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October 2023 Volume 19 Issue 7

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***IN THIS ISSUE:*** WYLD STALLIONS MOTORCYCLE BUILD FINALE  
19TH ANNUAL FREEDOM FEST RECAP

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ON THE COVER

Model -Jen Dabrowski

Bike Owner -Jon Rytlewski

Jeep- “Woodchipper”

Owner Denise Denise

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LETTER FROM OWNERS

If you attended the 19th Annual Freedom Fest over Labor Day weekend you will probably agree that it was one of the largest attended weekends they have had in the past few years. And for good reason. Rich & Brenda, from the Iron Horse Bar & Grill have proudly promoted it as “Home to Michigan’s LARGEST Labor Day weekend bike run!” and it has lived up to that statement for many, many years. With the help of friends, family, and all the necessary sponsors, it lived up to it again this year. They have put their blood, sweat and tears into turning Akron, MI into the place to be and it still is. With the best count that could be done, we discussed that there were about 3,000 bikes and riders through Freedom Fest weekend in Akron this year. There were 170 registered riders on the charity run on Sunday and Old Barn Motorcycle Shop and CYCLE SAVAGE WORKS were able to raise a nice donation of \$2401.00 to hand off to the Tuscola County DAV. Check out that story a few pages into this issue.

Now, you may have heard that they have decided to bow out of running the 20th Annual Freedom Fest next year and are looking to hand over the reins in 2024. No, no the “IH” isn’t closing! There is a ton of history and memories that comes from Freedom Fest, and we are hoping that things get worked out in time with a new promotor or promotors. The IH has hosted some MAJOR bike weeks and weekends over the years on the streets of Akron and I know it wasn’t an easy decision for them to bow out, but they are ready for a change. At one time they said they had close to 1200 registered bikes and riders for the charity ride put on each year. Who remembers the streets being closed off and the cage fights that were put on? How about 7 hogs being roasted at one time to help feed everyone? Think about that! It takes a lot of time, work, volunteers, and sponsors to pull off an event like this and Thunder Roads Michigan Magazine will continue to support as long as we can.

It will be a new chapter next year during Labor Day weekend, but the IH will still be there taking care of us all when it comes to cold drinks and great food. They have supported the riding community for so many years and it’s no surprise that they are easily one of the top 5 ride stops in the state. They are a must for so many annual rides during the season. Almost every group or charity in the state has been to the Iron Horse Bar & Grill. So, with that being said, take a good look at some of the memories from this year on the next couple of pages of this issue and let’s hope for more next year. Thank you to everyone that came out and made the 19th Annual one to remember! We’d like to share our gratitude from the past and present TRM staff to Rich, Brenda, their family and to their staff for everything they did with Freedom Fest. We hope you find the time to refocus on your day to day and keep rocking it at the Iron Horse Bar & Grill for all of us bikers. See you soon!



~ RJ & Aly







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# BEN WEIRAUCH INTRO



Hello there,  
My name is Ben Weirauch aka "That bearded guy". I have lived here in Michigan my whole life. I have been on two wheels for just about 15 years, my first bike was a 1988 Honda shadow 600 with a 4-speed transmission. Once I made it through my first riding season I upgraded to a 2004 Yamaha V-star 1100 that started my love of baggers. After a few years of riding, I upgraded to a 2006 Harley Electra Glide with some fun motor work. I am currently riding my "Yacht" as I call it which is a 2017 Harley Road Glide that has a beautiful Laguna Orange paintjob. I started riding motorcycle to have a way to connect again with my father. We have taken many road trips together that have allowed us to see a lot of the east coast and we have tamed the Tail of the Dragon together. My passion for riding has allowed me to see so much of the USA and our great state of Michigan. My favorite time to ride is when I get to explore new places and try new food. I enjoy having my girlfriend or daughter riding with me. The quality time and relaxation with them is my happy place that allows us to create so many great memories.  
My hobbies in the summer consist of riding my motorcycle, fishing for walleye and perch, and taking photographs any chance I get. When the riding season is over you will find me out ice fishing to keep the freezer full and to relax.  
I have had so much fun working with Thunder Roads® Michigan Magazine at all this years events. I love to meet new people, and this opportunity allows me to interact with so many different people who all share a common interest. I have been enjoying being able to interact with the owners of some amazing bikes and take photos of everyone's machines. Thunder Roads® Michigan has been working hard to be a part of so many cool events in the state and I am so happy I get to be a part of the team.  
If you ever see me at an event or a ride, don't be shy, come say Hi. I love to meet new people and see the smiles that come with them. I look forward to meeting everyone and hope you enjoy the photos I contribute. Thank you and have a great day.



# WILD & THREE

When RJ asked us to represent Thunder Roads at the Third Annual 2 Wheel Tavern Labor Day Bike Rally, of course we said YES! We got to spend a holiday weekend Up North hanging out, doing some riding, and eating/drinking with friends.  
Driving north in the hectic holiday traffic used up a lot of Big Guy's patience. What is it about the "last holiday weekend of summer" that makes people turn into crazy drivers?? I was very preoccupied on the way up, holding my breath and clutching the armrests while chanting "the truck insurance is paid, the truck insurance is paid."  
On our way to the 2 Wheel Tavern in Wolverine, we made a small detour to Gaylord, and picked up some raffle prizes from Zip's Harley-Davidson. They very generously donated some great raffle gifts, including logo-branded tech wallets, two sets of crystal rocks glasses in wooden cases (also logo-branded), a flashlight, and a really cool wooden HD bottle opener branded with "120 years." A great big TRM thanks to Zip's HD and their crew—and extra special thanks to Linda, who came and hung out with us on Saturday. She also helped draw the winning tickets for the raffle.

We arrived at the 2 Wheel Tavern mid-day on Friday. That gave us plenty of time to work with the owners Debbie and Donna to get our TRM banner hung, the sponsor table set up.  
Turns out the Tavern had a dinner special; fish or shrimp dinners with coleslaw and fries. YUM! Just what weary travelers needed. We also enjoyed cold libations around the huge firepit. Honest, I've never seen a firepit so big that, instead of stoking it with regular wood, the staff fed those flames with full-sized wooden pallets!  
Once we were set up, we got to wander around and enjoy ourselves. A band performed Friday evening and two more music acts were scheduled for Saturday night—lots of people there relaxing and listening to the music.  
Teresa and Kimberly were working hard at the patio bar, and they were kind enough to teach me how to make a Jägerbomb [don't laugh, I've never had one] and educated me about Blanton single-barrel bourbon whiskey. Who says you can't learn things at a motorcycle rally?  
What an awesome weekend – and a great way to wind up the summer!





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# Smoke N' GearZ

## Fun in the Dirty Mitten and Surrounding States

Yoooo! Great to push another article out for October '23. It has been especially fun as the season starts to move towards Fall weather. This has forced some people out of the house knowing 30°-50° temps are coming and football season is starting. From Bikes On The Bricks, and MC annuals, to tail-gating parties that have us all moving around Michigan like birds flying south for the winter. I've had the opportunity to support so many club and civilian events this summer and it's been great to see everyone out there. Whether in-state or across our interstate's lines, it's nice to see the biker community rise above all the possible BS and made riding that much better in my eyes.

A show that I recently attended was the D.A.M (Detroit Antique Motorcycle) Show held in Mid-Town Detroit. 715 Milwaukee St. I don't know what I enjoyed more, the bikes in the show or the people who shared their stories with me. It was the 5th year of the show, and it did not disappoint. BIG UPs to Detroit Randy and the D.A.M Family/Detroit Scooter Bum Racing Team for the hospitality provided. People rode Antique bikes in from New Mexico, Washington State, Arizona, Texas, Grand Rapids, and Detroit. I saw plates from other areas too but didn't get to meet them personally. This event was color-blind in terms of people and clubs, and it was one of the coolest parts for me. A couple of the attendees were a father/



son duo there that brought bikes in from Grand Rapids and had some of the dopest machinery there. They shared that they needed a mirror on a bike for some of the states they like to ride through so, being an "asshole" in its truest sense, they put on the tiniest mirror that could be found. An antique dental mirror! They shared their story of a time in Florida, they were stopped by the fuzz and were about to

get a ticket for no mirror, but low and behold it was there. The microscopic dental mirror saved King G's son from a moving violation-lol. The man in blue had to give him a pass and the whole encounter turned out to be a conversation piece. There were a few choppers there that had nothing but history oozing out their tailpipes. I mean, you'd look at them and you just knew there was a classic story to go along with those slammed frames, skinny tires, and long Sugar Bear forks. "If it ain't long, it's wrong" (Sugar Bear).

