

THREE RIVERS AERO NEWSLETTER

JUNE RECAP



Written By : Akhil Shah

Summer Flying Season Has Taken Off!

June was packed with big moments at Three Rivers Aero. Our trusty Cessna 172, N503WA, returned to service with a brand-new engine, ready for many flights ahead. We celebrated three CFI checkride passes and two student first solos—huge milestones for both instructors and students alike. We also welcomed new students to the community and capped off the month with a lively Student Appreciation Day, featuring a cookout, cornhole, and a spot landing contest. Thanks to everyone who made it a memorable month!

Top Center: TRA students gather to watch as their peers compete in the Spot Landing Contest on June 20th, 2025.

● Student Appreciation Day Recap

The day kicked off with students gathering outside the hangar to play cornhole and enjoy some friendly competition. After a cookout lunch, the excitement shifted to the highlight event—the Spot Landing Contest. Students took off in heats of four, choosing their favorite TRA airplane, with the goal of touching down as close as possible to the hold short line on Runway 23 at KHA1. Participants could fly solo or team up with a TRA instructor for their turn in the contest. It was a fantastic day filled with fun, skill, and great camaraderie!

Bottom Right: Our winners of the Spot Landing Contest—a three-way tie between students Gabe Hernandez, Dustin Blackmun, and Charlie Pacana.



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Fresh Engine, Fresh Start

In June, our trusty Cessna 172, N503WA, received a brand-new engine, was carefully broken in, and returned to the flight line. This reliable trainer has helped dozens of students earn certifications ranging from Private Pilot to CFI over the past year. Equipped with a classic six-pack, a 160HP engine, and modern avionics including the GTR 225, MX 12, GTX 335, and GMA 340, N503WA remains a true workhorse and essential part of our general aviation training fleet. We're thrilled to have it flying again!

Top Right: N503WA pictured on a gloomy summer day, getting a bath courtesy of the typical Michigan summer rain.



N503WA



Student Spotlight

Gyuwon Yoon

This month, we're proud to spotlight Gyuwon Yoon, a student pilot working hard toward his Private Pilot License. Gyuwon is also a student at Western Michigan University, majoring in Aviation Management. His positive attitude and dedication have propelled him through his training—he recently completed his first solo and is now tackling cross-country flights. Always showing up with a smile, Gyuwon is a joy to have around the hangar, and we're proud to cheer him on as he continues his journey in aviation!



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Snapshots From June



Fueling up our favorite pilots—TRA team on grill duty.



Faxing Zhou proudly pictured after passing his CFI checkride on June 16th—congrats on becoming a Certified Flight Instructor!



Gabe Hernandez celebrates after passing his CFI checkride on June 26th—another big step in his aviation journey!



First solo flight complete! Brodie Girolami celebrates the big day with his family.



On June 20th, Olivia Avery passed her CFI checkride—congratulations on this amazing achievement!



Avery Anderson poses proudly after completing his first solo flight at Three Rivers Aero—congratulations on this exciting milestone!