IGNORANCE SCREAMS.

Intelligence moves on.

Author Unknown



We hope to see you out on the Thunder Roads® of Michigan!

RJ & Aly

INTERNATIONAL FEMALE RIDE DAY®

IFRD call to action - “just ride” encourages female riders to get out there and be visible. By taking part women demonstrate first-hand the vast numbers of women who ride, while simultaneously breaking down stereotypes or preconceived definitions of female riders.

just ride!

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THE MOTORCYCLE LAWYER ON THE LAW

TRICK-QUESTION QUIZ:

For this month's article, I provide this fun quiz that will test your Michigan motorcycle legal knowledge. I came up with it after recently reviewing the Michigan Secretary of State's Motorcycle Operator Manual. I say, "fun" because it has a few trick questions.

QUESTIONS:

1. True or false, a 19-year-old must always wear a helmet when on a motorcycle in the state of Michigan?
2. True or false, a motorcycle must have a rearview mirror on the "passenger's side" of the motorcycle.
3. True or false, if you operate a motorcycle in the state of Michigan without a motorcycle endorsement you can be imprisoned for 90 days.
4. The motorcycle safety foundation advises us to use the S.E.E., three-step approach for risk management while riding. S.E.E. stands for:
 - a. Steer Educate Extract
 - b. Survive Escape Evade
 - c. Search Evaluate Execute
 - d. Sierra Echo Echo
5. The greatest chance of a wreck with a motor vehicle is:
 - a. On the express way.
 - b. When riding with a group.
 - c. At intersections.
6. True or false, a child must be at least eight years old to legally ride as a passenger on a motorcycle in the state of Michigan.

ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS

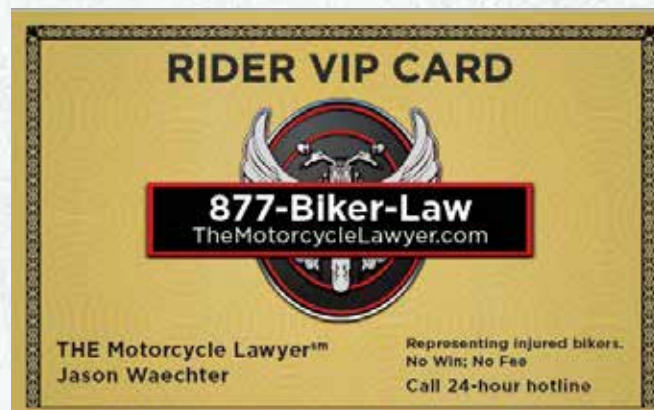
1. **Answer: True.** In order to ride without a helmet in the state of Michigan you must be at least 21 years of age or older. Further, you must also have at least \$20,000 in first party medical benefits on your motorcycle insurance policy. There is one other requirement found on my website.
2. **Answer: False.** This is a double trick question. The motorcycle operator must have a rearview mirror. The mirror may be positioned on the helmet or visor worn by the operator of the motorcycle. If the mirror is on the motorcycle, it must be on the "driver's side."
3. **Answer: True.** MCL 257.312a indicates that a person who rides without a motorcycle endorsement, for a first offense, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable for up to 90 days in prison or a fine of not more than \$500 or both. After the first conviction, imprisonment can be up to one year and the fine can be up to \$1000 or both.
4. **Answer: C.** Search. Evaluate. Execute. Search for possible hazards and escape routes. Evaluate the potential problems of and from them. Execute your decision.

5. **Answer: C--** at intersections. The greatest potential for crashes is at intersections. Statistically the number one accident involves a car turning left in front of a motorcyclist who has the right-of-way going straight.

6. **Answer: False.** There is no minimum age for a child to ride as a passenger. The applicable requirement is that a passenger's feet must rest on the assigned foot pegs of the motorcycle. MCL 257.658a(1).

I hope you enjoy this fun short quiz. It's a reminder that there are all kinds of requirements to ride without a helmet, you can actually go to jail for not having a motorcycle endorsement, be extra careful when riding through intersections and there are many equipment requirements for our motorcycles.

For further explanations and more information visit my Michigan website's one minute legal series that explains the law in short easy understand videos: www.MotorcycleLawyerMichigan.com



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Attorney Jason Waechter is nationally known as THE Motorcycle Lawyerssm. His Michigan law firm specializes in handling motorcycle accident cases. He has secured multiple million-dollar settlements, verdicts, and awards for his clients over the past 26 years. Call attorney Waechter for free advice or free case evaluation at:

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Location of the show: Mackinaw Crossings Parking Lot on Mackinaw Crossings Drive

BIKE SHOW CATEGORIES

VINTAGE	(1998 & OLDER)
CUSTOM	(FABRICATED)
CRUISER	(ANY MAKE)
BAGGER	(ANY MAKE)
RAT	
SPORT BIKE	
TRIKE	(FORK RONT)
BEST PAINT	(ANY MAKE)
*BEST IN SHOW - JUDGES	
*PEOPLES CHOICE - PUBLIC	

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June 10th registraion from 9am - 2pm.
8:30 day off show.

