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ON THE COVER

REBEL ROAD
JULY 15-18
MUSKEGON

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MICHIGAN Magazine

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LETTER FROM THE OWNERS

This month, we are rolling into a truly monumental milestone: the 250th birthday of America. That's right, we are officially celebrating our nation's Semiquincentennial! Whether you are heading out to a massive rally, hitting the backroads, or just firing up the grill in the backyard, Aly and I want to wish all of our readers the best Independence Day possible. Please celebrate safely, look out for one another, and keep the rubber side down while you enjoy the long weekend.

Honestly, with all the UFO footage and files the government has been releasing lately, this 4th of July might just be the perfect excuse to kick back and re-watch *Independence Day* with Will Smith. You know, just in case we need to brush up on our alien defense tactics before our next ride!

As you plan out your routes and destinations for the rest of the month, don't forget to catch up with everything happening around the state by checking out our center calendar and our ever-changing events page. Michigan has an incredible lineup of rides and rallies this summer, and we want to make sure you don't miss a thing.

As a quick reminder to all our local organizers, venues, and riding clubs: it is completely FREE to share your motorcycle events with us each month! All you have to do is get the details to us before our deadline to make print. We love filling those pages and helping you get the word out to the riding community. You can send us a DM on Facebook or email them to us at info@thunderroadsmichigan.com



Have a spectacular 4th of July, ride safe, and we will see you out there on those Thunder Roads!

Ps. Aly DID in fact have a fantastic surprise getaway riding in West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Ohio for her Birthday!

Ride safe,
~RJ

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CHAPLAIN CHARLIES CORNER: MAKING MEMORIES

BY CHAPLAIN CHARLIE

As America celebrates its 250th birthday this July, I find myself looking back fifty years to another historic celebration, the Bicentennial of 1976.

I was only nine years old, but I can still remember the excitement as if it happened yesterday. Everywhere you looked there were American flags waving in the summer breeze. Businesses were decorated in red, white, and blue. Families gathered for parades, picnics, and fireworks. There was a sense of pride and optimism that seemed to fill the air.

One of my strongest memories from that summer was attending Midland parade. To a nine-year-old boy, it was the most incredible thing I had ever seen. The streets were packed with smiling faces. Children waved flags while adults visited with neighbors and friends. Everyone seemed to be celebrating together. Looking back now, I realize it wasn't just the parade that made the day special. It was the feeling of being part of something bigger than myself.

That same year, my older sister moved out of our family home, and for the first time in my life, I had a bedroom of my own. Naturally, I decorated it in patriotic colors. One wall was covered by a giant corkboard that we painted white and bordered with blue tape. It probably wasn't anything extraordinary by most standards, but to me it was perfect. Even now, fifty years later, I can still picture that room.

What fascinates me is how clearly those memories remain. I don't remember every toy I owned. I don't remember what television shows I watched or what clothes I wore. Yet I remember the joy of that summer. I remember the excitement. I remember how those moments made me feel.

The older I get, the more I appreciate the gift of memory.

King David understood this when he wrote in Psalm 143:5, "I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that You have done; I ponder the work of Your hands." David knew that remembering God's blessings has a way of strengthening our faith. When we look back and remember where we've been, we often gain a greater appreciation for where God has brought us.

As motorcyclists, I believe we understand the importance of memories better than most people.

Those who don't ride often assume motorcycles are simply a means of transportation. Riders know that's not true. Riding is about experiences. It's about the people we meet, the places we discover, and the moments we share along the way. The motorcycle is simply the vehicle that carries us into those experiences.

One of the greatest blessings of living in Michigan is the incredible variety of roads and scenery available to us. During July, our state is at its absolute best. The days are long, the weather is warm, and nearly every road seems to invite us to explore what lies around the next bend.

Whether you're riding along the shoreline of Lake Huron, winding through the forests of Northern Michigan, crossing the Mackinac Bridge, or simply taking the back roads through small-town America, every ride offers an opportunity to create a memory. Some of the best rides aren't planned months in advance. Sometimes they're the spontaneous rides that begin with a simple question: "Want to go for a ride?"

Years later, we rarely remember how many miles we traveled. We remember the unexpected roadside diner with the amazing pie.

We remember the breathtaking sunset over the lake. We remember the laughter at a gas station stop or the conversation shared around a campfire after a long day on the road.

We remember the people.

As a chaplain, I have also learned another important truth about memories. They become especially precious when someone we love is no longer riding beside us. Many of us have friends, family members, or fellow riders who have taken their final ride. While we miss their presence, we carry their memories with us every day. A familiar road, a favorite song, or the rumble of a motorcycle engine can instantly bring those memories flooding back.

In those moments, we are reminded that memories are one of God's most precious gifts. They allow us to revisit moments that shaped us. They remind us of friendships that blessed us. They help us remember the people we loved and the adventures we shared together.

Perhaps that's one reason riding can feel so spiritual at times. When we're on the bike, we're not isolated from God's creation—we're immersed in it. We feel the warmth of the sun. We smell freshly cut hay in the fields. We notice the changing temperatures as we pass lakes, rivers, and forests. We see God's handiwork in a way that is difficult to experience from behind the windshield of a car.

Every ride becomes an opportunity to slow down and appreciate the world God created.

This July, as our nation celebrates 250 years of freedom, I encourage you to do more than simply watch the fireworks. Celebrate the blessings that God has placed in your life. Spend time with family. Visit old friends. Attend a local parade. Fly the American flag proudly. Thank a veteran for their service.

And if the weather cooperates, throw a leg over your motorcycle and take a ride somewhere in this beautiful state we call home.

You don't need a complicated itinerary. You don't need an expensive destination. Sometimes the best memories are found on roads you've never traveled before with people you enjoy being around.

Fifty years from now, someone may ask you about America's 250th birthday celebration. Odds are you won't remember every headline or every detail of daily life. But you may remember the ride. You may remember the laughter. You may remember the people. Most importantly, you may remember the blessings God gave you along the way.

So, ride safe, enjoy the journey, and make some memories. They may become treasures that last a lifetime.