Earlier this summer I took a trip over to Gary, Indiana for the 3D Ryderz Annual, and I had a time! There were hundreds of bikes/bikers there and no static. 317 MC had a good event in Indianapolis, IN called "Motorcycles on Michigan Ave" as well, and I was escorted by Nap Town's Boogie Down Chapter. Same



thing went for Lavish's event over at Boogie Down's Eastside Detroit Chapter in September. With everything going on and loving being outside, the weather cooperated and so did our scoots. I want to give a shout out to the Chicago's Next Level and Rare Breed MC chapters for pulling up on me while I was in their city; nothing but fellowship and good ole fashion shyt talking to past time. There are so many clubs/civilians that have shown luv all summer long that I can't name them all, but I appreciate each of them. In conclusion, all I can say is, "Treat the game with respect and usually the same is provided in return."

Whelp, as the football season has started it lets me know the fat lady has started to sing on two-wheeled activities in Michigan. So, I say, Go Big 10 nation!!

Throttle hands up-Shyydd!!!

Smoke





# SHIFTING SEASONS



Tomboys, Rednecks, Country... it doesn't matter what you call us, we are proud to be living our offroad lifestyle, and our worlds revolve around it! Our jobs, our families, our friends, our circle becomes a community of other off-road enthusiasts with a loyalty that you just don't see enough of in this world! This season I've watched



parents help other parents repair and improve each other's bikes with the very real possibility that in doing so the other kid might beat their own!!... I've watched adult riders, on opposite mottos, pull parts from their own machines to



share to another bike, just to keep their neighbor from the pits on the track, expecting nothing in return!! I've watched a group of people who have never met hook their generators together to power a welding machine to repair the frame of a quad in a field so the kids can compete the next day, and I've watched perfect strangers jump in the mud to help pull the truck out that got stuck, using their very own machines, so they can make another pass because the days just not over yet! This community shares fuel, they share parts, they share passion and together they show the next generation how to be a team and help each other out while still expecting them to give it their all! This season has been truly special to watch unfold.



The seasons of moto are measured a little differently than the traditional four seasons of the year. In the Michigan Moto world, there are really only two.... dirt and Ice!!

Although there are a few diehards out on the racetracks kicking up some roost as early as possible, and riding until it snows, my dirt season always begins and ends with the Mud Bogs at Big Bend Family Campground!! It is a bittersweet event that I look forward to each year!! With the kickoff of mud in mid-May it means that dirt season is in full swing. It's the time to get out and enjoy the Michigan Dirt events that

happen every weekend until mid-September. Then, that's when things begin to cool off and racing comes to an end for the off-road world.



I see a connection between all disciplines in the off-road world. Mud Bogs (although not considered motto) 100% fall within this category. I mean, is there a better way to kick off or end

our dirt season than with some mud flying fun?!?! The devotion and dedication that this group of people have for what they do rivals the passion I see and feel for the other off-road disciplines! The pride they have and share with each other when they make it through the mud pits, the bragging rights for their unique builds, and the time spent with their chosen family makes for an atmosphere that I am honored to be welcomed within and just love to be around!! The crowd of people who gather to see the powerful machines throwing mud in every direction get so excited you just can't help but cheer right along with them. It's addicting to watch these death defying builds power thru the muck, making a splash into the coming season!

The September Mud Bogs mark the end of summer break too. The cooler fall nights of campfires, hoodies, and hot chocolate are a staple of track life! This is the time of year that everyone goes back to school, and the dirt world is getting in those last few races of the season with the Monster Mash (Baja Acres), the ATV XC Quad Championship

(Valley Motocross), and of course the Spooktacular Halloween Weekend (Valley Motocross). I highly recommend checking out the October calendar before the tracks prepare to shut down in for the cold winter months.



I'd like to thank Big Bend Racing for having me out for their last bog of the season (I can't wait for their Ice racing series)! We look forward to the last few dirt track races and of course all the banquets to follow. It's always fun celebrating the season's accomplishments and months of hard work! Looking past the weird cold months approaching, don't forget to the kickoff to the Ice racing is the first Saturday in December at the Flint

Motorcycle Clubs Indoor Ice Race at the Dort Federal Arena in Flint Michigan!!

For the upcoming schedule of events please visit [AMA-d14.org](http://AMA-d14.org) or check the Thunder Roads® Magazine of Michigan calendar for other exciting upcoming dates!

**Story and Pictures provided by  
Erin Fay/Madcap Imaging Contributor/  
Photographer for Thunder Roads® Magazine of Michigan**





# THE MOTORCYCLE LAWYER ON THE LAW

## DEBUNKING THE RIGHT-OF-WAY MYTH: A TRIUMPH FOR MOTORCYCLE ADVOCACY

In the world of motorcycle litigation, the battle for justice often hinges on nuanced understanding of the law. It's a field where the smallest details can have the biggest impact, and where seasoned attorneys can make or break a case. One such attorney, Jason-The Motorcycle Lawyer, has not only debunked a persistent myth but also highlighted his 30 years of experience in motorcycle litigation.

### The Myth: Speeding Forfeits Right-of-Way

A common misconception perpetuated by some defense attorneys and insurance companies is the notion that motorcyclists give up their right-of-way when exceeding the speed limit by even a slight margin. This belief is rooted in specific Michigan motor vehicle law, MCL 257.649, which states that "the driver of a vehicle traveling at an unlawful speed forfeits a right of way that the driver might otherwise have". However, as Jason-The Motorcycle Lawyer meticulously demonstrates this status has its limits and doesn't apply to every scenario.

### The Nuance in the Law

To understand why this myth doesn't hold water in every case, we must delve into the intricacies of Michigan's traffic laws. At the heart of the matter is MCL 257.650, which governs the right-of-way when turning left at an intersection. This status requires the driver intending to turn left to yield to oncoming vehicles. It doesn't mention speed limits or the forfeiture of right-of-way due to speeding.

### Debunking the Myth

So, where does the myth fall apart? It crumbles when we realize that the law doesn't apply universally. In cases where a motorcyclist is traveling straight on a highway, and another vehicle makes a left turn across their path into a parking lot or residential address, the right-of-way status invoked by some defense attorneys doesn't hold. This is because such scenarios do not fit the definition of an intersection as outlined in MCL 257.22.

As Jason-The Motorcycle Lawyer points out, he has often found himself in facilitation sessions where defense attorneys attempt to argue that a motorcyclist gave up their right-of-way due to speeding. In these instances, he has been able to set the record straight by demonstrating that the right-of-way statute only applies at defined intersections.

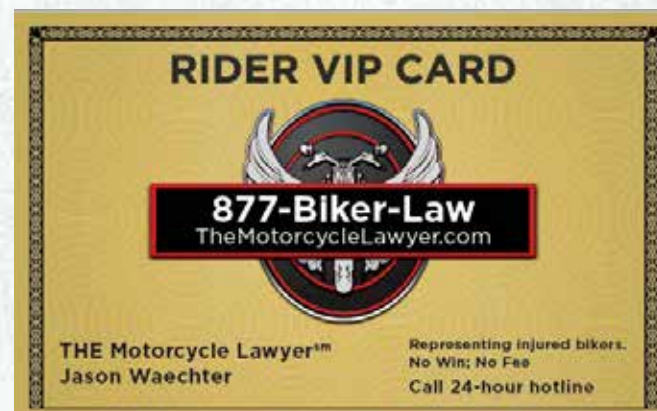
### A Testament to Experience

Jason's ability to navigate the nuances of Michigan's traffic laws and dispel misconceptions in the courtroom highlights the importance of experiences in motorcycle litigation. As he shared, even facilitators with decades of experiences have acknowledged the rarity of such a nuanced understanding among attorneys. His track record of successfully defending motorcyclists' rights when it matters most sets Jason-The



Motorcycle Lawyer apart from other firms.