***Early onsite registration will be available Thursday June 8th & Friday June 9th, Times TBD**

BIKE SHOW CATEGORIES

VINTAGE (1998 & OLDER)
CUSTOM (FABRICATED)
CRUISER (ANY MAKE)
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23RD ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE BIKERS
MAY 7TH, 2023



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"M" is for Motorcycle Awareness Month

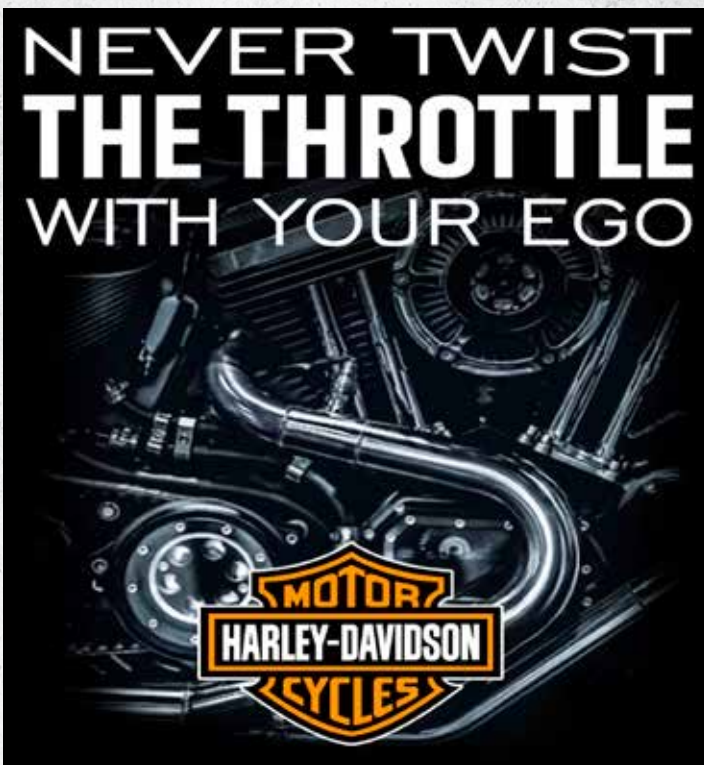
A quote from Ken Condon, "Good riders train for threats, but ride smart enough to rarely need their superior training. Even the most skilled riders will get into situations they cannot handle if they ride stupid." (ridinginthezone.com)

Reflecting on the previous years of riding, some common situations associated with our lifestyle come to mind. Most of us who have been riding for any amount of time will be able to relate, and others who are maybe just starting on their journeys in this subculture will eventually learn that *accidents are not usually too far away from home*. Studies show the median distance to the location of injury among individuals involved in a fatal/non-fatal car or motorcycle collisions is 5.5 miles away from home. Meaning, we may be too excited as we leave or eager to get home and hence let our "spidey-senses" down and make bonehead decisions. Other vehicles are begged to look twice for us riders, but sometimes we need to protect ourselves by being aware too!

A short compilation of things I've learned would include:

Don't chase the yellow light. Meaning take a few extra minutes to get to the destination. Drivers at the light in the perpendicular crossway are chomping at the bit to pull off. Have you ever been waiting at a red light and as it turns green a driver or rider flies through the intersection? They are chasing that yellow, but finish in red! If you had the patience, you'll probably shake your head, but if you are timing that green and rush out there, it could possibly end up in a collision. A good habit is not to be the first to go through the green light when on twos. However, if you are the one that is timing that yellow, keep checking in your rear-view mirror for someone being too close. They might assume that you are going through and not make that stop in time behind you.

Waiting at a stop. From the shared experience of another rider, do not pull all the way up to the white line in the turning lane as people in the perpendicular turning lane often cut the angle of the left-hand turn to keep speed efficiency of their vehicles. Instead, lay back a car length for safety purposes. Another jewel you might hear from someone that has been rear-ended while on a bike might share with you is to keep your bike in gear while sitting at a light. This is two-fold, one never knows when they made need to make an emergency pull-up or pull-off to get out of the way. Staying in your rear-view will help with that decision. Also, if ever hit, the motorcycle will not continuously roll. It will lock up and tip-over; that is a safety advantage, so the rider does not roll into cross/on-coming traffic.