Yours in faith and fellowship,
Chaplain Charlie

Chaplain Charlie

Chaplain Dean Titus (Charlie)

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A.B.A.T.E. OF MICHIGAN

Two weeks ago, more than 200 motorcyclists roared into Washington, D.C., from every corner of this country. They put aside their daily lives to take the fight for motorcyclists' rights straight up Capitol Hill and into the offices of 535 members of Congress!

They didn't come to sightsee. They came to be heard. This was not about fancy dinners and photo-ops.

- It was about the future of motorcycling.
- It was about profiling.
- It was about the right to repair and modify their motorcycles.
- It was about bad fuel policy, reckless expansion of autonomous vehicles, and lawmakers who too often view bikers as expendable.
- It was about bikers speaking and Congress hearing us loud and clear.

If you missed Bikers Inside the Beltway, don't make the mistake of missing what comes next. The fight is getting bigger. The stakes are getting higher. And the people sitting on the sidelines are not the ones shaping the future of motorcycling.

The MRF's 42nd Annual Meeting of the Minds is coming to Milwaukee, September 24-27, 2026, and this is your call to get in the saddle and become part of the movement.

Here are five reasons to stop watching and start participating. Here are five reasons to make your reservations now.

1. Ride for Your Rights: This isn't just another road trip - it's a declaration. Every mile to Milwaukee is a statement that bikers will not quietly surrender their freedoms, culture, or way of life.

2. Help Set the 2027 Legislative Priorities: Don't complain later about decisions made without you. Be in the room where the strategy is built and the battles are chosen.

3. Stand with the Largest Motorcyclists' Rights

Movement in the Nation: Thousands of bikers. One united voice. Real grassroots muscle. This is how legislation gets stopped, changed, or passed.

4. Sixteen information-packed workshops: Get the tools to hit back, enhance your knowledge, and strengthen your SMRO. Stay ahead of the attacks on your right to ride.

5. Arm Yourself with Legal Knowledge: Rights ignored become rights lost. Learn from legal experts how to protect yourself, your motorcycle, and your SMRO from growing legal threats.

The sidelines are already crowded with people willing to complain but unwilling to act. Don't be one of them. When riders engage, nobody else will make the decisions for us.

Grab the bars, it's KSU and time to head into Milwaukee, ready to fight for the future of motorcycling.

Time is running out, lock in your room reservations. See you in Milwaukee.



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Merry Garrett
& Her Marvelous, Awesome,
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2026 MICHIGAN RIDE N' WIN CONTEST

HERE'S THE DETAILS!



1. GET YOUR CARD

Find a Registration Ride Stop - They are listed on "THE STOPS" page(s) with a RIDE CARD IMAGE along with the OFFICIAL RIDE-STOP STAMP by their name and on their ad in the magazine. If you already have a card from a previous contest year, you MUST GET A NEW ONE. The information that you provide when you sign up for your FREE Ride Card is solely used by Thunder Roads® Michigan and will NOT be used for any purpose other than this contest. You will be handed your FREE Ride n' Win Card right then. It has a unique number registered to your name.

2. CHECK IN!



Once you have your card with your unique Ride n' Win number, you can start checking in. Go to any or all the stops listed with the Ride n' Win Stamp and check in! There are also Event Stops each month where you can check in. Each Official Ride Stop where you check in gets you entered to win a monthly prize. Spend over \$10 there, and your Ride Card number will get counted twice and double your chance of winning!

3. MONTHLY PRIZE WINNERS

If you are a lucky winner, you will be notified by text and email via the information you provided when you received your card. The winning numbers will also be published on the WINNERS page in Thunder Roads® Michigan Magazine each month. If you are notified or see your Ride Card number on the WINNERS page in the Magazine, head to the establishment to pick up your prize for that month. ** You will need to show them your Ride Card number to claim your prize at their location. Please note: You only have 45 days to claim your prize once you are notified.

FEW FACTS

- Winners are randomly picked from each Registration/Ride Stops, Ride Stops, and Event Stops each month.
- The more places you check in, the greater your chances are of winning a prize from that location, and grand prize giveaways at the end of the season.

FOLLOW THUNDER ROADS MAGAZINE OF MICHIGAN ON FACEBOOK FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE RIDE STOP LOCATIONS & MONTHLY WINNER UPDATES.



- If you spend \$10 or more at any Ride Stop, your Ride Card number gets counted twice! Please note: This contest is FREE because of our amazing Sponsors. Please support them in return.
- You can check-in once a week at each Ride Stop. You have the chance to win multiple prizes each month by checking in at as many Ride Stop's as you can.
- Each check-in and bonus check-in will get you entered to win:
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 - The 2005 Harley-Davidson Softail Deuce courtesy of Steel Horse Ranch at the end of the season party!
 - Plus, more grand prizes to be announced!

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- Get Your Own Unique Michigan Ride n' Win Card. (It Does Not Expire)
- Get the list of Ride Stops each month from a copy of Thunder Roads® Michigan Magazine or at www.ThunderRoadsMichigan.com
- Ride to any of the Ride n' Win stops and use your smartphone and check in!
- Congratulations, you're entered to win cool prizes each month! Plus, the major prizes at the end of the season from our sponsors, AND THE 2005 HARLEY-DAVIDSON SOFTAIL DEUCE!!



2026 MICHIGAN RIDE N' WIN CONTEST

JULY 2026 STOPS MAP

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2026 MICHIGAN RIDE N' WIN CONTEST

THE REGISTRATION STOPS

Each month check-in at any of these stops (up to 1 time per week) and you could win
the monthly prize at that location. Don't have a Ride card? Sign-up for a **FREE** Ride Card at
any of the stops listed below with a Ride Card next to it.

Make sure to pick up next months issue (or view the magazine online at www.ThunderRoadsMichigan.com) or on
Facebook: Thunder Roads Magazine of Michigan to see if your Ride Card number is listed as a winner.

Sponsor prizes are randomly picked each month.

Special inside tip... Some stops get many check-in's and some stops only get a couple of people that check-in
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Prize - \$25 Gift Certificate



B. D&K Bar & Grill

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C. Michigan Biker Law

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1-800-MI-BIKER
Prize - T-Shirt
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D. Steel Horse Ranch

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F. US Route 23

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LOCATIONS & MONTHLY WINNER UPDATES.

