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Thursday, May 18, 2006

Tom Greenwood

Nonprofits: Ditch gas-guzzlers for bikes



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Sports



Gas hike? Take a bike! Two nonprofits, Detroit Bikes! and Detroit Synergy, will kick off their first Detroit Bikes to Work Day at 6:45

a.m. Friday. They're promoting cycling as a viable means of transportation and as a good way to promote healthy living. The main event is a group ride along the Woodward Corridor from Royal Oak all the way to downtown Detroit.

Here's the schedule:

Meet at the Royal Oak Farmers' Market (on 11 Mile Road, just east of Main Street) at 6:45 a.m.

Proceed into Ferndale by 7 a.m.

Ride to the Michigan State Fairgrounds (just south of Eight Mile Road) by 7:15 a.m.

Bike through Highland Park at about 7:30 a.m.

Roll into the New Center area at 7:50 a.m.

Proceed to the medical/cultural center by 8 a.m.

Finish up at Campus Martius by 8:15 a.m.

The return trip will begin at Campus Martius at 5:30 p.m. and arrive back in funky Royal Oak by 7 p.m.

Helmets are required. Information can be found online at

www.detroitbikes@detroit synergy.org.

Advertisement



Average fuel prices

Wednesday's Metro Detroit averages:

Regular

\$2.93

Midgrade

\$3.10

Premium

\$3.22 Diesel \$2.98

Source: AAA Michigan

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Child Safety Day at the zoo

"It's all happening at the zoo ..."

Thanks to Simon and Garfunkel for that lead-in to the Sixth Annual Child Safety Day happening at the Detroit Zoo from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. this Saturday. State Farm Insurance, along with Radio Disney (910 AM) and Macomb County Safe Kids will have technicians on-hand to check child restraint seats and to show parents how to properly install the life-saving devices.

At last year's event, more than 100 car seats were checked and nearly 80 percent of them had some type of serious problem, such as seat not tight enough in vehicle; harness not tight enough on child, not using the proper seat for the child's age/weight, etc.

The Detroit Zoo also will hold a safety fair inside with poison safety information, child identification kits and more.

But it's not all going to be serious stuff; there will be games, music, temporary tattoos and prize giveaways.

Teens can tap Web for tips

You can also make things safer for the teenagers in your life by encouraging them to check out the Ford Motor Co.'s "Driving Skills for Life" online teen safety program at [www.drivingskillsfor](http://www.drivingskillsforlife.com)

[life.com](http://www.drivingskillsforlife.com).

Vehicle crashes are the No. 1 killer of teenagers in the U.S., with nearly 6,000 teens dying annually in such accidents, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. This interactive Web site is designed to help young drivers improve their skills behind the wheel, while also offering them the chance to win prizes.

The site has a registration feature that provides visitors with user names and passwords. Teenagers can complete e-learning modules, take a safe-driving quiz, play safe-driving games and complete other activities.

Several features on the site award points that teens may use to enter prize drawings. Among the prizes are a laptop computer, digital camera, gift certificates and Ford die-cast vehicles.

It's a win-win situation.

Commuting

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