

**Secretary of State Ruth Johnson announces local motorcycle classes for seasoned riders
There's always something new that riders can learn to stay safer on the road**

Secretary of State Ruth Johnson has some great advice for motorcyclists with a few miles on their bikes – take a refresher course to sharpen their riding skills.

Advance Rider Courses (ARC) will be offered at select locations around the state throughout the summer months. The fee is \$50. Participants must have a motorcycle endorsement on their driver's license and provide their own motorcycle and proof of insurance. The motorcycle must be properly titled and registered, display a valid license plate and pass a safety inspection.

"I have talked to many seasoned riders who were surprised and pleased by how much they learned in the advanced course," said Johnson, who has been riding a motorcycle since she was a young teenager. "Motorcycling requires good judgment, the ability to manage risk, make quick decisions and react appropriately in an ever-changing riding environment. Everyone I've met who has taken an ARC has come away with something valuable from the class."

The ARC teaches riders how to evaluate their riding skills and helps with personal risk assessment. The one-day course includes a classroom session to improve perception and hazard awareness, and a range segment to practice more advanced crash-avoidance skills as well as improving braking and cornering techniques. Speed and loss of control, especially in curves, is one of the leading causes of motorcycle crashes.

Each ARC is limited to 12 participants and tends to fill up quickly. Anyone interested in signing up for an ARC class should contact the program coordinator for more information. A schedule of ARC classes offered this summer may be found at the following link.

For more information about the ARC and basic rider classes, a list of training classes, how to get a motorcycle endorsement or becoming a motorcycle rider training instructor, visit the Secretary of State website at www.michigan.gov/motorcycling.

**Taste of Muskegon Teams up with Burning Foot Beer Festival
Muskegon, MI (May 8, 2017)**

Taste of Muskegon is adding a taste of the Burning Foot Beer Festival to their lineup. A pint-size Burning Foot will set up in Hackley Park both days of the festival. Taking place June 16 and 17, it is a prelude to the ticket party Burning Foot will hold the following weekend.

"Taste of Muskegon has highlighted our local craft beers for several years and will again host a local craft competition. We are excited to bring in the Burning Foot Beer Festival to expand our craft offerings, show off another great Muskegon festival and add a unique element to our event," said Ellen Berends, Director of Taste of Muskegon.

The Beer Garden presented by Burning Foot Beer Festival will bring a beach-theme to the annual community event. They will run rotating taps of craft beers from all over Michigan and have experts available to tell you about their pours. To make you feel like you are at their festival venue, Pere Marquette, they will have beach games and kiddie pools. There will also be two drawings to win tickets to this year's August event.

Taste of Muskegon, a part of Downtown Muskegon Now, is kicking off their 11th year with a rebranding which includes a new logo and website. The event will feature the West Michigan Offshore Club Powerboat Street Party on Friday as part of Powerboat weekend. Saturday will begin with the United Way's Ride United, breakfast with the Shoreline Lions, the Skee-Town Showdown Car Show and Sweetwater Local Foods Market. Awards for Taste of Muskegon's best plates will take place Saturday afternoon and includes both judge and public votes.

Learn more about the restaurants, bands and events at Taste of Muskegon 2017, visit their new website at www.tasteofmuskegon.org. For more information on Burning Foot Beer Festival, visit burningfoot.beer.

News from Fruitport Township Road Committee

The newly formed Road Committee had their first meeting on the 31st January, 2017. The group was formed to develop a road plan for the next 3 years, educate the residents on those roads how the process will be funded and how they can defray their costs over a period of time to make it more manageable for them.

They will also bring petitions to the Township Board on behalf of the community to request assistance on funding and permissions to have the roads fixed.

The committee is excited to develop a plan for fixing the Townships infrastructure and forward movement with funding opportunities.

Respectfully submitted, Road Committee

Station #1 new Fire Truck

By Supervisor Heidi Tice

It's finally here! The new pumper truck was delivered from its designers in Indiana on February 27, 2017. The new truck was ordered in March of 2016, to replace the 40 year old deteriorating Truck #526, and will be housed at Fire Station #1, beside the Township Hall.

The Board and residents who attended the board meeting were shown all the new features of the truck, which includes many new safety features to make it more efficient and more productive in putting out large house fires.

Public Safety Director Brian Michelli is planning some community events that will have the new truck available for inspection in the spring and summer months. If you can't wait, you can stop in at station #1 any time. The team would love to show it off! The new truck will be at Kids Day during the Fruitport Lions Old Fashioned Days on Saturday, 12-2pm at the bandshell.

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2017**

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