

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. PALM BEACH CHAPTER



ISSUE 143 2017-07 PALMBEACH.ABATEFLORIDA.COM July 2017



**A MERICAN
B IKERS
A IMING
T OWARD
E DUCATION**

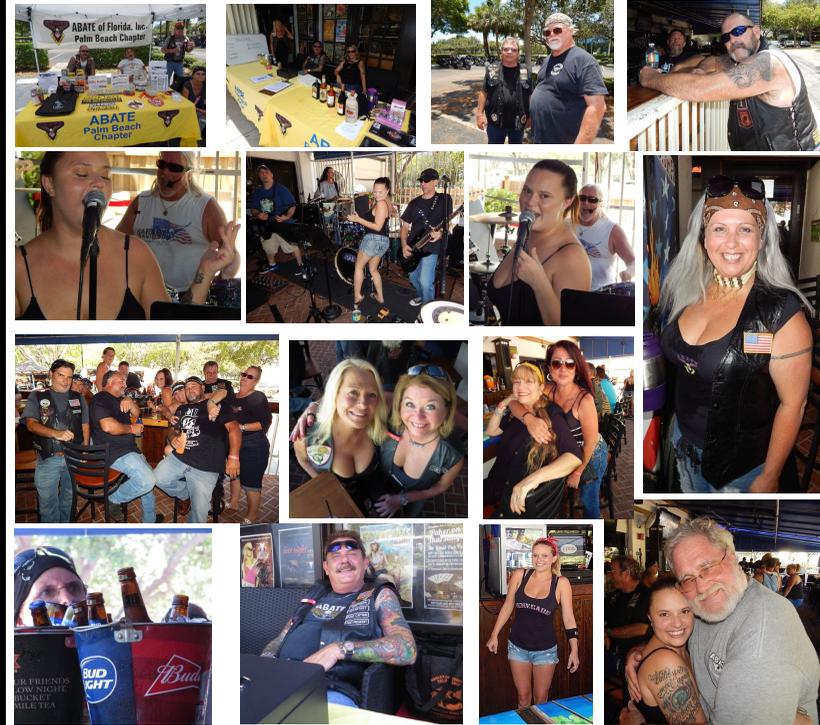
**NEXT CHAPTER
MEETING
11:30 AM
Third Sunday
JULY 16**

**CHECK TWICE
FOR MOTORCYCLES**

**LET THOSE
WHO RIDE
DECIDE!**



**ABATE of Florida, Inc.
PALM BEACH CHAPTER
JUNE 25, 2017 1PM-6PM
Annual Freedom Rights Rally
RENEGADES
COUNTRY BAR AND GRILL**



2016-2017 Board of Directors & Trustees

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VICE PRESIDENT	John "LB" Valiquette	561-907-0043
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PRODUCTS TRUSTEE	open	

Our Email is palmbeach.abateflorida@gmail.com

Put in the subject: ABATE and the officer to whom should see it and what about to so that message is directed right

Mailing Address WILL BE CHANGING

ABATE - Palm Beach Chapter

P.O. Box 1256

Loxahatchee, FL 33470

Our website is palmbeach.abateflorida.com

DISCLAIMER

This official publication of ABATE of Florida, Inc., Palm Beach Chapter accepts no responsibility for the comments, advertisers or opinions contained in this publication. The submission deadline for all material for publication is after the third weekend of month or earlier for on time completion.

IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT

This newsletter is the monthly publication of ABATE of Florida, Inc. Palm Beach Chapter published monthly 12 times a year
ABATE of Florida Inc
Palm Beach Chapter
P.O. Box 1256
Loxahatchee, FL 33470

ABATE of Florida, Inc. does not condone drinking and driving

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WWW.800.HELPFLA.COM 1-800-435-7352



President's Message

Ken "Snooze" Gerecke

Well for those of you that don't know we had our annual June elections at our June chapter meeting. I am the new president of our chapter. Also we have a new Sgt at Arms and a new treasurer for this coming year. I am looking forward to working with everyone to make our chapter great again. But i can't do it alone. We need your help too. The way that you can help you chapter is by showing up for monthly meetings and being involved we need your input, your ideas. So make sure you come to our July chapter meeting and voice your opinion.