2026 MICHIGAN RIDE N' WIN CONTEST

MAKE SURE TO CALL AHEAD
FOR BUSINESS HOURS

THE STOPS

MAKE SURE TO CALL AHEAD
FOR BUSINESS HOURS

1. A&W Restaurant
1514 Washington St.
Midland, MI 48640
(989) 832-3811
Prize - \$25 Gift Certificate

2. Addictive Ink
152 E Saginaw Rd.
Sanford, MI 48657
(989) 687-7246
Prize - \$25 Gift Certificate

3. Beeter's Brew Pub
902 E Pine St.
Sebewaing, MI 48759
(989) 883-2170
Prize - T-Shirt

4. Breakshot Bar & Grill
122 E. Huron Ave.
Vassar, MI 48768
(989) 882-9060
Prize - T-Shirt

5. Bubba's Tri-City Cycle
804 S Huron Rd.
Linwood, MI 48634
(989) 697-5525
Prize - \$25 Gift Certificate

**6. Bryce's Michiistrigan Bar
Campground and Cabins**
W17838 US Highway 2.
Gould City, MI 49838
(906) 477-6983
Prize - Bryce's T-Shirt

7. Cheers Pub Lapeer
440 N Saginaw St.
Lapeer, MI 48446
(810) 667-3170
Prize - \$25 Gift Certificate

8. Colwood Bar
4990 Colwood Rd.
Unionville, MI 48767
(989) 550-9359
Prize - \$25 Gift Certificate
Or a T-Shirt

9. Full House Diner
963 W Midland Rd.
Auburn, MI 48611
(989) 266-3096
Prize - \$25 Gift Certificate

10. Gas Alley Bar & Grill
10945 Dixie Hwy.
Birch Run, MI 48413
(989) 624-9778
Prize - \$25 Gift Certificate

11. H&B Cycles
418 W Frank
Caro, MI 48723
(989) 327-0702
Prize - \$25 Gift Certificate

12. Insomnia Bagger Audio
158 Peck
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13. Iron Horse Bar & Grill
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(989) 691-5761
Prize - T-Shirt

14. Rathskeller Food & Spirits
600 East Midland St.
Bay City, MI 48706
(989) 892-0621
Prize - \$25 Gift Certificate

**15. Saginaw Old Town
Junction**
410 Mackinaw St.
Saginaw, MI 48602
(989) 401-4066
Prize - \$25 Gift Certificate

16. Shotmakers Sports Bar
49 East Main St.
Harrisville, MI 48740
(989) 724-7247
Prize - \$25 Gift Certificate

**17. Sporty's Wing Shack
& Smokehouse**
4502 N Huron Rd.
Pinconning, MI 48650
(989) 879-6050
Prize - \$25 Gift Certificate

**18. Twisted Illusions
Lighting**
(By Appointment)
Saginaw, MI
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19. 19BANK16
4985 Colwood Rd.
Unionville, MI 48767
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Prize: T-Shirt



**Watch for the Official
Ride n' Win Signs for
Check-In locations.**

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LOCATIONS & MONTHLY WINNER UPDATES.

2026 MICHIGAN RIDE N' WIN CONTEST

CLAIM YOUR PRIZE

CHECK BELOW TO SEE IF YOUR RIDE CARD NUMBER IS LISTED
NEXT TO A LOCATION, IF IT IS, GO TO THAT LOCATION WITH YOUR RIDE
CARD TO CLAIM YOUR PRIZE!

WINNERS HAVE ONLY 45 DAYS FROM THE 1ST OF THIS MONTH
TO CLAIM THEIR PRIZE!



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MAY WINNERS

WINNING RIDE CARD #	MAY STOPS	WINNING RIDE CARD #	MAY STOPS
0955	A&W Midland	0565	Northern Leather (D&K Bar and Grill)
0581	Bald Eagle Harley- Davidson	1976	Rathskeller Food & Spirits
TBD	Beeter's Brew Pub	0600	Saginaw Old Town Junction
0567	Break Shot Bar and Grill	1418	Shotmakers Sports B&G
0565	Bubba's Tri-City Cycle's	0604	Sporty's Wing Shack & Smoke House
0572	Byce's Michiistrigan	0772	Steel Horse Ranch
0756	Cheers Pub Lapeer	1287	The Bank Colwood
0783	Colwood Bar	0957	Traction Powersports
0560	Gas Alley Bar & Grille	1310	Twisted Illusions
TBD	Insomnia Bagger Audio	1413	US Route 23
0768	Iron Horse Bar & Grill		
1306	Michigan Biker Law		

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LOCATIONS & MONTHLY WINNER UPDATES.

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POKER RUN

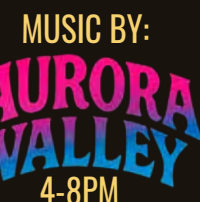
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SATURDAY - SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

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- STOP 2: KINGSWOOD OUTFIELD - KINGSTON, MI
- STOP 3: THE WHISKEY JAR - BROWN CITY, MI
- STOP 4: BUCKWILD SALOON - FOSTORIA, MI
- FINAL STOP: MORGAN'S PLACE - MILLINGTON, MI

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SATURDAY AUGUST 15TH 2026

BENEFITING



Covenant Healthcare provides a teddy bear or stuffed animal to each of Covenant Kids. This event helps them accomplish this.

RUN SCHEDULE

-  **REGISTRATION** at Sanford American Legion **1 PM**
-  **KSU (KICK STANDS UP)** **3 PM**
-  **ARRIVE AT COVENANT** **4 PM**

ALL PROFITS WILL BE USED TO PURCHASE BEARS for COVENANT KIDS





BACK TO THE LEGION FOR ANNIVERSARY PARTY!

-  **LIVE MUSIC 6-10PM**
-  **PIG ROAST, COLESLAW, BAKED BEANS, AND A ROLL**
-  **\$20 PER PERSON**

DROP OFF A NEW BEAR OR STUFFED ANIMAL TO THE SANFORD AMERICAN LEGION 2080 N MERIDIAN RD, SANFORD, MI

PER COVENANT'S REQUEST ALL BEARS HAVE TO BE BROUGHT IN A VEHICLE AND CANNOT BE TRANSPORTED ON BIKES THIS YEAR.

