

KBC advertisement for the *Kalamazoo Gazette* (proposed text):

SAFER SUMMER FUN - CITIZENS FOR HEALTHY CYCLING

In June another cyclist lost his life on a Kalamazoo County road. Members and friends of the Kalamazoo Bicycle Club want to remind bicyclists and motorists of the basic safety rules to prevent tragic accidents. Please help make our community safer for bicycle riders of all ages. The 30 seconds you take can save a life.

Safety Tips for Cyclists:

1. Wear a helmet. 80% of serious head injuries can be eliminated by wearing a helmet.
2. Ride only on the right side of the road.
3. Ride only two abreast and only when traffic allows.
4. Obey all traffic laws.
5. Ride as near to the right of the roadway as safe and practicable (MVC CI.257.660)
6. Do not carry packages that prevent you from steering with *both* hands.
7. Do not weave around traffic.
8. When making a left-hand turn, do not cross over to the left lane first. You will turn into the oncoming right lane of traffic. **THIS IS A VERY DANGEROUS MOVE.**
9. Parents, teach your children the rules of safe cycling, most importantly to ride with traffic. Most car/bike accidents occur when the cyclist is riding against traffic.
10. Law enforcement people, clamp down on cyclists disobeying vehicle laws.

Safety Tips For Motorists:

1. Share the road. Bikes are legally considered vehicles. Yield the right of way as you would to another car.
2. Do not throw article at cyclists.
3. Do not grab cyclists from cars.
4. Avoid sounding your horn when right behind or beside a cyclist.
5. Do not pass unless you have a clear lane, especially on hill tops. Will it *really* matter that much if you have to wait another 15 seconds?
6. Bikes designed for pavement *cannot* ride on the dirt shoulder or in potholes without danger of a crash. Don't expect them to do so.
7. Do not rush past a cyclist and then make an immediate right turn. You will kill us.
8. Allow cyclists to enter left turn lanes, as the law mandates they should. Do not "gun it" to cut cyclists off. Bikes have a legal right to the roadway and lanes.
9. Remember, a car is 3000 pounds and a bicycle is 25 pounds. We cannot win an encounter, but you will lose. Motorists, if you do not agree with the laws of the road for bicycles then work to change them, but please don't use your car as an instrument to teach cyclists a lesson.



KBC MEMBERS



MAKE YOUR VOICES HEARD!

On June 13, Kim Whitworth, a local cyclist, was struck by a drunk driver and killed while he was riding to the Wednesday night KBC Time Trials in Climax. Kim was practicing safe cycling; he just lost the luck of the draw. It could have been any one of us, or any one of our children. Now, more than ever, we need to let motorists know that we as cyclists have legal rights on the roads. We need to let them know that the way they drive can mean life or death to us. We need to teach others about safe cycling and safe driving so we can share the roads.

The KBC is going to run a full page advertisement in an upcoming *Kalamazoo Gazette*. The proposed text for this ad is on the reverse side of this sheet. The advertisement is very expensive and can't be paid for out of the regular Club budget. We need your donation to make it possible. Please send whatever amount you can (\$5.00 minimum suggested) to

Safety Advertisement
Kalamazoo Bicycle Club
P.O. Box 527
Kalamazoo, MI 49005

So you don't forget, why don't you make out the check right now? Do it for your safety. Do it for your children's safety. Do it because it's the right thing to do. Whatever your reason, just do it and make your voice heard!



Kalamazoo Bicycle Club
P.O. Box 527
Kalamazoo, MI 49005

Address Correction requested

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KBC Events Note: For safety reasons, the starting point of the Monday night rides will be changed to Texas Drive Park, 1/2-mile west of 10th Street on Milham Rd. (Texas Drive).