In the coming year my goal is to try to get more members to come out for rides together more social activities and just more plain fun while we continue to do our jobs and fight for our rights as motorcyclists/ With that being said make sure you find the time to come to our July 16th chapter meeting at 11:30 in Riviera Beach at the VFW post 4143. Come out and meet your new board of directors. As always we appreciate your support and look forward to seeing everyone.

As always Ride Safe Ride Smart !!
SNOOZE

EDITORIAL GUIDELINES

You are encouraged to submit letters about ABATE related to events, articles, photographs, commentaries, etc. Please do not submit slanderous nor accusing letters, profanity nor nudity. Abate of Florida, Inc., will not accept any advertising that discriminates against any type of motorcyclist



Find us on
Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/AbatePalmBeachChapter>

ABATE of Florida, Inc. Mission Statement

WHO WE ARE

We are a non-profit organization of motorcycle enthusiasts from all walks of life. We lobby and educate the government and the general public to promote motorcycling in a safe and positive image. We endeavor to enlist the cooperation and participation of all organizations and individuals that share a similar interest in preserving our American tradition of FREEDOM. We promote motorcycle safety, training, & political awareness. We ARE NOT A CLUB NOR A GANG. We fund our work through events, toy runs, poker runs, campouts, and other motorcycle activities. We are your neighbors & friends who work, pay taxes, and get involved with our community. We serve and support our country and believe in freedom. We use all legal means to protect our rights without infringing on the rights of others. We are Pro-choice NOT anti- helmet, it is up to you to decide.

OUR GOALS

To become a powerful and viable political force in legislative matters concerning the motorcyclist.
To promote the safe riding habits without infringing on individual freedoms.
To motivate the bikers to write letters to legislators before, during, and after the legislative session.
To furnish a newsletter to keep all bikers informed in regards to upcoming legislation.

MEMBERSHIP

When you become a member of ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. you are helping make a difference in the ongoing mission to protect your right to ride and enjoy the motorcycle of your choice, your choice of riding apparel, and when and where you can ride a motorcycle. These are issues that are real and present in today's "protect yourself from yourself" political environment. This holds true for all levels of government. There will always be those who see our love for motorcycling as a negative and will try any means to control and if possible prohibit motorcycle use.

On the local level our members get out the vote and support candidates who are sympathetic to our issues. We also will endeavor to lobby local governments whenever there are issues that need to be addressed, affecting local motorcycle use, ownership, and any discrimination that may result from said use of ownership.

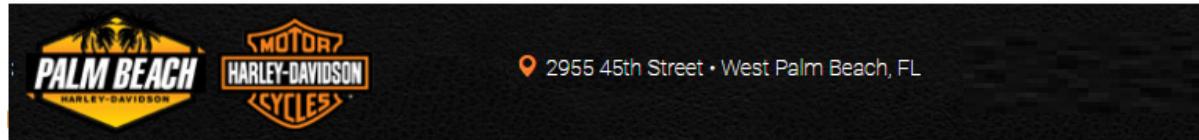
At the state level we have a paid registered lobbyist who regularly visits our state capital in Tallahassee to lobby our legislators on the issues concerning the motorcycling public in Florida. He also finds reliable House and Senate sponsors for the bills we support. On the national level we are aligned with Motorcycle Riders Foundations (MRF), and the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM), along with several other international motorcycle rights organizations (MRO's).

As one can see we have our ear to the ground and our resolve tempered like steel. As Americans we have had it demonstrated to us time and again the vigilance is armor of free men and women. We shall not let the armor rust or weaken. With your support we can re-enforce and strengthen the armor for now and generations to come.

What else do you get with your membership? All members receive with their paid membership, the Membership Card, Event Discounts and Updates, Voting Privileges, Free Newsletter Classified Advertisements, a Chapter Newsletter, and a free \$4,000 Accidental Death or Dismemberment Insurance Policy from the American Income Life Insurance Company.

Memberships are open to anyone 18 years of age or older, no matter what type of motorcycle you ride, if any at all! We welcome all riders—in clubs, associations, independents, and sport riders to join us.