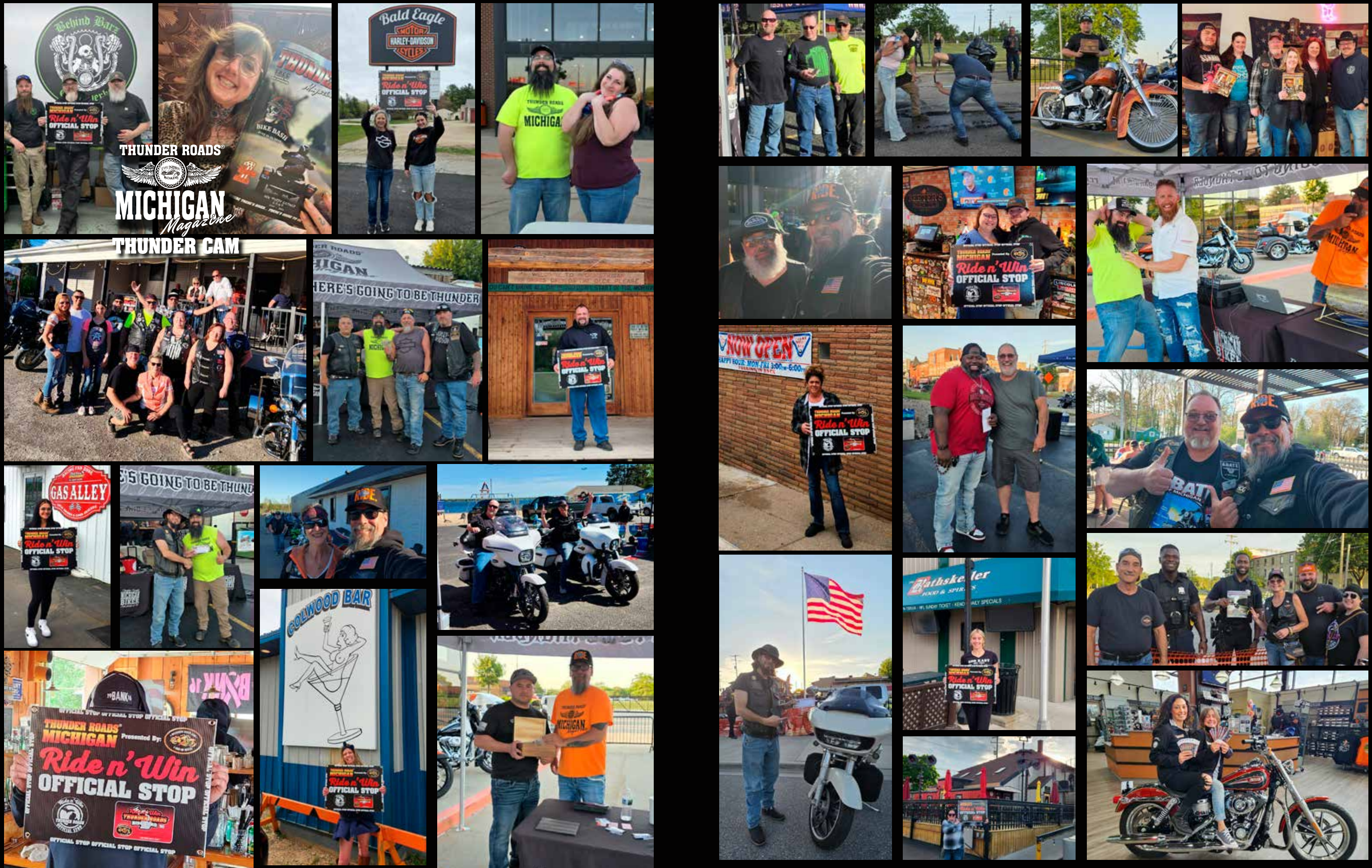
 A DONATION OF A BEAR/STUFFED ANIMAL OR CASH DONATION IS ACCEPTED.



HAPPY 250TH BIRTHDAY AMERICA!

JULY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	1	2	3	4 
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 4TH BANK FOR BOOBS AMERICAN MUSCLE CHWSE MOTORCYCLE & AUTO SHOW FEMALE BIKER DAY STEEL HORSE RANCH MISSION 22/MISSION 22 SERVICE DOGS PORT HURON M/C ROAD RUN
12 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY THE BANK COLLWOOD MICHIGAN	13	14	15	16	17	18 8TH ANNUAL EMILY KNOX SCHOLARSHIP FUND RUN REBEL ROAD DOWNTOWN MUSKEGON
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 PORT HURON M/C TEST & TUNE - RIDE TO RIBFEST - FROM BIRCH RUN SPEEDWAY AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS HELL TO PARADISE
26	27	28	29	30	31 D.Y.S.U.N 2026 THE IRON PIG SMOKEHOUSE THUNDER ROADS® MICHIGAN 2026 BIKE NIGHTS MUNGER POTATO FESTIVAL	1 D.Y.S.U.N 2026 THE IRON PIG SMOKEHOUSE HOPE ON 2 WHEELS - RIDE TO BENEFIT CAMP HOPE MUNGER POTATO FESTIVAL





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and
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JAY JAY
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of Jimm "Jay Jay"
Jackson



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Magazine

8:00 AM
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9:30 AM
Kick Stands Up

5:00 PM
Ride Returns

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August 28th - 29th

2026

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AYPA POWER
MCBOUVS LAUNDROMAT

LOCATION: ELKTON, MI

FRIDAY

Flea Market - 12:00pm
Beer Tent - 3:00pm
Euchre Tournament &
Opening Ceremony - 6:00pm

FUN RUN
(Saturday)

Sign-up 9:00am - 11:00am
Kicks Stand Up (Starts at
Beer Tent) - 11:00am
Blessing of The Bikes -
10:45am

SATURDAY

Worship Service (Main
Pavilion) - 8:30am
Breakfast - 9:30am -
11:30am
Flea Market - 10:00am
Beer Tent - 3:00pm
Bike Show (Center Field)
- 5:30pm
Bike Raffle Drawing -
6:00pm
Parade (Starts at Beer
Tent) - 7:00pm

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YEAH, OR MEH?