In the world of motorcycle litigation, where the stakes are high, and every detail matters, having an attorney like Jason, who not only knows the law but can also correct the misconceptions, can be a game-changer for those seeking justice. The myth that speeding automatically forfeits right-of-way has been debunked, thanks to attorney Jason-The Motorcycle Lawyer, who brings both experience and expertise to the table.



Have you received card above at events or from dealerships? With it, you are my Rider VIP. You know our specialty is representing injured motorcyclists and their families after a wreck. Call our 24 hour injury hotline **877-Biker-Law** for a *free* case evaluation, legal representation, and *free* legal advice. We work no-win, no-fee.



Attorney Jason Waechter is nationally known as THE Motorcycle Lawyer<sup>SM</sup>. 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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## Old Barn Motorcycle Shop & CYCLE SAVAGE WORKS 2<sup>ND</sup> CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION OF 2023



We were so proud today to present a second check for \$2401.00 to the Tuscola County Veterans Affairs / DAV Division raised during the 19th Annual Freedom Fest in Akron, MI this year! The first check in the amount of \$2300.00 was donated earlier to the same organization from the proceeds of the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Beeter's Bike Show that was held in Sebewaing, MI. This was a community effort of volunteers at the events and the partnership of the sponsors. Thank you to Iron Horse Bar & Grill, Beeter's Brew Pub, CYCLE SAVAGE WORKS, Thunder Roads Magazine of Michigan, and all our helpers, vendors, and again all the volunteers. You all made this possible! I'd like to state and remind everyone that absolutely ALL the money raised at our events goes to benefit the LOCAL DAV division that provides much needed transportation for veterans. They are a true volunteer-driven organization, and we are proud to support them for everything they do.



*Pictured: Doc Horsch a Vietnam Veteran, John W. Boggs of the Tuscola County VA, RJ Calles of Thunder Roads® Michigan Magazine, Dave Tremonti of Old Barn Motorcycle Shop, & Shawn Miners of Cycle Savage Works.*

\*If you are a veteran or someone you know is a veteran that needs assistance applying for benefits, please contact your local county office. If you would like to speak to the Tuscola County Veterans Affairs you can reach them at 989-673-8148. Or, simply open the camera on your smartphone and hold it over the QR Code below.



*Dave Tremonti,  
Old Barn Motorcycle shop*

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# WYLD STALLIONS MOTORCYCLE BUILD



**W**e have a 2023 Wyld Stallions Motorcycle Build winner! Congratulations to Zack Jones of Low Roller Customs for taking home the WSMB trophy this year with his build named La Tanyas Revenge and all the spoils that came with it!! Well, not all of them... us at Thunder Roads Michigan have some special "custom" items and goodies coming his way too. All good things take time.

If you were at the Owosso Vintage Motorcycle Days, you know it didn't suck-lol. The weather was great, there were tons of smiling faces walking up and down S. Washington St., and all the eye candy lined up on both sides of the streets was well worth the trip. There was a great turnout of bikes and people! To say that the Wyld Stallion Motorcycle Build was a success would be an understatement. Plus, you just can't beat the small town feel it has and the buzz of people that showed up waaay earlier than I would have ever thought to. It was a big deal! As soon as the tents were up, and bikes started lining up for the competition people were hanging out snapping pictures and asking questions. I believe that there were 289 votes placed for the builders in a matter of two hours!

When speaking with Derek Long, the originator of the Wyld Stallions Motorcycle Build (WSMB) throughout the day and after the show, he said that he was more than happy with how the first motorcycle build competition had gone. I couldn't agree more and so did the Owosso Vintage Motorcycle Days staff. I'm not sure they expected that boys! It was something fresh and



it blended so well with the history of the event. No question you guys brought people into Owosso that day. My hat is off to Derek and all the builders that stuck with it until the end. You showed up! Not just in the literal sense, but for taking the build by the horns and bringing all of us along with you. In my eyes you did what you envisioned, and I believe you can call yourself professionals. You accepted the challenge, and you showed up that morning. Thank you for letting Thunder Roads Michigan be a part of your journey this year and sharing your ups and downs, the roadblocks, and of course the successes along the way. We hope to see you all again in 2024 for the 2nd Annual. Did I say that? I can only assume, but we'll get the word from Derek in a moment, as I invited him to share some thoughts after me.

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Again, I applaud you all. Yes, all of you. You attempted something you've never done before and respect that. Win or not. Keep challenging yourself and keep doing what you're doing.

Thanks, are necessary to Rob at Grease Rag Customs too! You were never too far away when you were needed, and we have to say thank you for hosting the open house after the show. No pictures – no proof! – Lol.

Here's an additional insert shared by Derek Long of the WSMB.

Conclusion of 2023 Wyld Stallions Motorcycle Build  
"Zack took home the Golden Stallion, and he will hold onto it 'till next year when it will be up for grabs again.

continued...







Thank you to our sponsors! Without them this show could've never been such a success."

As stated by RJ, without the build sponsors and including the team at Thunder Roads® Michigan Magazine, we couldn't thank all of you enough. Your support really gave me the confidence and drive to really put this all together. For this being the first year and not knowing how my idea from the beginning would be received, I believe it went surprisingly well. The reception to me was tremendously positive, and I thank the other builders that took this ride with me. Another go is a must for me, and I'm looking into ideas for my next build. The ability to bring more people with the passion of riding and wrenching together is something I look forward to. Especially, to see the hidden talent come out of someone that may not know that they have it in themselves is a great sight. So, with that being said we are currently looking to build the roster for the Wyld Stallions Motorcycle Build Competition 2024. So, if you, yes you!... Have a project that you keep meaning to get to, then this could be your opportunity to get it done. Ready to see what you're made of and to show it to the world? Well, jump in and follow our page on Facebook and shoot us a message. Let's put the doubts aside and build some killer bikes, make some memories, and have a killer time doing it.

~ Derek Long, Wyld Stallions Motorcycle Build



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# RETURN TO THE CARO 1/2 MILE

In the late morning on a cool, overcast August day, bikes rolled onto the Caro half mile for the first time in over a decade. The weather had caused a short delay, rain had been pounding the track all week leading up to the event. Three days before the event, race promoters and I stood ankle deep in mud on the front stretch discussing what to do about the track with fellow Holeshoot Promotions founder Joe Boulis. Jeff Blakely arrived early that week with his Dually and we began the extensive process of prepping the track. This task would take countless people and vehicles to wheel pack and spike the over saturated half mile. The preparation of the track was the last major task to complete before the Return to the Caro 1/2 Mile could take place. Almost an entire year of planning and organizing was about to bring to life the biggest race that Caro had ever seen. Over 50 local businesses had contributed in some way and would be featured on banners displayed all over the fairgrounds. Vendors lined the midway while the Caro Lions Club sold food for the fans. A Bounce house treated kids during what little down time there was.



164 riders signed up to race in 17 different classes. Riders came from all over Michigan, and even a few from Canada, including the Canadian National Champion, Dominic Beaulac. He would put on a great show with local rider Skylar Sentell. Skylar took home the \$500 cash prize provided by J & M Logging, for winning the 4-lap dash for cash that saw the top 6 riders from the pro/am class called the combo class race. Skylar was giving Dominic a great battle for the lead in the final, but a mechanical issue led to Skylar calling it a day early. While all the racing was taking place a drone captured the spectacle from above. MadCap Imaging was there to document all the great moments with fantastic pictures of the day.

Some of the highlights of the day were the great battles put on by the 50cc pw and the 50cc multi-speed riders. The youngest of the riders provided some of the best racing of



the day, with a new rider leading every lap. Three and four wide battles all around the track lead to close racing and exciting finishes in both of those youth classes. All the youth riders were able to race for free this weekend thanks to the generous donations and it was great having that kind of support.