Photos cover and below from our event—all on our Facebook page
https://www.facebook.com/pg/AbatePalmBeachChapter/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1224156424362363



BIKINI GIRLS WASH YOUR BIKE FOR FREE

WHAT'S THERE TO MISS?

UPCOMING Event Schedule

Saturday July 1 US Military Vets MC South Broward Annual
Saturday July 1 Palm Beach Harley Free bikini Bike Wash 11am-3pm

Sunday July 2 AOA WPB Party Clubhouse

Monday July 3 Mob of Brothers MC Open House 2590 Commerce Park Dr. Unit F5 Boynton

Thursday July 6 Black Pistons MC Open House 3648 E Industrial Way Riviera Bch 8-12

Friday July 7 Ink Link Bike Night 691 N. Military Trail, WPB
Friday July 7 Soldiers for Jesus MC Open House 1015 S. Congress Ave. WPB
Friday July 7 Classic Cruiser's Bike Show at Tom Sawyers 3208 Forest Hill Blvd WPB
July 7-9 Seminole Harley Hogfest 17 Sanford FL

Tuesday July 11 Lone Legion Brotherhood MC Open House 2590 Commerce Park Dr. Unit F5 Boynton

Friday July 14 AOA WPB MC Open House

Saturday July 15 Treasure Coast Harley Customer Appreciation Noon to 4pm Stuart FL
Saturday July 15 Christmas in July Toy Run Tampa

Sunday July 16 Palm Beach Chapter Meeting ABATE of FL. Inc. 11:30 am
V.F.W. Post 4143 located at 2404 Broadway, Riviera Beach 561-844-5718. From I 95 exit Blue Heron Blvd. go east to Broadway (Federal Hwy., US- 1) turn right, go south 1 block the V.F.W. is on the east side. Look for the flag. Breakfast will be served 9:00 AM 'til Noon
Sunday July 16 Soldiers for Jesus MC Broward Annual
Sunday July 16 Gator Alley ABATE Preservation Run
Sunday July 16 Treasure Coast Harly Noon to 4PM Uptown Classics Band

Wednesday July 19 States MC Lake Worth Open House 3570 Boutwell Rd. Lake Worth

Sunday July 23 Soldiers for Jesus Annual

Friday July 28 AOA WPB MC Open House

Thursday July 27 Turboz Custom Cycles Bike Night 7-10 PM Ralph's Stand Up Bar Jupiter
Thursday July 27 Palm Beach Harley Wet & Wild Bike Night 5-9 45th St. West Palm Beach

Saturday July 29 Wheels of Man MC Chili Cook Off Pompano

Monday July 31 Mob of Brothers MC Open House 2590 Commerce Park Dr. Unit F5 Boynton

REMINDER: EVERY

**Wednesday Night is Gorilla Motors Bike Night at Island Jack's
Saturday Night is FLY-IN WHEELS MC OPEN HOUSE
PLEASE ATTEND THE OPEN HOUSES FOR A GOOD TIME AND SHOW OF SUPPORT WHEN
POSSIBLE**

West Palm Beach
Outlaws
 Join us
July 2nd, 2017
1:00 pm till ??



"LDL"
The Original King Bug
Louie Da Lip 1%er
Final Birthday Celebration

AOA Clubhouse
 5199 Edham Drive, West Palm Beach
 No Guns, Drugs or Attitudes
We reserve the right to refuse admission

TREASURE COAST HARLEY-DAVIDSON'S
CUSTOMER APPRECIATION
JULY 15TH NOON-4PM
 JOIN US FOR FREE LUNCH, COLD DRINKS, BIKINI BIKE WASH CONTESTS, VENDORS AND MORE!
 HELP TEAM ANNETTE RAISE MONEY FOR OUR LOCAL P.A.L PROGRAM

ENTERTAINMENT BY

 Annette Strothers

Watermelon Eating Contest

BRUTE HORSEPOWER SHOOTOUT WINNERS ANNOUNCED

VENDORS RAFFLES 50/50 BIKINI BIKE WASH

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 772-287-3871
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HOGFEST 17
A 3 DAY MOTORCYCLE FESTIVAL