Dominator 14" Meat Hook Handlebars

BY ERIC "BIG E" KRUER

There comes a point with every touring bike where you realize the stock setup just isn't cutting it anymore. I already learned that lesson with my Ultra after upgrading the bars on that bike, so when I picked up my Road Glide, I already knew the stock handlebars weren't going to last long.

That's what led me to the Dominator Industries 14-inch Meat Hook handlebars.

Now before we even get into the bars themselves, let's talk about the buying experience—because that's part of the story too.

I purchased these bars through Amazon because, honestly, the price point was hard to ignore. Pre-wired bars for significantly less than buying direct from Dominator? That gets your attention pretty quick. But this wasn't my first dance with ordering Dominator bars through Amazon.

Last year, Brother Ryno and I both attempted to order Dominator bars through Amazon, and neither set ever shipped. Eventually we both gave up and ordered different bars through Dennis Kirk instead. So, when I ordered these Meat Hooks and saw the same thing happening again—delayed shipping with no movement—I wasn't exactly shocked.

To the seller's credit, once I reached out, they were quick to respond and claimed the bars were likely lost in shipping. They offered upgraded shipping if I reordered. I'm already an Amazon Prime member, so I'm not exactly sure what "upgraded shipping" means at that point, but eventually the bars did arrive.

Here's the warning: if you're ordering Dominator bars through Amazon, be prepared to wait. Since this has now happened multiple times, I'd say there's a decent chance it'll happen again in the future.

That said, once the bars showed up, I was impressed.

Packaging was excellent. Everything was wrapped well, protected properly, and nothing looked tossed around or damaged. First impressions once they arrived were solid.

This install was a project I decided to tackle myself, and honestly, for a Road Glide, it wasn't nearly as intimidating as people make it out to be. The bars came pre-wired, which made this almost a plug-and-play setup. That alone saves a ton of headache.

Because my bike is a Limited with heated grips, I did have to mess with those wires separately. Pulling heated

grip wires through bars is never what I'd call "fun," but it also wasn't the nightmare I expected.

My biggest complaint with the setup is how Dominator handles those heated grip wires. You retain the factory plugs, which is nice, but you end up with a lot of excess wiring stuffed under the speedometer area. It works, but if you're picky about clean wiring like I am, it's a little annoying.

At some point when I install additional front lighting on the bike, I'll probably go back in and shorten those wires just to clean everything up. I prefer a tighter, cleaner look rather than stuffing extra cable wherever it'll fit.

There was also a small peg in the factory hand grip setup that had to be removed. Thankfully it's cast material, so snapping that little nub off was easy work.

Overall, though? The install was surprisingly manageable for a garage job. I didn't need cable extensions with the 14-inch setup, and aside from cutting one zip tie to free up a little extra cable slack, everything fit and functioned exactly how it should.

And once everything was bolted down and dialed in?

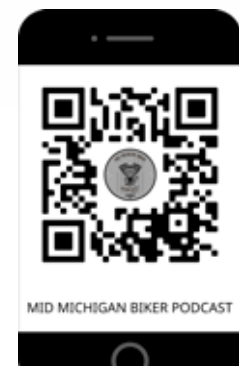
Completely worth it.



The bike looks dramatically better with the 14-inch Meat Hooks. The stance is more aggressive, the riding position is more comfortable for me, and the whole bike just feels more like mine now.

If you're considering making the jump to taller bars on your touring bike and don't mind turning a few wrenches yourself, these are absolutely worth a look.

Just maybe don't expect Amazon shipping to get them to your door anytime soon



Life is short bikers, so get after it.



Smoke N' GearZ

Thunderstorms and Sunshine...All in a day's work

I heard it's not what you know, but who you know. Then, I would take it a step further and say, it should also include, who admits that they know you. In the MC world, it's always a good thing to support those that have been putting the work in to keep our sub-culture safe and sound. This is truly part of the underworld, and one must play their cards right to keep a good name. (All I got in this world is my word and my!!)

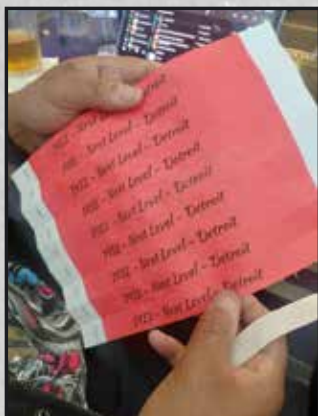
I thoroughly enjoy riding my scooter, but talking to guys 60, 70, 80 years old and hearing their tribulations is what it's all about for me. Those guys that may/may not have been part of the founders of their MC, but seen generations come in after them. Those cats got the knowledge of the set and the history of their clubs/chapters. Not only do I learn about their particular men's club, but also, I learn tips and tricks when it comes to riding.



I believe our generation takes for granted what valued treasures the OGs are and what they brought to the table during their hay days. The generations under us are too busy attempting to make their bones than giving these men their respect. While the people have changed, the culture's rich history still remains the same. Sitting back and listening, with not much to say, the gray bearded street vets protected their country,

their communities, their families, and their clubhouses. Some of these guys bought clothing and shoes for some of the less fortunate people passing by their domains.

A recent story I heard, Vets coming back from the troubled times across the seas, some of these guys had trouble reacclimating back to civilian way of life. So, they needed a place where men that felt like life was so restricted could go, be themselves, raise a little hell, let off some steam and get back to some sort of normalcy. Along with the times of returning home, this gave them some sense of pride and started forming Motorcycle Clubs. While there are some very well-known MCs, White/Black/Latin, some prefer to keep their identity sacred



and fly under the radar. However, the day of social media has made everyone's history a bit easier to research.

Through the years, I enjoyed speaking with some of the heavy hitters of the underworld, but I kid you not, I have most enjoyed speaking with the old man in the corner that does not say much, but he knows more than most people in the club. If that individual opens up to you and shares things from his perspective, know that you have opened the treasure box. The loudest one does not have the best stories from my experience. It's the one that has seen his club go from the 70's, 80's, 90's, 2000's and perhaps up until the most recent times. And it's even more beautiful if they still ride. Some of these guys might have even converted over to three-wheelers, or back to lighter bikes like Sporters.