Practice and plan. When speaking with a local dealership riding instructor, they provided the following words of wisdom to me. "I strongly feel that no matter what our world endures one thing is certain around here, people enjoy motorcycles. The therapy they offer is unlike anything else on Earth. Families and friends who ride together, stay together and with that being said, it's something that always requires practice. And we here at Motor City Harley-Davidson take that responsibility very seriously, but with passion and fun so that the next generation of riders, and people returning for the season can ride intentionally safe." (Ally Faeth, Riding Academy Manager)

While researching, an acronym continued to populate in search engines on the internet **S.E.E.** (Search, Evaluate, and Execute) Sharing it in this month's article was a no-brainer. This is especially important while riding, whether in a group or "dolo." Search for your exit strategy, stay in the rear-view mirror, and keep your head on a swivel. Evaluate how riders around you are keeping pace. Execute your strategy to protect yourself and others due to your prepared readiness plan. You may need to slow down, speed up, dump the bike, or shoot the gap. "Either you fail to plan, or you plan to fail." In the words of a well-respected motorcycle safety instructor in Southeast Michigan, Dave of Bad Pig Customs, says it best,

"STAY ALERT, STAY ALIVE."

I've decided that taking a riding class this summer is the best way to invest in *my* motorcycle career. "Get the ego out of the way" and take a level 2 course is the mindset. To start, one must bring a bike that is "papered-up." (Having proper tags and insurance) These courses may seem redundant in material but teach us how to handle our machinery during the occasional time of distress. The class I've signed up for is at Schoolcraft College in Livonia, MI and it teaches us to maneuver touring bikes in small spaces. Never mind the fact that my insurance may go down due to taking a safety course. It is also mentally reassuring when one has invested time and skills into him/herself. Classes can be found on several sites including some community colleges and at local Harley-Davidson Dealerships. Here's just one of many available sites to share with the TRM community to get you started, www.michigan.gov/sos/license-id/motorcycle-riders. Classes range from \$50.00 to approximately \$700.00 depending on where one chooses. The link will take you to the MI-REP (Michigan Rider Education Program) where you can look into a Basic Rider Course up to the Advanced Rider Course.

Remember, we are willing to share our TRM reader's "on the road stories" as well.



Feel free to contact editor@thunderroadsmichigan.com and ask for Smoke.

Throttle hands up!!
Smoke

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Keep reading, keep riding, and remember...WHERE THERE'S BIKES THERE'S GOING TO BE THUNDER!

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THUNDER ROADS® MICHIGAN MAGAZINE MAY 2023 11

GILDNER'S HARLEY-DAVIDSON

A BOYS DREAM.

It all started with a boy and a dream. At the age of 16 Ken (Fuzzy) Gildner had an undeniable love for motorcycles and a love for working on them. Him and his brother started tinkering with their friends' bikes in their father's garage and in 1963 Gildner's Cycle Shop was born. He sold various British models from 1963 to 1980 like Rickman, BSA, Triumph & Ossa just to name a few.



It was in 1980 when he purchased the Harley-Davidson brand, which at that time was under AMF ownership. He then decided to move the little shop at the time off Old 76 to an old VFW building next door. Since then, there have been many upgrades and additions added to the building through the years, but we are still in that same old VFW building today.

Ken and his wife both worked two jobs up until the shop got going. Ken drove school bus, and worked side by side with his wife at the shop, all while raising 4 children. Ken was also an avid ice racer for many years in the 80's! In 1984 Ken traveled to Milwaukee to attend a 2-week Service Training, which was all that was required back then. The Gilder family has seen many ups and downs through the years. We remember in the early 90's when a new sportster was \$3995 and there was a 1 to 2 year waiting list.

Back in the day, when we had an open house people would bring their tents to camp, have bonfires, and stay right here on the dealership property. We have met many people through the years and made some great friendships in the motorcycle business. Not many people get to do what they love every day. The dealership has grown over the years, but we have managed to keep that small town feel, which is the way we like it. However, don't let the size fool you because we are packed with merchandise!



This dealership was built on hard work, dedication, and long hours. We are family owned and operated with Ken coming in every day, his wife handling the bookkeeping, and his daughter Kendra running the day-to-day operations. We have an amazing staff who have been with us for many years.

For many years West Branch was home to one of the biggest and most memorable rallies in Michigan, The Michigan H.O.G. Rendezvous. Later the rally's name was changed to Ogemaw Hills Bike Week, and for several years it brought over 7,000 people to our town and dealership in one weekend!

Thank you to all those that have supported Gildner's Harley-Davidson throughout the years!

~ The Gildner family.



Save the date- Sunday, June 4th
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MEMORIAL DAY - WASHINGTON D.C.