Jon "JJ" Sams taking a few laps around the Caro half mile brought tears to many eyes that day as well. JJ was a phenomenal rider and great presence at the track. A few years ago, JJ was paralyzed from the waist down from a racing accident and has been working with Morgan Monroe of Morgan's Place, and he is making great strides in recovery. His being able to ride that bike around the track made all the hard work put into the race worth it. Other Mentionable Highlights were the great performances by the local riders Aaden Savage, Addison Clink, and Fletcher Vaughn. All three Caro riders won their respective classes, giving the home crowd something to cheer and go home happy with. The final highlight of the day was the amazing turnout. The total turnout for rides was the highest at a D14 flat track race all season. The track was absolutely amazing. With the consistency of a dirt road, the grove allowed



for great drives out of the corner. Thanks to the overcast and cool temperature the moisture stayed in the track and allowed riders to move around and find traction all over.

The Return to the Caro 1/2 Mile was the first Race for Holeshoot Promotions, but thanks to the support and help of the district and other flat track loving clubs and fans, the race felt like a professionally ran race. It takes so many people to make the race happen. Steve Vaughn of Big Bend Family Campground showed up on race day with a starting light and some extra flags. Steve ended up working turn 2 with Bob Knapp. Speaking of Bob, he has been a rider rep and associated with Lucky Thumb.



Lucky Thumb Motorcycle Club helped teach me all year, letting me attend meetings, work races, ask questions and just learn. Then on race day they showed

up and when asked to cover they jumped right in. Shawn, Jenna, JJ, and Meagan. Lucky Thumb was there to make sure the racers had a race.

Another person who allowed me to learn from them was Brad "The Bullet" Baker. He too showed up on race day with a starting line board for the starting girl.

Boulis Racing, the next generation, worked with me from the start. Joe, Rob, Brett, and Dani all worked hard with the riders to make sure their wants and needs were being conveyed on and before race day.



Another one of the old Boulis Racing crew, Dan Miller, who still has ties and announces for the Flint Motorcycle Club Indoor Ice Race every December, was our announcer. And some of the

most skilled and experienced scorers in D14 Flat track made sure the riders' final positions were recorded correctly.

Even the Polka Dots M/C played an unintentional role. Our National Anthem Signer's mom grew up in the club.

The race would not have happened if not for Tab Bennett. Tab works with D14 and was there on race day with our home base. A giant rig with Zach Bennett's picture lined the inside



of the front stretch and gave all our volunteers a great headquarters. With out Tab and the districts computer and program The Return to the Caro 1/2 Mile does not happen.

I was blown away by all the clubs and promoters who were there and helped make the Caro 1/2 mile a success. The following businesses and supporters donated time, money, items, blood, sweat, and even some tears to make the race come true.



continued...





Return to Caro 1/2 Mile	
08/26/2023	
Race Results	
0-51cc Pw Shaft	
Finish	Number
1	40
2	5
3	20
4	85
5	3
Return to Caro 1/2 Mile	
08/26/2023	
Race Results	
401 Open Vintage 1988 old	
Finish	Number
1	30
2	09v
3	20
4	32
5	19
6	99s
7	27x
8	56
DNF	05h
DNS	42

Return to Caro 1/2 Mile	
08/26/2023	
Race Results	
0-51 Multi Speed	
Finish	Number
1	1n
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4	20
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6	93
7	23
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10	6

Return to Caro 1/2 Mile	
08/26/2023	
Race Results	
450 Sportsman	
Finish	Number
1	74
2	42
3	41
4	86
5	7x
6	050
7	85
8	23
9	1x
10	36
DNF	31

Return to Caro 1/2 Mile	
08/26/2023	
Race Results	
Combo Class	
Finish	Number
1	30
2	93
3	77
4	42
5	68
6	79
7	96
8	107
9	56x
10	100
11	30x
DNF	60
DNF	37

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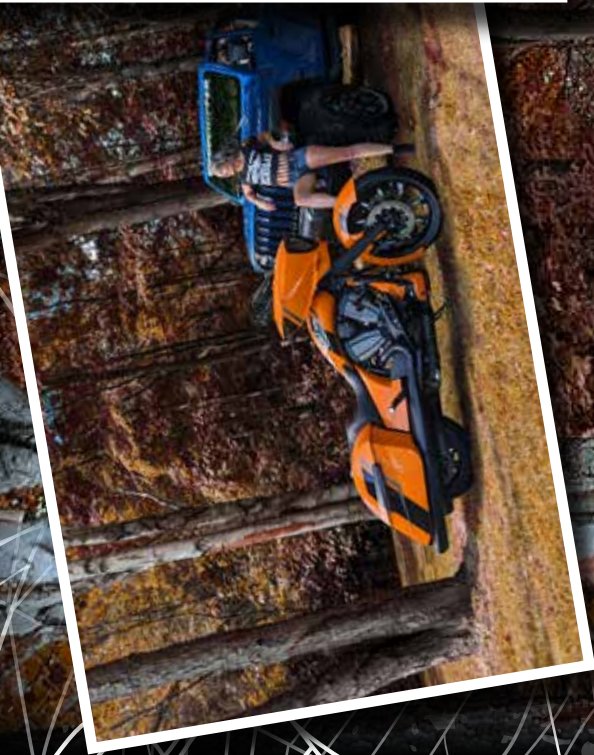
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8	9 Columbus Day	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 49TH ANNUAL KALAMAZOO MOTORCYCLE SWAP MEET & BIKE SHOW	30	31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN	1	2	3	4



# THE FALL IS UPON US

Well, the fall season is upon us, and that means it's getting cooler, and the deer are out. With fall comes the beauty of leaves changing and ultimately falling on the roadways, and a few other dangers of riding. Fall can be some of the most enjoyable rides but also some of the most dangerous. So, as we prepare for the fall riding season, dress for the weather in your area and remember that you can always take off layers at midday and put them back on in the evening. Also, be prepared to see a few more animals out there since they are also preparing for the winter months. Some of the best riding and therapy for us veterans are riding our bikes late in the season as a time to reflect. There are so many beautiful places to see the color changes of the trees and still enjoy a brisk ride. It can help us and, in a way, force us to remember to have the right mind set before the ride so you will make it back alive. This is also the time where some of us have already begun or have finished preparing our motorcycles for the winter. If you store them and don't plan to ride during the winter months, make sure you have a reliable trickle charger and treat your fuel in your tank with a stabilizer. For those that plan to do necessary maintenance or upgrades to your motorcycles during the winter, best of luck. Whatever you have planned, make sure you take the time to properly store it yourself, or schedule it with your local shop so that your bike is ready for the winter months. Yes, in Michigan we don't have the privilege of riding year around and some will hold out till they put the "first salt on the road" which is great but remember riding after that requires a really good cleaning of your bike. Sitting with any of it on your bike through the winter will speed up any chance of rusting. October is a great month to get those last rides in but be careful and always be prepared so that you can enjoy the ride. Hell, there are some veterans out there that even like to ride till snow falls and continue to enjoy every minute they can.

I do worry about our veterans daily. It's a lot to handle each day, with the high prices for gas, food, or just to get to their appointments can become an issue. Just know that there are resources available, so please don't be too proud or hesitate to reach out and ask for help. We as veterans are proud people, and we tend to not ask for help till it's too late. As a veteran myself, I am asking you to reach out to another veteran, or an organization that can help you

with anything you may need. The mu articles have so many references for help. The new number is "988" don't wait till it's too late. The support team is there for every one of us, we just need to reach out to our brothers and sisters, they are also our support system. For many of us here in Michigan the riding season is our therapy, as it comes to an end, we will need to rely on each other to make it through the colder months. There are so many things that we as veterans can do for each other. There are still many events and things to do as it gets cooler, take time to get out and participate or volunteer. These next few months don't have to be the time we go in too deep. We can change it and if you need help just reach out and ask.