While clubs are growing and new ones enter the set, please don't forget about the MCs of our culture that have stood the testament of time. Those that survived riots, racism, big court cases saving their insignia, internal conflict, conflict with other clubs, and even COVID. That being said, I got on the ground during the weekend of June 5, 2026, to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of State Burners MC; Founded in Philly, PA in 1946. Their four-day weekend was one rubber burning, fellowshiping, throttle twisting, ass-shaking, cigar smoking, gut-busting with laughter, good food eating type of vibe in Louisville, KY. The national set blessed them with the presence of clubs from far and wide. The longest distance on the ground came out of California.



SBMC's team was full of hospitality, good stories, and we had a funky good time. In its most simplistic way of thinking about things, that is at least four generations of their Brotherhood. They have been through some things and still stand strong as an old oak tree. While I didn't get a chance to meet Mr. Freddie, better known as "Coffee," his legacy continues to be soul of the State Burners. Now under the leadership of National P "Lucky," they are continuing to move in spaces with the mindset of growth and community service. May I add, "Ride in Heaven T-Loc 2025" The knowledge these men and women of 1946 is spreading about their historic run to 80 years is incredible.

I would love to share more about this organization, but it is now up to you to hit that highway and pay homage to learn more about them. While this was only an introduction, I believe it sets the tone for other organizations I plan to support

and hit their Annys like streaks of lighting. LOL, because that's what I dealt with on the way to support them. 3 hours of thunderstorms at 50-80mph on Ohio' Highway 15 to Highway 23 enroute to Columbus, OH to fellowship with Rare Breed C'Bus 10-year Anny. I laughed, bought some new boots, and off down Highway 71S headed to Louisville.

Mr. Soggy Socks, A.K.A. Smoke did 885.4 miles in 26 hours to return home safely on Sunday, June 7, 2026, at 2pm. Pulled up at Motown Harley Davidson Dealership to support the ride for the Penrickton Center for Blind Children, replace the tail-light lens that popped off during my commute and then discovered that the pin came out of my right saddlebag at some point. So always look over your bike because if you are a true ground pounda, the vibration will shake bolts loose. That's why at every gas stop I walk around my hog, shake the tour pack, saddlebags, check the seat bolt, push/pull on the handlebars, turn the music down, and look at the tread of the tires.

On the Detroit set, The Hog Ridin' Fools had a great event too on May 30, 2026. This was their 50th anniversary and it was hosted at the members' only Carbon Athletic Club in Southwest Detroit. They are all about Evo and predated Harley Motors. (Flatheads, Knuckleheads, Panheads, Shovelheads etc.) I had a blast with them, and they even allowed me to enter my Twin Cam into the bike contest. PS, I knew I had no chance to win, but I was still able to display my abstract art paint job. Good crew of riders that still believe in wrenching on their bikes on the side of the highway. (Or in the back of a pickup truck frfr)

The best stories are always ones that you can live to talk about and when you make it back to your loved ones safely. Congrats to the long-standing Motorcycle Clubs and looking forward seeing you out on those highways and byways.



Keep those cigars burnin' and those wheels turnin',

SMOKE

Literary_lenz_Detroit on IG



PORT HURON MOTORCYCLE CLUB EST. 1948

2026 SCHEDULE

JULY 11 – ROAD RUN

JULY 25 – TEST N TUNE DIRT DRAG

AUGUST 22 – TEST N TUNE DIRT DRAG

SEPTEMBER 5 – STEERING WHEEL SHOOTOUT

SEPTEMBER 26 – HARLEY VS THE WORLD DIRT DRAG

OCTOBER 4 – 81ST ANNUAL TURKEY RUN

OCTOBER 24 – TEST N TUNE & TRUNK OR TREAT



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Celebrating the good life for 20 years

Adrie's Angels

In Loving Memory & Ongoing Hope

Adrie's Angels is a nonprofit organization created in loving memory of Adrie Dembowske, a bright, compassionate, and fearless forever 13-year-old whose life was tragically taken due to child abuse on June 6, 2021. Adrie was a joyful and determined young girl who dreamed of becoming a lawyer to advocate for children in need. She had a sharp mind, a kind heart, and a passion for justice that set her apart.

Adrie's curiosity and love for learning knew no bounds. She was deeply interested in history, the world around her. She was a fierce advocate for equality, always standing up for what she believed in. With her bold and determined spirit, Adrie also had a playful and loving side -she adored her siblings, who looked up to her in every way. She was their protector, their leader, and their biggest supporter. She loved dancing, kayaking, roller coasters, and making people laugh with her clever pranks.

Adrie was taken too soon. Her dreams and passion live on through our mission here with Adrie's Angels. As a nonprofit organization, we strive to raise awareness about child abuse, advocate for children's rights, and provide support for those in need. No child should ever feel unheard or unprotected, and through community outreach, education, and advocacy, we are working to create a world where every child is safe, loved, and empowered.

Adrie's light continues to shine through this mission, reminding us all to stand up, speak out, and fight for those who need a voice. Join us in honoring her legacy and making a difference—because every child deserves an angel.

Please help us keep Adrie's Memory and Ongoing Hope



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**HOT RODS MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS
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Saturday, September 12, 2026

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Proceeds to benefit Suicide Prevention, Motorcycle Awareness and other Michigan based charities

- 9/11 Tribute
- Community Vendors*
- Raffle baskets
- 50/50 Drawings
- Door Prizes
- Entertainment

Hot Rods Motorcycle Awareness and Suicide Prevention Foundation—501(c)(3) Nonprofit
*Contact us if interested in a Vendor booth or more information at Hotrods.motorcycleawareness@gmail.com

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Hot Rods HOT RODS TOPICS

We have been incredibly busy and successful in our mission to spread awareness for motorcycle safety and suicide prevention! We had a wonderful turnout at the Milan Fair, and while the Mayfly Festival in Dundee was a bit slower, we really enjoyed engaging with the families. We did our best to take care of the children who came through, and we truly appreciated the respect and kindness shown by the parents.

Additionally, we secured another proclamation with Amos at London Township, and she has been exceptionally busy teaching classes!