While I sit here reminiscing on my travels to Washington D.C., I find myself thinking of all of those who made the ultimate sacrifice for this country. Right after basic training, my first visit was to Arlington Cemetery to honor our fallen. It was very emotional, and it was an honor to remember my brothers and sisters. I didn't really know at that time what it meant quite yet, but several years later I would find out. One of the most memorable moments I can share, was when I participated with Rolling Thunder in a demonstration for POW/MIA that started in 1988, in which they continuously seek to bring full accountability for prisoners of war (POWs) and missing in action (MIA) service members of all U.S. wars. Our group rides with them as Desert Thunder.

My War
Persian Gulf War or also known as Desert Shield/Storm, Afghanistan-OEF, Iraq-OIF. Though Desert Storm may have been swift and short, the next two were not with so much bloodshed and injuries. We really thank the Vietnam Veterans who were our leaders because they also made a commitment that what happened to them would not happen again. They ensured it wasn't going to be another Vietnam. We lost 383 during Desert Storm and on 12 April 1991 the treaty was signed, and our war ended. America welcomed us home with a parade but in our hearts truly we were welcome home from the veterans of the Vietnam war and all the wars before ours. Still, OEF/OIF service members are feeling the ramifications of those wars. So, we truly thank each and every veteran from the past, and work to ensure every veteran in the future is welcome home with honors. I go to D.C. every year to make sure that our future generation knows what our war was about and ensure that our fallen are remembered. This war has been reviewed on how to effectively fight a war.

The history of the Persian Gulf War
Though the long-running war between Iran and Iraq had ended in a United Nation ceasefire in August 1988, the two states had yet to begin negotiating a permanent peace treaty. Their foreign ministers met in Geneva in July 1990 and the prospects for peace seemed bright. It appeared that Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein was prepared to dissolve that conflict and return territory that his forces had long occupied. Two weeks later, however, Hussein delivered a speech in which he accused neighboring nation Kuwait of siphoning crude oil from the Ar-Rumaylah oil fields located along their common border. He accused Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, of conspiring to keep oil prices low in an effort to pander to Western oil-buying nations thinking that it was his territory, which would cancel out \$30 billion of Iraq's foreign debt.

Did you know that in justifying his invasion of Kuwait on August 02, 1990, Saddam Hussein claimed it was an artificial state carved out of the Iraqi coast by Western colonialists? When in fact, Kuwait had been internationally recognized as a separate entity before Iraq itself was created by Britain under a League of Nations mandate after World War I. In addition to Hussein's incendiary speech, Iraq had begun amassing troops on Kuwait's border. Alarmed by these actions, President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt initiated negotiations between Iraq and Kuwait in an effort to avoid intervention by the United States or other powers from outside the Gulf region. Hussein broke off the negotiations after only two hours, and on August 2, 1990, ordered the invasion of Kuwait. Hussein's assumption that his fellow Arab states would stand

by in the face of his invasion of Kuwait, and not call in outside help to stop it, proved to be a miscalculation. Two-thirds of the 21 members of the Arab League condemned Iraq's act of aggression, and Saudi Arabia's King Fahd, along with Kuwait's government-in-exile, turned to the United States and other members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) for support. With the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait an allied response included U.S. President George H.W. Bush immediately condemning the invasion, as did the governments of Britain and the Soviet Union. On August 3, the United Nations Security Council called for Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait; three days later, King Fahd met with U.S. Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney to request U.S. military assistance. On August 8, the day on which the Iraqi government formally annexed Kuwait-Hussein called it Iraq's "19th province"-the first U.S. Air Force fighter planes began arriving in Saudi Arabia as part of a military buildup and was dubbed Operation Desert Shield/Storm. The planes were accompanied by troops sent by NATO allies as well as Egypt and several other Arab nations, designed to guard against a possible Iraqi attack on Saudi Arabia. About 697,000 U.S. troops took part in the war, with 383 losing their lives.

National Desert Storm War Memorial
So, you see that the building of our memorial is just important to us as the Vietnam war memorial is to Vietnam Veteran's, as to all War memorials are to each war. It's to remember our fallen. So, this Memorial trip has been happening every year since 2016 and will continue till we get our memorial built. If you are interested in our work, please visit <http://www.ndswm.org/>
This Memorial Day, remember how you got your freedom. Honor our Fallen...



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READERS RIDES RICHARD EASTMAN

My current motorcycle is a 2020 Harley-Davidson Road Glide Limited and its currently reading 54,731 miles on the odometer. The Road Glide has been a very capable machine for what I have put it through and hasn't let me down yet, therefore the next one will be the same make and model. Mechanically the bike is in stock form with some additions that let me see, be seen, and sit in the saddle all day or for multiple days; Klock Werks flare windshield, Custom Dynamics lighting, Denali Electronics lighting, and Wild Ass smart classic seat cushions.