We are proud Americans and Veteran's, and we only want what is best for the United States of America so go out and volunteer and get involved. If you have an issue that you think needs to be addressed don't hesitate to write/call your representatives on all levels and let them know what you are feeling. Participation is the only way we can make positive changes for the better and to make our opinions known.

If you need anything, don't hesitate to reach out to the many organizations out there that are available, both locally or nationally and get help. Remember we are all in this together and here for each other.

Let's work together by being there for each other and America. God Bless you & the U.S.A.


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## CHARLIE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER: THE ROAD TO FORGIVENESS

Beloved riders, as we journey down the winding roads of life, throttling the powerful engines that roar beneath us, there is a path that not all find easily navigable—the path of forgiveness.

We live in a world of exhilaration and speed, where the power of a Harley Davidson or a street bike represents freedom and courage. But as riders who embrace the open road, we must also embrace the Christian understanding of forgiveness, an attribute as timeless and boundless as the landscapes we traverse.

The bike you ride is not just a machine; it's a symbol of strength and resilience. It faces the elements, the rough terrains, and the unexpected turns, much like our own hearts as we face the trials and tribulations of life. But in these challenges, my dear friends, lies the opportunity to discover the essence of forgiveness.

Jesus once said, "Forgive, and you will be forgiven." These words echo down the centuries, reverberating in our hearts as riders who understand the importance of brotherhood and compassion.

Imagine a fellow biker who may have wronged you on the road or perhaps in life. The initial response might be anger or resentment, but as followers of Christ, we are called to take the higher road. It's the path of forgiveness, a road less traveled but filled with peace and redemption.

The Apostle Peter asked Jesus how many times he should forgive someone who sins against him. "Not just seven times," Jesus answered, "but seventy times seven." This wisdom, my riding companions, is a call to an endless and profound journey of forgiveness.


In the community of bikers, loyalty, respect, and a sense of brotherhood reign supreme. We know the thrill of the ride, the wind in our faces, and the bond that connects us. We also know the weight of grudges and the chains that unforgiveness can place upon our souls.

Just as you maintain your bike, tuning it to perfection, maintaining its glory, and making sure every part is in harmony, forgiveness allows you to maintain your soul. It's a release from the shackles of bitterness, an oiling of the gears of love and compassion.

Remember, dear riders, that Christ forgave us first, even when we were undeserving. It's a message that resonates in the roar of our engines and the camaraderie we share on the open road. We, too, are called to forgive, knowing that it's not a sign of weakness but a mark of divine strength.

Next time you mount your bike and feel the pulsating life within it, reflect on the power of forgiveness. Let it guide you down the highway of life, knowing that the one who forgives not only sets a prisoner free but discovers that the prisoner was themselves.

Keep riding, keep loving, and keep forgiving, for in forgiveness we find our true freedom, the same freedom that we feel as we ride along the endless roads under the watchful eyes of our Creator.



May the road rise to meet you and may the wind of forgiveness always be at your back.

Blessings and safe travels,

Chaplain Dean Titus (Charlie)

Sanford American Legion Riders #443



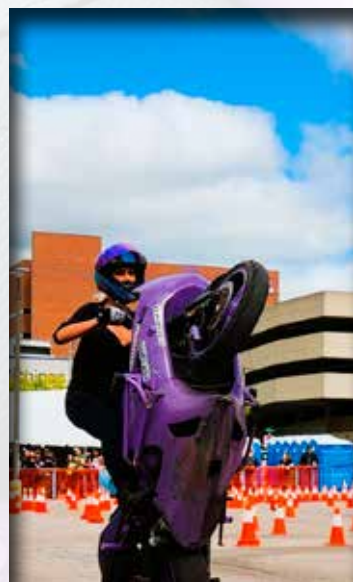
# Christina Billings

## aka CRASHTINA

If you attended the 16th Annual Bikes On The Bricks in Flint, MI in September you probably witnessed one or more of the awesome stunt shows put on by Christina Billings aka Crashtina and her team on Saturday and Sunday. They shared the police competition "flat lot" with the Tim Dyson DMX Ramp to Ramp Show and both teams actually performed at the same time and have spectators some great photo ops.



Prior to the Bikes On The Bricks weekend, we were fortunate to make an online connection with Christina before she began her trip from Jacksonville, NC to Michigan. She was kind enough to agree to meet with us before her first show on Saturday if we could get there in time. That morning was one of their four shows that were scheduled over the weekend. We knew that we'd be cutting it close because we were attending the HUGE annual ride in from Vehicle City Harley-Davidson to Bikes On The Bricks. Unfortunately, as things typically go for us (me) I was running a little behind, but we were able to make it just in time as they were getting ready to go and after a quick introduction, we managed to get a few photos together.



As soon as we got there, we could tell that they were ready to go! We didn't have enough time to do an interview at that moment, so we agreed to do catch up later.

We were more than happy to lean on the fence along with everyone else and enjoy the show. When they had finished, we all gave a well-deserved applause to Cristina,



her teammate Ryan, and their emcee Casey for the awesome show that they had just performed. The same morning, we were scheduled to help the local HOG Chapter from Flint at the 120th Harley-Davidson Demo Truck for the day, but we managed to stick around long enough to witness the audience gather at their tent for autographs afterwards. They took the time to meet with fans and we could tell they had just made some new ones.

After getting set up at the H-D Demo Truck by the Flint River Bridge, we had quite the line of demo riders building, but unfortunately, we were only able to get one group out to ride. After much conversation, the demo rides were officially called off due to safety reasons revolving around the amount of people and bikes in the area. So, we took some time to eat some lunch and I wandered off to go look around a bit. As I got closer to main event area, I could hear what I thought was a rev limiter doing its job and could smell the rubber burning... good timing! Thinking back



maybe I was trying to listen for a rev limiter... not sure if I really did. It could have been anyone of the hundreds of bikes going up and down the street at the time. Anyway, the sound got my attention and I stopped to watch as red smoke filled the air from the stunt show area. There was a much larger crowd than the earlier show and they were roasting their rear tires up and down the fence line for everyone to enjoy! I joked with the guy next to me about how they must blow a rear tire at times because they weren't exactly trying to save them... then boom there

continued...





it goes! I missed it! I left for a minute and the guy that I was speaking to said it was funny because we just spoke about it, and it happened. Later, in my talk with Christina and Ryan they mentioned that they were fortunate that Ryan worked at Tire Country back home, and how thankful they are for their sponsors. One being Shinko Tires, the company that makes the tires that appear black but release colorful smoke as they heat them up during burnouts on their favorite stunt bikes. One of Christina's stunt bikes is a 2015 Harley-Davidson Iron which we didn't get to see during their show in Flint because it's getting some needed maintenance work done. Along with her Iron she performs on a 2004 Kawasaki 636 and so does Ryan. They both said that the 636's are known for being one of the best bikes to turn into a stunt bike. I 100% believe them and for good reason. They were not taking it easy on them as they happily entertained the crowd at their bikes' expense.

They shared how they have traveled around the United States to do shows at different dealerships, charities, and how Christina had even travelled all the way to Malaysia to perform. Over the numerous years they have performed together, they said they had to give thanks to their sponsors that have helped them along the way, like Hotbodies Racing, Lejeune Motorsports and Ryans employer Tire Country because they couldn't do it otherwise.

When I asked about their favorite places or events that they have performed at, they didn't hesitate to say, "We had some of the most



fun at Bikes On The Bricks" and it has become one of their new favorites. When I asked why, they said "It was because everyone was so laid back and friendly." I felt the same vibe when we bumped into Christina and Ryan later that night as they were hanging out by the music tent watching the band. Good vibes! Another one of their other favorite mentions was close to home at Myrtle Beach Bike Week.



Going back to our conversation, I asked if they could bring awareness to something that means a lot to them, what would it be? Christina told us about an event they have been a part of for about 10 years called Beauty and The Beast where she performs twice a year for St. Jude Children's Hospital in their hometown. I wanted to learn more about it, so I looked it up online and there she was on her Sportster shredding tires and lighting fires. Literally!



