

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, September 16, 2024

Motorcycles and Cars Take to the Streets September 21 for the 16th Annual Hammer Down for Habitat Poker Run

Murfreesboro, TN – Supporters of Rutherford County Area Habitat for Humanity will take to the streets on **September 21 for the 16th Annual Hammer Down for Habitat Poker Run,** a 104-mile poker run for motorcycles and cars. As the cars and bikes drive the route, they pick up playing cards to make poker hands for prizes. The theme is Ride, Drive, Fun for Habitat for Humanity.

Nissan USA is the Diamond sponsor again this year and we'll have both new and classic cars, including many from the Stones River AACA car club. TV Host and Hammer Down MC Kevin Tetz will be there to discuss all things cars and restoration knowledge. His Paintucation Learning Center offers how-to videos and tech tips for both enthusiasts and professionals. Kevin is also on the Advisory Board at TCAT in Smyrna for their collision repair program and has also been a journalist for major magazines.

This is an exciting event where 200+ motorcycles and cars start at the Habitat ReStore at 850 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, in Murfreesboro at 8:00 am, and "run" a scenic 104-mile route through Middle Tennessee, ending back in Murfreesboro for lunch, live entertainment and prizes at Hop Springs Beer Park on John Bragg Hwy. Music will be provided by the Whiskey Smoke Band and national recording artist Rick Monroe.

The Hammer Down for Habitat Poker Run event was founded by RCHFH Board Member Richard Luneack as a way for him and co-workers at the General Mills plant in Murfreesboro to have motorcycle fun and raise money for the Rutherford County Habitat for Humanity. They also built garden sheds for Habitat homeowners and volunteered on house builds. Cars started to join the Hammer Down run in 2016. The 16th Annual Hammer Down now has an equal number of cars and motorcycles as well as the general public who love coming to the lunch event and to see the cars & motorcycles. Platinum sponsors include Gardner Construction LLC, Williams Mechanical, Water Control Roofing Company and Old National Bank.

Proceeds from Hammer Down will go towards building affordable housing for area residents at Habitat's Legacy Pointe subdivision in Murfreesboro. Habitat has built 38 homes at Legacy Pointe and has four homes under construction to be completed in the fall and winter. This year's Hammer Down proceeds will be applied to a house for Future Homeowner Stephanie, a single mother who works at Rutherford County Schools. Stephanie will be at Hop Springs to welcome the attendees and join the fun.

All media are welcome to join – and there are great photo/video and interview opportunities. We can also share drone video of the cars and bikes.

Date: Saturday, Sept. 21 Time: 8am, registration (riders out around 8:30 am), 12:00 – 2:30 pm Lunch event & Car/Motorcycle Show at Hop Springs Beer Park, 6790 John Bragg Hwy, Murfreesboro.

Place: Start at the Habitat ReStore at 850 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, in Murfreesboro. Lunch and entertainment at Hop Springs Beer Park.

Poker Run: the motorcycle/car run route will be from Habitat for Humanity on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd to Well House, Tullahoma, Lynchburg, Shelbyville, Christiana and back to Murfreesboro and Hop Springs Beer Park. Drivers will get a "poker hand" at the beginning and pick up additional cards along the route – for poker hand prizes.

Cost: \$35 for each rider/driver, \$25 for each passenger and \$15 for those coming to the event at Hop Springs, which includes lunch and live music. There is a \$10 ticket for children 12 and under. A discounted ticket is available for First Responders and car clubs (please email <u>Melissa@rchfh.org</u> for link)

Event website: http://www.rchfh.org/hammer-down/ **Tickets at Eventbrite: Hammer Down** https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2024-hammer-down-for-habitat-poker-run-tickets-944255853677

Benefits: Proceeds from the event go to building affordable housing at Habitat's Legacy Pointe subdivision in Murfreesboro.

Special Guest/MC: Kevin Tetz, host of several national automotive TV shows and current host of "Hands on Cars" (Amazon) Kevin has been the TV host of DIY Network's *"Classic Rides"* and Spike Network's *"TRUCKS!"* and *"Power Nation"*. Kevin is a nationally known paint and body work expert and artist and appears on national TV and car shows.

Entertainment: *Whiskey Smoke,* country and southern rock for all ages. Rick Monroe, national recording artist.

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Photos, video and interviews are available: Melissa@rchfh.org, 615-603-5395 (cell).

Photos from last year's event at: https://www.rchfh.org/2023-hammer-down-travis-gallery/

Special Guest: Kevin Tetz, former HOST of DIY Network's *"Classic Rides"* and Spike Network's *"TRUCKS!"* and *"Power Nation"*. Kevin is a nationally known paint and body work expert and artist and appears on national TV and car shows. Kevin's series is *"Hands On Cars"*. Kevin restored a 1965 Harley Davidson Electra Glide as host of DIY Network's Classic Rides. Paintucation Learning Center: https://www.paintucation.com/

The Stones River AACA: The Stones River Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America is dedicated to the preservation, restoration, and maintenance of automobiles. The club meets on the first Tuesday of each month at Cannonsburgh Village in Murfreesboro, TN. at 6:00pm. Contact Celia Murrah: cmurrah@bellsouth.net Jeremy Byrd: jbyrd484@comcast.net Website: http://www.stonesrivercarclub.com Info about the Student Car Club: http://www.stonesrivercarclub.com/students.html

Google Map of Poker Run: https://maps.app.goo.gl/zuxmCjSh1NhLzZANA