I have ridden most of my life, it all started by sitting on the gas tank as a young child in front of my dad with my hands on the controls. My First street bike was a 79 Kawasaki KZ650 and progressed through several sport bikes; 86 Ninja 1000, 2008 Hayabusa; Then I bought my first Harley-Davidson, a 2013 Street Glide, next a 2015 Street Glide, and finally my current ride the 2020 Road Glide Limited.

I have always liked to ride, but what really pushed me into long distance riding was discovering the Hoka Hey Motorcycle Challenge. In 2017 I signed up for the 2018 event and I can say that I have ridden and finished in all of them since; 2018, 2020 and 2022 where I finished 10,000+ miles, traveling 2 lane roads, following turn by turn directions, and sleeping beside my bike. In just over 10 days I finished in the 22nd position as an Elite Rider. I'm looking forward to the 2024 Hoka Hey Motorcycle Challenge that will start in Teddy Morse's Daytona HD to Key West, FL to Homer Alaska. I also participate in the Tour of Honor, visiting veteran memorials around the country. I also enjoy riding in various charity events with the next one being the Monster 100 for Mile Monsters Inc. raising money for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. It's 200 riders, 100 days, 2 riders a day each riding 1,000 miles on their day.

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HOT RODS TOPICS

Hot Rods
 MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS
 SUICIDE PREVENTION FOUNDATION

May is MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS MONTH. It is the time of the year that is necessary to promote motorcycle awareness and should be on every bikers mind. Every club, non-profit, and riding associations should have an agenda to get the word out and help motorcycle riders in Michigan become safer and "Be Aware - Motorcycles are Everywhere!" Not only do we need to make the public aware but we as bikers need to get our machines and our skills ready for the riding season, just like pro-athletes who start getting prepared for their profession, it's time for us to do the same. Have your mind in the ride and your motorcycle inspected for the riding season before you go out and enjoy the great experience of breaking the wind in your face and enjoying life at its best. PLEASE do all you can to spread the word "Be Aware - Motorcycles are Everywhere!"

May 13th Hot Rods Motorcycle Awareness and Suicide Prevention Foundation will be hosting our Motorcycle Awareness Event. We will be at the corner of Platt and Main St. in Milan with yard signs, doing our part for motorcycle awareness in our community. We will also be getting our machines blessed and then going for a ride. If you are interested in our organization, "don't be shy and come on by." Check us out on Facebook or reach out to us at Hotrods. motorcycleawareness@gmail.com Always remember, Jason Waechter, the Motorcycle Lawyer, is the law firm in case of an accident. He'll get results for you, seriously.

HOT ROD BEATON
 President / Hot Rods Motorcycle Awareness and Suicide Prevention Foundation

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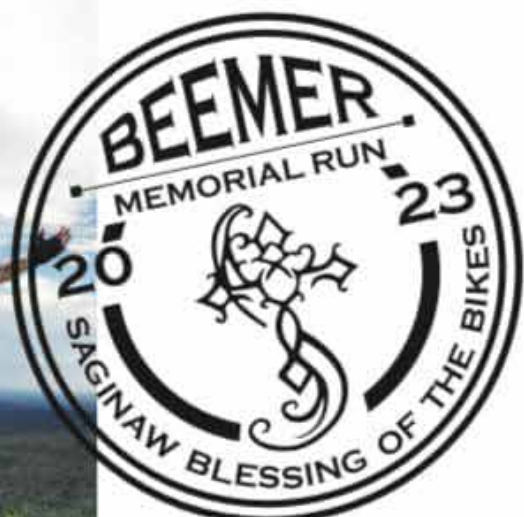
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2nd Annual Beemer Memorial Run

June 3rd, 2023 Saginaw, MI



- Blessing of the Bikes is at 10am
- Registration for the run starts immediately following the Blessing
- All bikes on the road by noon
- Dinner served at 5pm
- All cards must be turned in by 5:30pm

Location:



Starts and finishes at American Legion Post 439,
5190 Weiss St, Saginaw, MI.

This event was started in memory of our good friend, Loving Husband, Dad and Grandpa. Kevin Beemer loved Jesus and loved to ride, so what better way to honor him than to have a Blessing of the Bikes in his name and in his City. Immediately following the blessing we will have a poker chip run.
ALL BIKES WELCOME!

All proceeds this year will be donated to Kevin's son's college/trade school fund.

For more information, visit us on Facebook, www.facebook.com/groups/beermemorialrun

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Shout out to the Trials riders!

When I was a kid, I grew up on the back of my daddy's motorcycle (an old Kawasaki) I remember being so excited every time it was my turn (in the rotation of 4 of us kids) to get to go for a ride!! The conscious thought was always in my mind that I'm gonna get myself one of these things one day! It is truly one of the past times that I cherish, but even more so was the time we spent as a family, and with my dad at a track!



My father (Michael) didn't run motocross and it would have been rare to see him pilot a flat track bike, but he could walk his old Yamaha over logs and up the side of a mountain like it was nothing, my daddy was a trials rider.