FRIDAY JULY 7TH - 6PM	SATURDAY JULY 8TH - 1PM	SUNDAY JULY 9TH - 1PM
BIKE NIGHT! \$250 TO WIN BEST BIKE LIGHTS CONTEST HOSTED BY WORLD FAMOUS BILLY REED PLUS ASPHALT & IRON REDNECK GAMES!	BIKINI CONTEST! \$1000 IN CASH PRIZES HOSTED BY SUPA DAVE	12 CLASS RIDE IN-BIKE SHOW! BORN TO RIDE \$500 IN CASH PRIZES PLUS TROPHIES!
IN CONCERT: Jeff & Vitale THE WORLD FAMOUS TRANS-AMS HAYFIRE		
POSTER SIGNING MEET & GREET WITH MISS SEMINOLE HARLEY TASHA TAYLOR!	BO-KEY RIDERS BAR-B-QUE	TINK GIRLS BIKINI BIKE WASH!

SPECIAL GUEST APPEARANCES

CALL 407-328-1212 EXT 270 FOR MORE INFO - VISIT: SEMINOLEHARLEY.COM
 SEMINOLE HARLEY DAVIDSON - 620 HICKMAN CIRCLE - SANFORD, FL 32771

States MC Lake Worth
Open House
Wed JULY 19
7pm-12am

Food is Always Complimentary

Independent Bikers and Friends are Welcomed

3570 Boutwell Rd. Lake Worth

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In January our copier died so no
printed copies until we can find
an affordable printer, but then
we will need more money to
produce fewer copies

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advertisers to support the
production of our newsletter.
Our rates are great so spread
the word so can continue to
expand distribution to the
general public and riders

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find a printer

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card or better, bring to Chapter
meeting

**ABATE Palm Beach
PO Box 1256
Loxahatchee FL 33470**

ABATE of Florida, Inc.

Palm Beach Chapter Newsletter Advertising

Newsletter is accessible on palmbeach.abateflorida.com in FULL color
with active links including those of advertisers. It is also printed in
black & white in an 8 by 11 format for distribution at various places.

Newsletter Ad Rates 6.5% sales Tax included

SIZE	1 MONTH	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	YEAR
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QUARTER PAGE	\$ 25.44	\$ 50.88	\$ 92.86	\$ 167.14
HALF PAGE	\$ 38.16	\$ 78.86	\$ 146.28	\$ 263.33
FULL PAGE	\$ 50.88	\$ 125.93	\$ 232.78	\$ 418.99

Contact: _____ DATE _____

Size and Duration of AD: _____

Business Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone : _____ Email: _____

Business Web Site _____

Material for ads should be in digital format such a JPG or PDF emailed to
palmbeach.abateflorida@gmail.com
and send in by the 3rd weekend of the month to insure inclusion for next
issue

Fill out form, print, sign attach your check or money order and mail to:

**ABATE Palm Beach Chapter
P.O. Box 1256
Loxahatchee, FL 33470**

OUR NEWSLETTERS are best viewed at palmbeach.abateflorida.com as most timely (by the first of month), in full color, and with active Internet links to stories, etc., of interest. And for us with older eyes, can be zoomed in without magnifying glasses. We do need our advertisers, donations and more members to be able print and distribute more copies to the county for motorcyclists to be aware of the issues facing us. So please join in and let us know of good places to put them in. Issues can be mailed to members if no Internet access. Non-members can buy a subscription for \$20 a year but the other two methods are faster as it takes more time and cost to get mailings done.

Thank you for all the support of ABATE of Florida, Inc. and the Palm Beach Chapter.

Marriage between Harley-Davidson and Ducati would blend two iconic motorcycle brands

Rick Barrett , Milwaukee Journal Sentinel June 22, 2017

If Harley-Davidson and European bike maker Ducati get married, no doubt it will be a lively Italian wedding where the bride wears leather, not lace.

They're not even dating yet, but this week the news agency Reuters reported that Harley was lining up a takeover bid for Italy-based Ducati, potentially bringing together two of the most famous names in motorcycling in a deal worth up to \$1.67 billion.