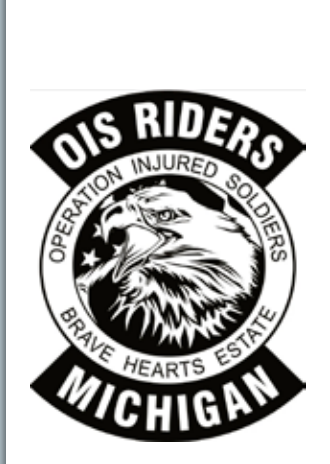
They have done a lot of shows together and typically Ryan is right beside Christina for most of them. All while he continues to hold his employment at Tire Country. Christina said that Tire Country has been amazing and mentioned her heart felt gratitude for all they do with maintaining her bikes.

Still, with all the time on the seat and all the shows they perform, I was surprised to find out that they were still travelling an hour away from home just to get in their practice riding. That's how you become a professional stunt rider boys and girls!

Thank you to Team Crashtina for spending some time with us and putting on such an amazing show!

~RJ





# Operation Injured Soldiers

As usual, the OIS Riders have been out making new friends while riding and looking forward to future events. It has been nice to be able to get out and support other motorcycle rides and events. The OIS Riders are a group of veterans and non-veterans who ride motorcycles, ATVs, and snowmobiles. It's all about getting them outside and enjoying one another in the great outdoors and recently some of the OIS Riders took a trip to Best Bear Lodge & Campground, which is close to Irons, MI. We rented Razors for 48 hours and went out exploring the trails. What a blast! We had a great time riding during the day, but we also did some riding at night. The campground has cabins, and RV's you can rent, or you can bring your own RV, or tent to camp in. They have rentals available right on sight for side-by-sides, and slingshots. The trails are groomed and well-marked and you can ride right to the gas station or even stop at one of the local bars to have some lunch. This campground's location is in the heart of the Manistee Forest and has direct access to the trails. The staff was warm and friendly, and all-around great hosts! We are looking forward to putting together another trip soon.

Over Labor Day Weekend some of the OIS Riders went to the Lavish Biker Bash & Sound Competition at Arsenal Harley Davidson in Waterford, MI. Congratulations to Mike for taking First place for the Modified Rider award Lightweight class. They had some beautiful weather and a great turnout!

Bikes on the Bricks is another popular event that some of the OIS Riders got together and rode out to enjoy. What an incredible turnout! So great to see so many motorcycle enthusiasts come together. Fun Times! Hopefully the weather holds out and we can enjoy a few more good riding days before the colder part of the fall season arrives.

Jason Middleton  
Director, OIS Riders  
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# READERS RIDES Rachelle E. Ellsworth, MI

Motorcycles are dangerous!! We don't allow those in our house!! Something that had resonated through my entire life as a child and had been cemented as my career unfolded to being a full-time paramedic. All of that seemed to get thrown out the window after I married into a Harley family back in 2017. It was a jump on the crazy train or miss out on a lot of fun and adventures. At first, I found it difficult to embrace, but before I knew it, I had caught the bug! My son soon stole my back seat, and it was either learn how to ride, or get left home, and miss out on ice cream. I started out on a Yamaha 250 Enduro, and the year later my late husband gifted me my 1996 Heritage Softail for Mother's Day! She was a tad rough around the edges, didn't have a speedometer, and we guessed that her mileage was around the 40,000-mile mark. I spent a couple of years getting comfortable with her, and we finally decided that in the winter of 2021 we would take her apart and rebuild her. Well, life seems to like throwing curve balls, and my husband passed away early that fall. At first, I decided that I was just going to leave her be, but we had made so many plans! I couldn't let them go. So, with some help from friends, Bad Dad, Hoggers Customs, and Frankie Serrano, *White Lightning* came to life.

We've had some great adventures so far, the last being our trip to Milwaukee this summer for the HD anniversary. We were both drowned multiple times by tsunami rains, rode the ferry, and made many new friends. A memory that I can look back on and smile.

While *White Lightning* still needs a few finishing touches, I look forward to attending more bike shows and taking adventures in the upcoming years.

I look back and am thankful for the love that was started in me for this way of life. I have made friends that have turned into family, visited places that I had never been to, attended events that make a difference, and found a great way to melt off the stress of life. Because of motorcycles, I have had the ability to give back to the community myself, by co-founding DYSUN (Do You See US Now), a 501(c)(3) that raises awareness for distracted driving and gives back to families and individuals that have been affected by it.

So, while I still am frequently reminded by my family that motorcycles are dangerous. I hope that everyone can find something in their life that brings as much joy to them, as the open road and *White Lightning* brings to me.



# THUNDER ROADS® MICHIGAN







Hey, everyone! Here I am again bringing you more from the Abate world. If you think that things are going in our favor as motorcyclists, I NEED you to Study this and research as much as you can. If your insurance company tells you are fully covered, they are not telling you the whole truth. This is a write up by Dondi Vesprini, an Abate supporting attorney and an Abate member that is working hand in hand with us to get the laws changed.

Have a great day Michigan! Let the wind blow in your hair and the sun shine on your smile. Ride safe, ride free. – Merry Garrett

### Shiftin' Gears

I hope everyone has been having an enjoyable summer. It has been a continued effort in Lansing to right the wrongs that no fault reform has done to motorcyclists in depriving us of our own choice of no-fault medical expense cap and instead handcuffing us to the no fault medical expense cap chosen by the motor vehicle involved in the accident. The fight continues in Lansing to rectify this and urge legislators to pass a bill echoing that which I drafted formerly known as HB 4809, as I continue to represent injured motorcyclists who are feeling the effects of what no fault reform did to them, in many cases being situations where the injured motorcyclists' medical expenses have exceeded the medical cap of the involved motor vehicle that the motorcyclist is handcuffed to, resulting in the motorcyclist having to pay medical bills out of their own pocket or out of their pain and suffering settlement. This continues, as it should, to be the first priority in Lansing in an effort to give motorcyclists their own choice in no fault medical expense caps just like operators of motor vehicles, bicyclists, pedestrians, operators of off-road vehicles enjoy. This is an important fight worth having, just ask any injured motorcyclist who has been stung by this law, and I continue to urge your support in contacting your legislators to achieve equality for motorcyclists. It has also been an interesting Summer in the Michigan Supreme Court as it considered the issue of whether no fault reform's 2019 limitations on in-home family- provided attendant care and new and reduced fee schedules that medical providers that treat no fault patients must abide by could be applied to a claimant seeking no fault benefits under their no-fault insurance policies that had been issued prior to the 2019 no fault reform.

In the case of Andary v USAA, the plaintiff 's had been

injured in auto accidents prior to 2019 and had been receiving no fault benefits under auto insurance policies purchased by family members of which they were covered persons per the terms of the policy. Up until no fault reform took effect in 2019, they had been receiving no fault benefits under the auto insurance policies and laws then in effect which among other things provided for uncapped lifetime medical expenses, including attendant care benefits. In Andary, the plaintiff 's argued that by retroactively applying the 2019 no fault reform laws to them would violate their rights. In a resounding victory for those who were both injured prior to the 2019 effective date of the no fault reform laws and had been claiming no fault benefits under auto insurance policies of which they covered persons under the terms of the policy, on July 31, 2023 the Michigan Supreme Court held that the plaintiff 's "rights to the PIP (no fault) benefits at issue in this case were both contractual and statutory in nature, and the 2019 no-fault amendments did not retroactively modify their vested contractual rights." The Court went on, "Accordingly, PIP benefits under a no-fault insurance policy remain binding postinjury as to the individuals covered by the policy unless clearly and retroactively invalidated by the Legislature." The Court cited insurance law for the proposition that "It has long been the rule in Michigan that for insurance purposes the rights and obligations of the parties vest at the time of the accident. For purposes of a no-fault policy of insurance, this means that neither the insured nor the insurer can unilaterally change the terms of a policy after a covered accident occurs. The scope of PIP benefits under an insurance policy vests at the time of injury. Andary's and Krueger's rights to PIP benefits under the applicable no-fault insurance policies vested, at the latest, when their injuries occurred, and they first became eligible for PIP benefits. That was also when the insurers' legal obligation to pay PIP benefits for all reasonable and necessary medical expenses at the statutorily mandated minimum level, as incorporated into the insurance contract, was triggered." While there is no doubt that this decision serves as a major victory for injured motorists, the Court would not go so far as to apply its decision to motorcyclists injured prior to the 2019 no fault reform date, who are claiming no fault benefits from the auto insurance policy of the motor vehicle involved in the accident. As you may know, when a motorcyclist is involved in an accident with a motor vehicle, the motorcyclist claims his/her no-fault benefits from the insurer of the owner or registrant of the motor vehicle involved in the accident. This means that a motorcyclist's claim for no-fault benefits in this situation is purely statutory, as the motorcyclist will not be an insured or covered person under the terms of the motorists' auto insurance policy. The Court specifically noted "Our decision is limited to those individuals, like Andary and Krueger, who are entitled to PIP benefits because they were directly covered by a no-fault insurance policy at the time of their accident either as the named insured or as a covered

individual under the policy. We do not decide whether individuals who have a purely statutory claim to no fault PIP benefits, such as under MCL 500.3114(4) or MCL 500.3115, are entitled to the same protections.