Upcoming Schedule

As you can tell, our schedule is packed. We will be selling tickets for our golf cart and trailer raffle at all the following events as we promote our **September 12th Hot Rods Annual Car & Bike Show**. We would love for you to come check us out:

- **June 25:** Presenting two Suicide Prevention Benches to Jefferson School in Newport.
- **July 3:** Adrian Car Show at the fairgrounds.
- **July 16:** Touch a Truck event for the Milan Library.
- **July 18:** A surprise birthday party.
- **July 25-27:** West Branch bike run. We will be staying at the Tri Terrace Motel and would love you to visit. (Note: If you plan to stay, please call 989-345-3121 ahead of time, as rooms are filling up quickly!)
- **August 1:** Vet Fest at Washtenaw Community College.
- **August 2:** Monroe County Fairgrounds car show.
- **August 7:** Returning to the Adrian Car Show for a repeat performance.
- **September 12:** Hot Rods Annual Car & Bike Show

Community Support & Condolences

We want to take a moment to acknowledge some recent heartbreaks within our community. We extend our deepest sympathies to Don Basham on the loss of his wife, Cindy; to Stretch on the passing of his sister; and to Sherman and Anne on the loss of their Aunt Helen. We are also keeping Gary's wife, Sherrie, in our thoughts and prayers as she navigates her recent illness. We all know how difficult it is to lose someone we love, and our hearts go out to these families.

Community Celebrations

Amidst the sorrow, we also have wonderful milestones to celebrate together. We are absolutely thrilled to share that Barb and Bud's niece, Katie, is officially cancer-free! We also want to wish a very happy anniversary to Joe and Charlotte, Tom and Racheal, and Bob and Donna!

A Final Thought

Life brings us both wonderful moments and unexpected tragedies, which is why it is so important to keep our loved ones in our prayers. Let us all strive to get along and treat one another with the utmost kindness, dignity, and respect—just as we wish to be treated ourselves.

God Bless, and stay safe,
Stay safe,

HOT ROD



STORM CHASERS DRINK RECIPE

FIRECRACKER MARGARITA

- 1.5 OZ. TEQUILA
- 1 OZ. BLUE CURACAO
- 1 OZ. LIME JUICE
- 5 OZ. SIMPLE SYRUP
- 5 OZ. TRIPLE SEC
- ICE
- LIME WHEEL
- RED, WHITE & BLUE SANDING SUGAR FOR RIM

Instructions

1. Rim a margarita glass with lime juice and dip in red, white & blue sanding sugar.
2. Fill a shaker with ice and add Tequila, Blue Curacao, Lime juice, Simple syrup, and Triple sec.
3. Shake well until chilled.
4. Fill the prepared glass with ice and add the mixture.
5. Garnish with a lime wheel.



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5 PM-CLOSE

JOKER'S WILD



When you Really Truly want to slap someone, but you're in a public setting, just give them a helluva whack on the bare upper shoulder or back and yell out loud, giant mosquito!

Girl and Guy on the 2nd date, Girl: I can actually see myself walking down the aisle with you. Guy: Not likely I do all my grocery shopping online.

Was reading a sweet plaque at WallyWorld that read: If you wouldn't like it done to you, don't do it to others.

I was nodding yes as I turned around and my hubby was holding a heavy truck part we'd come to buy, and I immediately saw he had on his usual stretchy waist shorts and pulled them down to his ankles. Bahahahaha ... some moments just make your day!

In your humble opinion, what's something that people don't fully understand until they have to experience it for themselves?
Survey Says: Prepping for a Colonoscopy

My cousin announced he was transitioning to a female so I bought a gift to commemorate the moment.
A T-shirt that says: May Contain Nuts -
Needless to say I'm not invited to Christmas

I am sincerely sorry.
The kids were playing some sort of cowboy game The five year old kept yelling "Yippee Ki Yay"
I did not think, I only reacted and instinctively yelled out the last part of the phrase
Andnow he knows a new word
Which he will not quit saying.

HAPPY HAPPY ANNIVERSARY AMERICA ~

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AND EXPRESSING OUR OPINIONS ~

HERE'S TO MANY, MANY MORE AND GOD LOVES
YOU AND SO DO ALL YOUR BELOVED PEOPLE ~

Whenever I see a warning label on peanut butter saying it may contain peanuts, I understand why aliens don't visit us anymore.

Read a quote that said:
When you are full of Love and good intentions, it confuses people whom are full of shite and have bad intentions.
Sounds about right.

Never, ever, piss off thee girl that knows why it's three tires and not four.

Why doesn't someone invent a clear toaster so you can actually see how golden brown your toast is while it's toasting?

Whoever decided it was a good idea to put a "p" in the word "receipt" was a total idiot.

Taxi Driver asked if I had a boyfriend
I said, "Three years ago, I was a boy myself.
The rest of the ride was nice and quiet.
Life hack, girls.

Was on a short Road Trip with some other bikes and stopped in at this quaint little Diner, the kind you just know has the real deal burgers and shakes. Entered and there was just the Cook and one Waitress staring at us with a huge sign behind the counter that read: Time To EAT Y'ALL and we all got the feeling we may have stumbled into a Cannibal Diner, so we just left. Better safe than ate.

I'm at the age where I've realized that the closest I'll get to an American Safari is seeing a camel toe in leopard print leggings at WallyWorld.

A man followed a girl into the bathroom, stating that he identified as a woman.
The man's teeth were knocked out by the girl's Father, who identifies as the Tooth Fairy.

