Mark's Run ALS Charity Poker Ride to start in town Aug. 6

Several hundred motorcycle enthusiasts are expected to congregate at Milton's Hardball Café Saturday, Aug. 6 at 11 a.m. before setting out on Mark's Run ALS Charity Poker Ride.

Participants will ride to locations in the Milton, Guelph, Halton Hills and Burlington areas to collect playing cards from individuals affected by ALS. Those who return with the best hand will win one of many prizes donated by local area businesses.

"We'll be riding in memory of my cousin, friend and riding buddy, Mark," said John Thompson, event organizer and longtime biker enthusiast. "Mark was diagnosed with ALS in 2006 and after that I watched him go from being one of the most full-of-life people I know to being restricted to a wheelchair, unable to move, eat or even communicate. Before he lost his ability to speak, he asked me to ride for him whenever I go out. I promised him I would but really wanted to do something special. So I organized Mark's Run to give back to ALS Ontario and haven't looked back since."

An unofficial goodwill ride was held last August and attracted more than 100 bikers from across southern Ontario.

This year's ride will be followed by a barbeque, live music and silent auction.

"I'm once again challenging bikers to get out there and enjoy the freedom of the open road, the grinding and carving of corners and the camaraderie of friends. I'm challenging them to ride for Mark and raise money to support those living with ALS and their families in our community," said Thompson.

The run is open to anyone with a motorbike and costs $25 to register per bike or a minimum of $100 in pledges. Proceeds will go to ALS Ontario to help provide support and care services to people living with the disease.

More information about the ride, including instruction on how to register, can be found at www.marksrun.ca.

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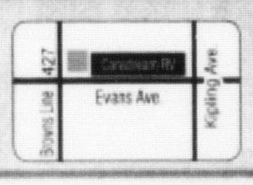

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‡The Summer's On Us event applies to lease offers on all new in-stock 2011 Mazda3 models. Mazda Canada Inc. will pay the first 3 monthly lease payments, including taxes (up to $1,000 in total for the 3 months). No credits if lease payments total less than $1,000. PPSA, licence, insurance, taxes, down payment and other dealer charges may be required at the time of lease. ◆U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) frontal impact rating for 2011 Mazda3 and 2011 Mazda3 Sport models. ▼Based on Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. ΩOffer available on retail purchases of new 2011 Mazda2 and 2011 Mazda3 models by qualifying first time Mazda purchasers with no prior automotive finance history of any kind. This program can be used in combination with all other Mazda incentive programs (excluding the Mazda Graduate Rebate). Some conditions apply. See mazda.ca or your dealer for complete program details. *Offers available on retail leases of new 2011 Mazda3 GX (D43S51AA00)/2011 Mazda6 GS-I4 (G45Y61AA00)/2011 CX-7 GX (PY3Y81AA00) with a lease APR of 1.9%/0.9%/1.9% and monthly payments of $199/$319/$339 for 48/48/48 months; the total lease obligation is $9,531/$17,307/$18,267 including down payment of $0/$1,995/$1,995. As shown, 2011 Mazda3 GT (D47Y61AA00)/2011 Mazda6 GT-V6 (G47B81AA00)/2011 CX-7 GT (PX7J81AA00) with a lease APR of 1.9%/0.9%/1.9% and monthly payments of $376/$539/$487 for 48/48/48 months; the total lease obligation is $18,046/$27,503/$25,367, including down payment of $0/$1,995/$1,995. Lease payments include freight and P.D.E. of $1,495/$1,695/$1,695. 20,000 km per year mileage allowance applies; if exceeded, additional 8¢ per km applies. 24,000 km leases also available. PPSA and taxes are extra. Offered leasing available to retail customers only. Leasing may not be available for all models. Lease offers vary by region and trim level/model. See mazda.ca or your dealer for lease available vehicles. **Financed pricing for new 2011 Tribute GX-I4 (WVX3D51AA00) is $25,156, financed at 3% over 84 months equaling monthly payments of $299 with $0 down payment; the cost of borrowing is $0 with a total obligation of $25,156. As shown, 2011 Tribute GT-V6 (WXT271AA00) is $36,980, financed at 0% over 84 months equaling monthly payments of $439 with $0 down payment; the cost of borrowing is $0 with a total obligation of $36,900. All offers include freight, PDE and fees. †0% APR Purchase Financing is available on new 2011 Mazda vehicles. Based on a representative agreement using an offered pricing of $17,790/$25,156/$25,690/$27,990 for the new 2011 Mazda3 GX (D43S51AA00)/2011 Tribute GX-I4 (WVX3D51AA00)/2011 Mazda6 GS-I4 (G45Y61AA00)/2011 CX-7 GX (PY3Y81AA00) with a financed amount of $15,000/$25,000/$25,000/$25,000, the cost of borrowing for a 60/84/60/60-month term is $0, monthly payment is $250.00/$297.62/$416.67/$416.67, total finance obligation is $15,000/$25,000/$25,000/$25,000. Price includes freight, P.D.E. and fees. PPSA, licence, insurance, taxes, down payment and other dealer charges are extra and may be required at the time of purchase. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Dealer order or trade may be necessary on certain vehicles. Lease and Finance on approved credit for qualified customers only. Offers valid July 12 - August 2, 2011 while supplies last. Prices subject to change without notice. Visit mazda.ca or see your dealer for complete details.

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