Pursuant to Andary then, anytime the owner, operator, or registrant of the involved motor vehicle has insurance, since it is that insurance that is responsible for the motorcyclists no fault benefits per statute, the motorcyclist would not be grandfathered into the old no fault law. Under current law, a motorcyclist is only allowed to claim no fault benefits from his OWN auto insurer if the owner, operator, or registrant of the motor vehicle involved in the accident has no insurance. Only under that circumstance, as the motorcyclist would be claiming benefits from his own auto policy, if the accident occurred prior to no fault reform effective date in 2019, would he/she be grandfathered in under the old no fault law just like the plaintiffs in Andary were. While this decision signals a blow to the oppressive no-fault reform we are all now living under, it also amplifies the need to get our insurance bill mentioned earlier passed in Lansing. If our bill (formerly known as HB 4809) that I drafted were passed, it would require that an injured motorcyclist's no-fault benefits be paid by the motorcyclist's own auto insurance right from the start. In that circumstance, not only would the motorcyclist get the benefit of the medical expense cap he/she chose for himself/herself, but any motorcyclist injured before no fault reform's effective date in 2019 would be grandfathered in under the old no fault law because his/her no fault claim would be coming as the insured or covered individual under his/her own policy!

I will continue to beat the drum for the passage of our bill as it is critical to the well-being (both physically and financially) to everyone who operates a motorcycle in our State and I implore you to contact your legislators to get this fixed, as the next motorcyclist to be stung by no fault impact may very well be you or someone you love. Further, if you would like to have me come out to your Region or any other organization you belong to, to speak or give a presentation on the legal rights of an injured motorcyclist or on any specific topic that your group may be curious about, please don't hesitate to give me a call at (248-569-4646). I give presentations state-wide and there is never a charge associated with having me out. I enjoy having the opportunity to come out and meet motorcycle enthusiasts from all parts of our State!

**Dondi Vesprini**  
**ABATE OF MICHIGAN**



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**shout out**

**ZACK JONES -  
LATANYAS REVENGE**



Here's a well-deserved Shout Out to Zack Jones of Low Roller Customs in Gaines, Michigan from all of us at Thunder Roads Michigan Magazine.

Dude, you killed it with your '78 FXS Low for the Wyld Stallions Motorcycle Build!! It was amazing to see how many people stopped to check out your custom build during the Owosso Vintage Motorcycle Days and snapped a pic or two. Including us! I know it came down to the wire with time, but it was over the top! How many times did somebody ask where the clutch and brakes were? - lol. Honestly, we didn't expect what you did, and we hope to see you back again next year. You set the bar, now let's see if you can hold onto that Golden Stallion! Until then, keep parading her around and enjoy the sweet victories you'll be taking at all her future shows... Congratulations!!!

~ RJ & Aly

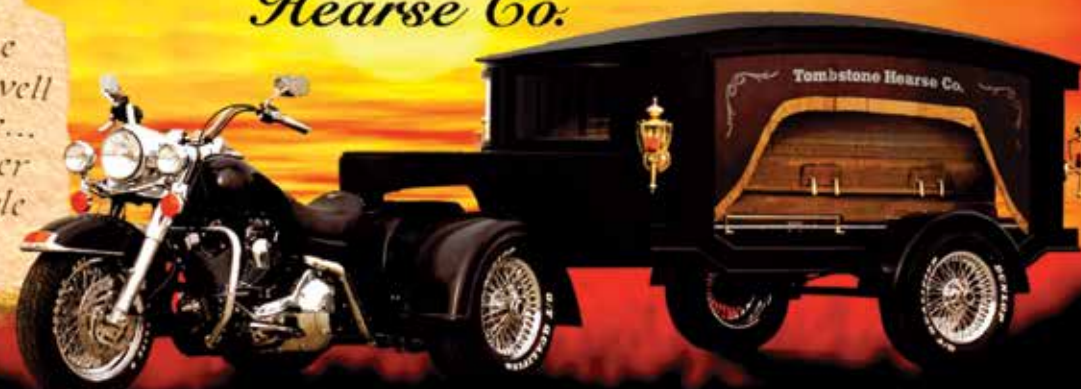
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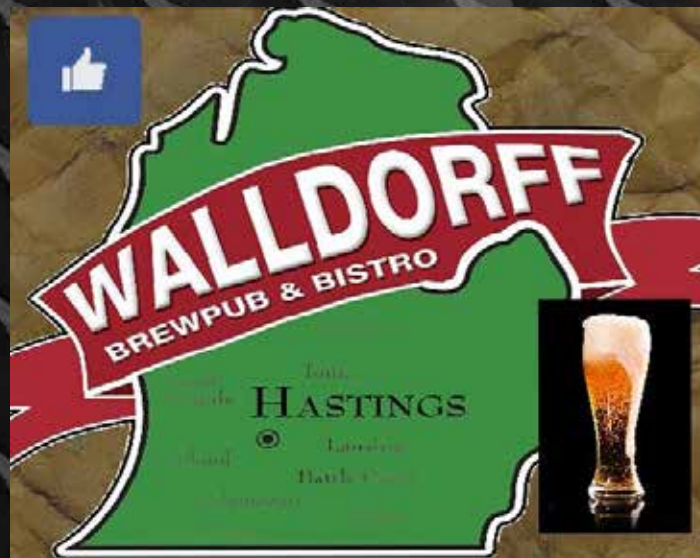
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**HOT RODS TOPICS**



Well, the Hot Rods Motorcycle Awareness & Suicide Prevention Foundation's 3rd Annual Car & Bike Show has come and gone. We all worked so hard throughout the year (as we always do) to try to make this successful and OMG, it was the best event we have ever had! There were so many cars, bikes, vendors, sponsors, and people that showed up and from as far away as Hastings MI, Canada, and Wisconsin! We have been growing at a phenomenal pace and we couldn't be prouder of our members and guests. Thank you for choosing to be a part of this organization and showing that you care about every one of us! We took a moment during the 9/11 Remembrance Memorial for our guest speaker Myrta Gschaar, to share the remembrance of her husband who was lost on the 92nd floor of Tower #2. Her speech was such a touching moment that many people attending started to tear up. That is why we, as an organization, will never forget that terrible day!

Our suicide prevention foundation is run with love and is something we take very seriously. The response from those that have lost someone and those that survived is profound. They really do appreciate everything we do to help guide them to find the help they need. Just being involved with others who care can make them feel special and that's what it's all about. Charlotte Banas is our champion of this part of our organization, and we have all learned a lot from her. As usual, our Board of Directors went above and beyond to make this event special. We couldn't ask for a more awesome group of people who work their butts off. We even had three different bike clubs show up to support us on their poker runs, which was totally awesome! So many individuals showed up and entered their motorcycles in our event, it was off the charts! We are so grateful for all the enthusiasm and comradery. This was absolutely what we had hoped for. Of course, thanks go out to Thunder Roads® Michigan Magazine for promoting us the way you did! From now on we will look on you as a sponsor for all your help. God Bless you RJ and Aly! May the sunshine on you and the wind always be at your back!