Lately I've realized that we live in a very interesting State, Michigan has a little bit of everything, and a little bit of each season all in one location, making it the perfect setting for the off-road world! Michigan also happens to be home to M.O.T.A. (Michigan and Ontario Trials Association), a group of dirt bike enthusiasts from multiple trials clubs in the area who just really love what they do! Comprised of about six different clubs working together, and deeply rooted within the AMA, they have the bragging rights of holding some of the first national trials series in the United States. Over 55 years ago these clubs got together and officially brought the competition of this mostly European dominated sport to the states. Right here in this state we all call home!!



I guess this is as good a time as any to thank Dave a.k.a. Biff Knapp (Chairman for MOTA) for taking some time to chat about his passion with me! And of course, providing me with some updated information!



Dave explained that trials riding is a different kinda animal from the adrenaline seeking thrill of motocross and flat track! To quote him "trials is not something you seek out, it's something you discover once you're already out there!" To ride trials, you have to slow yourself down, it is a precision sport where you develop the skill to make very slow, pre-planned, balanced movements throughout a timed course, up rocks, over logs and other obstacles, all while not touching your feet to the ground or crossing boundaries to come out with the lowest score possible! (Points are monitored and given by the checker/aka reff)

It's strange to think of all the different kinds of dirt bike riding, Motocross, Flat Track, Hill Climb, Trail Riding, and so many more... all done on the same kind of machine, outfitted slightly different to perform the best for that niche..... But of all the different moto disciplines out there, let me tell you, trials is a whole different kinda thing! With the huge fly wheels, lighter stance, and super low speed torque these machines are capable of hopping, bouncing and even just outright jumping 4-6 feet in the air from a stand still without much difficulty!

Although the sport allows moto bikes of all shapes and sizes to give it a go, a true trials bike has a look all its own! No seat, very small gas tank, and weighs in at about 150 lbs. or so (its counterparts weighing upwards of 220+ lbs.). A trials bike is not built for speed but for very precise, agile movements, obstacles and "tricks", trials riding isn't a moto of 4-6 or so laps as fast as you can go, but more a full day of riding (6-8 hours) with your chosen family and friends cheering you on, while you all move together on to the next section of the course.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY TRAILS PROGRESSION

For being so little known in my area, the trials events have quite a following, with a turnout of up to 40+ riders per event, plus spectators, ranging in age from 8-80 years old. This sport is sure to give everyone attending a little something to cheer for!!

I'd like to invite all of you to follow me throughout the summer as I take Madcap Imaging and Thunder Roads® Magazine of Michigan on a ride through many of the different niches of off-road riding!

Make sure to check the M.O.T.A website www.motatrials.com to keep up to date on all their season's events!

Story by Erin Fay/Madcap Imaging

Photographer/Contributor with the assistance of Dave aka Biff Knapp



PHOTO PROVIDED BY ERNIE KNEPP



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OPERATION INJURED SOLDIERS



On March 25th, Operation Injured Soldiers had the opportunity to host an IFLY event with 10 Veterans which took place down in Novi MI. The OIS Riders greeted the veterans when they arrived, and the veterans had a chance to meet one another and mingle before putting on their flight suits. Before entering the classroom, everyone got suited up with the appropriate apparel, then settled into a classroom style informative instructional setting about the wind tunnel, how it works, hand signals, and how much time each person had to "fly". After everyone became comfortable with the instructions, they all entered a glass room attached to the wind tunnel. One by one each veteran entered the wind tunnel. All the spectators outside of the tunnel can see you fly, and the flyer can see everyone on the outside, some had family and friends who come to cheer them on. A trained instructor is inside the tunnel giving instructions to each person learning to fly. Each veteran got two flying experiences, with pictures and videos taken. All in all, it was a great adrenaline rush, and everyone had a blast. Later that same day we had another event to attend. The OIS Riders were asked by the MHRA to attend and help at their annual charity fundraising event of which we were chosen to be the beneficiary of the monetary donations. Fundraisers like this are what allow Operation Injured Soldiers to put on recreational events free of charge for the veterans. Planning for the Mackinaw Rally June 9-11, 2023 is still underway. The OIS Riders are also working hard on the Lyon Top ride July 8, 2023 in New Hudson, MI. Updates are getting closer to being released...Stay Tuned! Snowmobiles are put away; warmer weather has finally arrived and fun in the sun is on the agenda.



Jason Middleton
Director, OIS Riders
Board Member,
Operation Injured Soldiers
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JOKER'S WILD



Bubba and Earl were sampling their most recent batch of Shine, along w/ their most recent batch of reefer, sitting on the couch on the front porch, when a flatbed truck drove past and it was loaded up 3 stacks high with rolls of sod. Earl looks over at Bubba and says, "When I hit the lottery, that's exactly what I'm gonna' do!" Bubba looks around, sees the sod flatbed but replies, "Do wut?". Earl points at the flatbed and says, "Send my dang lawn out to git mowed, fool."