My bestie got a dude's number saved as "legs" in her phone
I asked what's up with this?
She said because he aint got no car

Joker's Wild composed by: Toni McCoy Shearon | thunderroadsfounder@gmail.com

EVENTS



EVENTS



JULY 2026

July 10

- Test Ride a Royal Enfield Motorcycle |Grand Rapids, MI
BMW Motorcycles of Grand Rapids
5995 Division Ave S.
Grand Rapids, MI
Check out Facebook for details

July 11

- 4th BANK for BOOBS
The Bank Colwood Michigan
4985 Colwood Rd.
Unionville, MI
Check out Facebook for details

- 2026 Attica Days Classic
Car and Motorcycle Show
Attica Methodist Church
Attica, MI
Check out Facebook for details

- American Muscle Cruise
Motorcycle & Auto Show
Birch Run Speedway
10945 Dixie Hwy
Birch Run, MI
Check our Facebook for details

- Female Biker Day
Steel Horse Ranch
1965 Mertz Rd.
Caro, MI
Check out Facebook for details

- Mission 22/Mission 22
Service Dogs
American Legion Riders
Post 443
2080 N. Meridian Rd.
Sanford, MI
Check our Facebook for details

- Port Huron M/C
Road Run
3376 Griswold Rd.
Port Huron, MI
Check out Facebook for details

- Test Ride a Royal Enfield Motorcycle |Grand Rapids, MI
BMW Motorcycles of Grand Rapids
5995 Division Ave S.
Grand Rapids, MI
Check out Facebook for details

July 12

- 10 Year Anniversary
The Bank Colwood Michigan
4985 Colwood Rd.
Unionville, MI
Check out Facebook for details

July 16

- Rebel Road
Downtown Muskegon
Check out Facebook for details

July 17

- Rebel Road
Downtown Muskegon
Check out Facebook for details

July 18

- 8th Annual Emily Knox
Scholarship Fund Run
Fraternal Order of Eagles 3702
2645 Howard Street
Port Huron, MI
See ad in Magazine for details

- Car/Truck/Motorcycle Show
7193 E 34 Rd.
Cadillac, MI
Check out Facebook for details

- Home Builders Association –
Thunder
With Rods Classic Car
and Motorcycle Show
Downtown Mt. Pleasant
Check out Facebook for details

- Rebel Road
Downtown Muskegon
Check out Facebook for details

- Vintage Motorcycle Display
561 W. Western Ave.
Muskegon, MI
Check out Facebook for details

July 24

- American Legion Riders Hell
to Paradise
American Legion Auxiliary,
Stockbridge MI Post #510
830 S Clinton St.
Stockbridge, MI
Check out Facebook for details

July 25

- American Legion Riders Hell
to Paradise
American Legion Auxiliary,
Stockbridge MI Post #510
830 S Clinton St.
Stockbridge, MI
Check out Facebook for details

- Port Huron M/C

Test & Tune
3376 Griswold Rd.
Port Huron, MI
Check out Facebook for details

- RIDE TO RIBFEST – from
BIRCH RUN SPEEDWAY
10945 Dixie Hwy.
Birch Run, MI
Check out Facebook for details

July 30

- Munger Potato Festival
Munger, MI
Check out Facebook for details

July 31

- D.Y.S.U.N 2026
The Iron Pig Smokehouse
4029 Old 17 S.
Gaylord, MI
Check out Facebook for details

- Munger Potato Festival
Munger, MI
Check out Facebook for details

- Thunder Roads Michigan
2026 Bike Nights
Vehicle City H-D Bike Night
2400 Austin Pkwy.
Flint, MI
Check out Facebook for details

AUGUST 2026

August 1

- Munger Potato Festival
Munger, MI
Check out Facebook for details

- D.Y.S.U.N 2026

The Iron Pig Smokehouse
4029 Old 17 S.
Gaylord, MI
Check out Facebook for details

- Hope on 2 Wheels – ride
to benefit Camp Hope
Ride with Purpose
Steel Horse Ranch
1965 Mertz Rd.
Caro, MI
Check out Facebook for details

August 2

- Munger Potato Festival
Munger, MI
Check out Facebook for details

August 9

- 16th Annual Ton-up Ypsi
Motorcycle &
Music Festival @ Corner Brewery
720 Norris St.
Ypsilanti, MI
Check out Facebook for details

August 14

- US Route 23
Bike Night
5738 F-41
Oscoda, MI
Check out Facebook for details

August 15

- 20th Annual Teddy Bear Run
American Legion Riders
Sanford
2080 N. Meridian Rd.
Sanford, MI
Check out Facebook for details

- RickyD's 8th annual Memorial Run
VFW in Lapeer
128 Daley Rd.
Lapeer MI
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- Hog-a-Palooza

Steel Horse Ranch
1965 Mertz Rd.
Caro, MI
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August 21

- 7th Annual Party With Marty
Motorcycle Drags!
US 131 Motorsports Park
1249 12th Street
Martin, MI
Check out Facebook for details

- THUNDER RALLY IN THE VALLEY

Saginaw Valley Naval Ship
Museum
USS Edson DD946
1600 Martin St.
Bay City, MI
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August 22

- 7th Annual Party With Marty
Motorcycle Drags!
US 131 Motorsports Park
1249 12th Street
Martin, MI
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- THUNDER RALLY IN THE VALLEY

Saginaw Valley
Naval Ship Museum
USS Edson DD946
1600 Martin St.
Bay City, MI
Check out Facebook for details

- Niles Moose Rider Motorcycle
Fundraiser Run – Open to Public
VFW Post 1855
472 E. Division St.
Dowagiac, MI
Check out Facebook for details

- Riding For Laura “Trouble”
Honoring Her By Riding
and Giving
RayC’s Harley-Davidson of
Lapeer
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Lapeer, MI
Check out Facebook for details

- Port Huron M/C
Test & Tune Dirt Drags
3376 Griswold Rd.
Port Huron, MI
Check out Facebook for details

August 28

- Thunder Roads Michigan
2026 Bike Nights
Vehicle City H-D Bike Night
2400 Austin Pkwy.
Flint, MI
Check out Facebook for details
- Born 2 Be Wild
Elkton, MI
Check out Facebook for details

August 29

- Wyld Stallions Season 4 Finale
Downtown Owosso
Owosso, MI
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The Post Restaurant & Bar - Cass City

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Break Shot Bar And Grill - Vassar
Circle Bar - Bay City
Gas Alley - Birch Run
Tool Shed Pub & Grub - Munger
The Otherside Bar & Grill - Freeland
The Pines Sports Bar
& Bowling Center - Cadillac

FRIDAY'S

Shotmakers - Harrisville
Vehicle City Harley-Davidson - Last Friday
of the Month - Flint

SATURDAY'S

A&W - 3rd Saturday of the Month -
Midland
D&K Bar and Grill - Elmira
The Alibi Bar & Grill - Ionia

SUNDAY'S

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