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

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The Great Lakes Harley Davidson HOG chapter was the original founder and host of The Teddy Bear Run, and for years Bikers from around the area have collected and delivered Teddy Bears to the children at Covenant kids. When this HOG chapter was dissolved Two years ago, the Sanford American Legion Riders was asked to take over this program. We had to take a year off in 2021 but we felt there was a need to carry on this tradition and continue to bring Teddy Bears to the Kids at Covenant Hospital.

On August 26th the Sanford American Legion Riders hosted the 17th annual Teddy Bear Run. Over 64 motorcycles lined up to show their support and rode to Covenant Hospital in Saginaw. A teddy bear or stuffed animal is given to every sick child that comes through for treatment, including the Emergency Room, to help comfort them as they go through whatever procedure is necessary. Several months prior to this event, local businesses welcomed our donation boxes into their establishments. With their help we were able to collect over 1,700 teddy bears and stuffed animals to donate to Covenant Kids. A big thank you goes out to Ryders Bar and Grill in Midland, Ground Zero Rentals in Merrill, K&S Center Road Bar in Essexville, IBEW 876, Broken Souls, and the Floyd Church of God. None of this would be possible without the support of these businesses and the community around them.

Starting in June of 2024, donation boxes will be set up again for the 18th Annual Teddy Bear Run, which will take place on the third or fourth Saturday in August. If you are a business and are interested in placing a donation box at your location, or if you would like to help sponsor advertisement for this event, you can contact the Sanford American Legion Riders at salr443@yahoo.com. Please follow the Sanford American Legion Riders Post 443 on Facebook for any upcoming details. Our goal is to double the number of bikes and bears for next year's run. We need all the help we can get to make this happen. The kids at Covenant need every one of us to come together to help lift their spirits.







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September 20, 2023 7:39 PM



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This morning my son said his ear hurt and I said on the inside or outside, so he walks out our front door, walks back in and says, both. Moments like this have me wondering if saving for college is even necessary.

Have been thinking about romance in my life and seriously don't know if I could ever 'complete' someone, but driving someone batchit crazy, now that totally sounds doable.

My wife said, "That's the 4th time you've gone back for dessert! Doesn't it embarrass you?" to which I replied, "Not one bit, I just keep shaking my head and telling them, well, she sent me back yet again."

Earl and Vern are at the local watering hole and Vern says, "You know me Earl, if I ever hit the lottery, not a single person around me will be poor, and I sincerely mean that. Earl says, "Well, it's nice to know my best buddy will be helpin' me out."

Vern looks at Earl really strange and says, "No, I meant that I will be moving to a really rich and swanky neighborhood with very tall gates."

If someone from Ziplock bags could contact literally anyone in the cereal business, that would be the product accomplishment of the year!

Just curious ..... Has anyone tried unplugging the United States and plugging it back in?

She is a genuine sweetheart and She is also a genuine smartass, kinda like a package deal.

What's the most popular dating app of 2023 for skeletons? The Bone Zone - Why don't witches have babies? Their hubby's have crystal balls - Why do witches hate hanging out with the head- less horseman? Because all he ever talks about is getting head - What do Dracula's girlfriend and a pro boxer have in common? They both go down for the Count - Why are male ghosts the same as still living males? They're both all about the boo-bies - Why do Halloween ghosts moan, tremble and shiver? Cause' what's going on under that sheet-

Never blame someone else for the road you're on. That's your own asphalt.

Dad: You should become a cop.  
Daughter: I don't want to.  
Dad: Why not? You chase after the same men they do, might as well get paid for it.

My girlfriend said that I needed to be a lot more grateful and I replied, "Ok, I'm really grateful that I was young, wild and sooo damn crazy before there were cell phones and evidence.

Was at the grocery store and heard this kid about 6 years old talking to his Mom, and called a corn dog a meat Twinkie and life just feels different now.

I keep hearing people talk about what they're going to do when they retire.  
Me, I'm gonna have to work right up to lunch on the day of my funeral.

Ahhh, remember the days of "Yo Moma" jokes? let's bring those back, they were fun, I'll start - I float like a butterfly, I sting like a bee - I slept with yo moma now it burns when I pee -

Well, 'Rectal Grease' went and complained to HR and now we can't use nicknames at work any - more. Fun-kill for sure.

Gotta' love how up-front and down to basics we are in the South - drove by this diner the other day and on their big parking lot sign it read: Always Open Unless We Are Closed

Word - I really wish I had as much confidence as our cat does when he licks his azz in the middle of of a room full of people.

Remember, above all else when you're out partying on Halloween - Often times the Universe puts you in the same situations again to see if you're still a dumbass.

Me at any party, Halloween mask or not, in the buffet line. Isn't that your 3rd plate?  
Me: Isn't that your 3rd husband?

She danced like no one was watching - but they were watching, and she looked like she'd had 12 shots of Jack and walked dead center into a spiderweb.

**HAPPY HALLOWEEN ALL YOU  
BIKER GHOULS & BOOS -**

**Have Fun! out there but be smart & call an Uber  
if you have too much Witch's Brew!**



# EVENTS



## OCTOBER 2023

### OCTOBER 1

-Memorial/Fundraiser/Benefit  
for Gabe Shellito  
Scooter's Airport Bar  
4520 N Clare Ave.  
Harrison, MI  
Check out Facebook for more details

-PHMC Turkey Run  
Port Huron Motorcycle Club  
3376 Griswold Rd.  
Port Huron, MI  
Check out Facebook for more details

-**Turkey Run @ the Crump Fox Club**  
**981 W. Prevo Rd.**  
**Linwood, MI**  
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### OCTOBER 5

-**Abate of Michigan-Region 11**  
**Fundraiser Night**  
**Foxfire Fixin's**  
**7200 River Rd.**  
**Marine City, MI**  
**www.foxfirefixins.com**

-Jeep Night at the NUB  
New Union Brewery  
400 W Main St.  
Lowell, MI  
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### OCTOBER 6

-Bluewater Fall Nationals  
Atv & Bikes Dirt Drags  
Port Huron Motorcycle Club  
3376 Griswold Rd.  
Port Huron, MI  
Check out Facebook for more details

### OCTOBER 7

-3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Motorcycle Show Fundraiser  
Fraser VFW Post 6691  
17075 Anita Ave.  
Fraser, MI  
For More Info. Gena Gordon 619-313-7980

-Fall Color Fun Bike Run  
Montrose Orchards  
12473 Seymour Rd.  
Montrose, MI  
Check out Facebook for more details

### OCTOBER 13

-Harleys at the Dragway  
Milan Dragway  
10860 Plank Rd.  
Milan, MI  
www.info@milandragway.com

### OCTOBER 14

-ATV-XC State Championship  
Valley Trail Riders Motorcycle Club  
4957 Brown Rd.  
Bently, MI  
Minis race @ 11:00am  
Big Quads @ 1:00pm  
www.AMA-D14.org

-Poker Run/Benefit  
Ryders Bar and Grill  
2650 W. Midland Rd.  
Midland, MI  
Registration 10:00am KSU 11:00am  
Single rider \$15 Passenger \$10

### OCTOBER 21

-Valley Motocross Spooktacular Weekend  
906 S. Vickeryville Rd.  
Stanton, MI  
Sign up at 7:00am  
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### OCTOBER 22

-Valley Motocross Spooktacular Weekend  
906 S. Vickeryville Rd.  
Stanton, MI  
www.AMA-D14.org

### OCTOBER 28

-St. Johns Offroad Park Trunk or Treat  
2710 W Townsend Rd.  
Saint Johns, MI  
Check out Facebook for more details

### OCTOBER 29

-**49th Annual Kalamazoo Motorcycle**  
**Swap Meet & Bike show**  
**Wings Event Center**  
**3600 Vanrick Dr.**  
**Kalamazoo, MI**  
**10:00am-4:00pm, General Admission \$9.00**  
**See ad for more info.**

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