Captain Jack, a long time fishing boat Owner, walked into his fave nautical themed bar n' grill; the Tiki Hut, and sat down just as the 10pm news was coming on. He looked 2 barstools down at this good looking blonde and thought he'd have some fun. The news was covering a story of a man on a ledge of a very tall building and he was preparing himself to jump. The blonde looked at Captain Jack and said, "Do you think he'll jump?"

Captain Jack replied, "You know what, I bet he will, he looks determined to me." Blondie says, "Well, he looks a tad scared to me and I'll bet ya' \$50. that he won't do it." Just as Blondie placed her \$50. on the bar, the guy did a swan dive off of the building, thankfully falling into a mammoth net being held up by many firemen and volunteers. Blondie was very upset and handed her \$50. to Captain Jack, saying, "Oh well, fair is fair, here's your money." Captain Jack was a rogue but an honest one and replied, "I can't take your money, I actually saw this on the 5:00 o'clock news and knew that he would jump." Blondie looked directly at Captain Jack and said, "I did too, but I really didn't think that he'd do it again!" Jack took her \$50. and immediately ordered double shots of dark Rum for the two of them.

"Scrubs" texts his friend and neighbor: "Dawg", I'm sorry. I've been riddled with guilt and I have to confess. I have been helping myself to your wife when you're not around; probably more than you. I know it's no excuse but I don't get it at home. I hope you'll accept my sincerest apology. It will never happen again!" Poor old Dawg, feeling outrage and betrayed, grabs his gun, goes into the bedroom and without a word shoots his wife. Moments later Dawg gets a second text: "Sorry again Dawg, I really should spell check. That should have read "WiFi"

Lil' Joey saw that his Grandma took her dentures out every night and put them in a clean paper towel on her bedside table. He also knew that all his baby teeth had come out and he had received all the money he was ever going to get from the Tooth Fairy. He snuck into his Grandma's room after everyone was asleep and took just her upper denture and placed them under his pillow. Grandma had one eye on Lil' Joey (as she always did) and snuck in after he fell asleep and gently eased her denture back from under his pillow and left a note in their place. Lil' Joey woke up the next morning and was so excited to see if his little scam worked and just how much money was waiting for him. He yanked up the pillow and underneath was a note that read: Nice Try Lil' Joey, I have returned your Grandma's denture to her bedside table. You're smart enough to get a job before or after school, quit scamming kid. Love ya', Tooth Fairy -

4 Undeniable Facts:

1. We all love to spend money buying new clothes but we never realize that the best moments in life are enjoyed without clothes.
2. Having a cold drink on hot day with a few friends is nice, but having a hot friend on a cold night after a few drinks – Priceless!
3. Breaking News: Condoms don't guarantee safe sex anymore. A friend of mine was wearing one when he was shot dead by the woman's husband.
4. A debate over a girl's bust size is like choosing between Coors, Heineken, Corona, & Budweiser. Men may state their preference, but will happily grab whatever is available. Let's drink to that!

A wife, being a born romantic, sent her hubby a text:

"If you are sleeping, let me in your dreams.
"If you are laughing, send me your smile.
"If you are eating, send me a bite.
"If you are drinking send me a sip.
"If you are sad, send it to me and I will shed a tear for us both.

"I so love you, darling."
Her hubby, typically non-romantic, texted back:
"I am on the toilet. Please advise.



MAY 2023

May 6

17th International Female Ride Day
Sanford American Legion –
Ride for Fun!

2080 N. Meridian Rd.
Sanford MI 48657

Meet at 11:00, Kickstands up at Noon!

Abate Motorcycle Awareness Run
Abate of Michigan Region 18
Veterans Hall
2460 Blazer Rd.
Maybee, MI 48159
9AM-11:30PM

-Trials Event Hosted By: Mid-Michigan Trails Club
Vintage Trials
3266 North Ionia Rd.
Vermontville, MI
Start Time 12:00PM
Wwww.Motatrials.com

-1st Annual Blessing of the Bikes
Houghton Lake Chamber of Commerce
1625 W Houghton Lake Drive
Houghton Lake, MI 48629
10:30am - 2pm

-Blessing of the Bikes
Oil City Assembly of God
Short message @ 10:00 am
Praying for the bikes @12:30pm

May 7

-23rd Annual Blessing of the Bikers
Church of the Living Word
1100 N. Ovid Rd.
Ovid, MI

www.COTLW.ORG

All day Event: Arrive @ 9:30; Blessing @ 1:30
See Ad for details!

6th Annual Metro Detroit AMCA Motorcycle Swap Meet
Eastern Michigan Fairgrounds
751 S Almont Ave
Imlay City, MI 48444
9AM-3PM

Trials Event Hosted By: Mid-Michigan Trails Club
M.O.T.A. Championship Trials
3266 North Ionia Rd.
Vermontville, MI
Event Start at 11:00AM
www.Motatrials.com

Port Huron Motorcycle Club
Opening day 300ft Dirt Drags Test-n-tune
3376 Griswold Rd.
Port Huron, MI 48060
12PM-6PM

May 13

1st Annual Black and Yellow Picnic
Mallett Park
12000 Hubbell St
Detroit, MI 48227
11AM-5PM; Bike Blessing 2PM-4PM

Arsenal Harley-Davidson Swap Meet
4405 Highland Rd.
Waterford Township, MI 48328
10AM-3PM

AMA District 14 Flat Track Races
Owosso MotorSports Park
2504 W M-21
Owosso, MI 48867
Short Track Gates open at Noon; Practice at 5PM;
Racing at 7PM!

Blessing of the Bikes
American Legion Riders POST 141
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Howell, MI 48855-9601
11AM-4PM

Blessing of the Bikes
American Legion Post 351
46146 Cass Ave.
Utica, MI 48317
11AM-4PM

May 14

41st Annual Mother's Day Swap Meet and Bike Show
Midland County Fairgrounds
6905 Eastman Ave.
Midland, MI 48642
10am to 1pm
See Ad for Details!

AMA District 14 Flat Track Races
Owosso MotorSports Park
2504 W M-21
Owosso, MI 48867
TT Track Gates open at 8AM; Practice at Noon;
Racing at 2PM!

May 19

51st Annual Baldwin Blessing of the Bikes
Baldwin Municipal Airport
7038 S. M37
Baldwin, MI 49304
Starts Friday May 9th -Sunday May 21st.
Bike Blessing takes place on Sunday.

Harleys at the Dragway
Milan Dragway
10860 Plank Rd.
Milan, MI 48160

May 20

Blessing of the Bikes Grayling
Hanson Hills Recreation Area
Gates open @ 8AM; Ceremony @ 10AM

Motorcycle Riding Skills
Bay Cycle & GWRRA Chapter V
3800 S. Huron
Bay City, MI
Call for More Info 989-684-0754

May 21

14th Annual Antique Motorcycle Swap Meet &
Vintage Motorcycle Show
St Joseph County Fairgrounds
Centreville, MI 49032
9AM-4PM

Walneck's Motorcycle Swap Meet
Monroe County Fairgrounds
3775 S. Custer
Monroe, MI 48161
8AM-2PM

Trials Event Hosted By: Bent Fenders
Entrance Across From
7998 North Nichols Rd.
Flushing, MI 48433
www.Motatrials.com

American Legion Riders Bike Run
2200 S. Niagara St.
Saginaw, MI 48602
Sign up starts at 11AM
First Bikes out at Noon!

May 24

-Ghost Town Saloon Bike Night Kickoff
with Thunder Roads® Michigan Magazine!
6422 Pingree Rd.
Elwell, MI 48832
6:30 – 9:30
See Ad for Details

May 26

WTCM Country Campout
Tix & Info at www.WTCMCAMPOUT.COM
May 26th – May 29th
See Ad for Details

May 27

Bubba's 22nd Annual
Memorial Weekend Classic 2023
804 S. Huron
Linwood MI 48634
www.BubbasTriCityCycle.com
May 27th – May 28th
See Ad for Details

AMA District 14 -Valley Motocross
906 S Vickeryville Rd.
Stanton, MI 48888
www.valleymotocross.com
Signup opens at 7AM; Practice starts at 9AM;
Races after Practice!
May 27th 28th & 29th
Memorial Weekend Races!

May 28

"Remember & Honor" Car Truck & Motorcycle Show
33320 Kelly Rd.
Clinton Twp, MI 48035 (Macomb county)
10 AM-3 PM

May 31

ABATE of Michigan 2023 Freedom Rally
State Capitol
100 N Capitol Ave.
Lansing, MI 48933
12:00 PM

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Editor@ThunderRoadsMichigan.com.

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Baldwin, MI 49304
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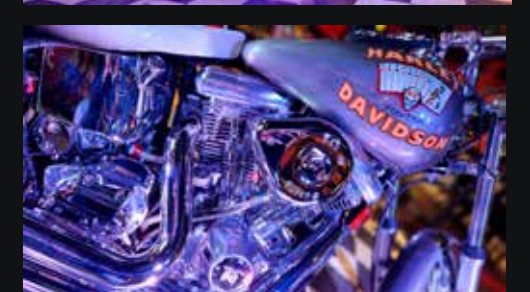


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