Milwaukee-based Harley has hired Goldman Sachs to work on the bid, a source told Reuters, adding that tentative bids were expected in July.

India-based Bajaj Auto and several buyout funds also are preparing offers for Ducati, which is being put up for sale by German automaker Volkswagen, according to Reuters.

Harley-Davidson would not comment on the report, from London, but it wouldn't be the first time the world's largest manufacturer of heavyweight cruiser and touring bikes has been the subject of industry speculation or a match with an Italian motorcycle manufacturer.

In some ways, Ducati would be quite the catch. The company's fast, expensive motorcycles have a celebrated racing pedigree and often dominate road racing championships.

Harley often sells more bikes every three months than Ducati sells in a year, yet both companies are considered premium brands in their respective fields.

"We view Ducati as the Ferrari of sport bikes, race bred and very much a niche market," said Michael Casey, a Ducati enthusiast and co-founder of Motovid, a Delavan firm that offers road racing classes.

Both brands have exceptional customer loyalty, with Harley riders coming to Milwaukee from all over the world to tour the factory and company museum, while Ducati riders make a similar pilgrimage to Bologna, Italy.

Ducati riders call themselves "Ducatistas." Hispanic Harley riders, anyway, call themselves "Harlistas."

Seeking to diversify its motorcycle lineup, attract younger riders and strengthen European sales, Harley-Davidson could benefit from having Ducati in its portfolio.

Should the deal happen, however, Harley ought to keep the Ducati brand separate and not rebadge the bikes under the 114-year-old Milwaukee company's name, according to Casey.

Both companies have well-established motorcyclist groups that view cycling as a lifestyle.

"But you are not going to mix a Harley owners group with a Ducati owners group. They're totally different worlds," Casey said, with Harley riders favoring street cruisers and touring bikes over swoopy, Euro racers built for speed, not comfort.

Harley-Davidson had an earlier Italian marriage when, in 2008, it acquired motorcycle maker MV Agusta for \$109 million. One of that company's bikes, the F4CC, was a limited production machine that had a top speed of 195 mph and sold for about \$120,000. The rest of the lineup fell in a price range of about \$15,000 to \$30,000.

Less than two years after buying MV Agusta, Harley essentially paid the previous owners to take it back. The relationship with the Italians ended when sport-bike sales collapsed in

the Great Recession.

In 2009, Harley also dropped the Buell Motorcycle Co. line of sport bikes made in East Troy.

Sales of Buell and MV Agusta motorcycles never gained much traction in Harley-Davidson dealerships. Realizing the business wasn't going anywhere, Harley said the company's dollars were better spent on its own motorcycles than other brands.

Likewise, investors could be skeptical of Harley acquiring Ducati, said analyst Robin Diedrich with Edward Jones Co.

"I think focusing on the Harley brand is what's worked," Diedrich said. "They are under pressure to make some changes, but this doesn't seem like the path that makes the most sense for them at this point."

Harley-Davidson could attract new, young customers through Ducati, and those folks might someday buy a Harley cruiser or a touring bike as their interests in motorcycling changed over the years.

But Ducati has other bikes in its lineup, too. And it attracts customers who are a little older and more financially established than typical young motorcyclists, and those folks aren't as likely to switch brands.

"We have customers who buy Ducatis their whole life," said Ross Bennett, sales manager at Moto Union, a dealership in West Allis.

<http://www.isonline.com/story/money/business/2017/06/22/marriage-between-harley-davidson-and-ducati-would-blend-two-iconic-brands/421374001/>

[Motorcycle.com](#) / [Bike Reviews](#) / [Ducati](#) / Harley-Davidson Rumored To Be Interested In Buying Ducati



Harley-Davidson Rumored To Be Interested In Buying Ducati Legit rumor or fake news?

The internet rumor machine is exploding today after a report from Reuters indicated that Harley-Davidson has expressed interest in purchasing Ducati. The only source of this information is from anonymous Reuters sources.

We contacted the Motor Company and were awarded exactly what we expected: "Harley-Davidson does not comment on future speculations." Our Ducati media rep has yet to return our calls.

Also in the Reuters report is another anonymous source stating that Goldman Sachs has been hired to negotiate the transaction, and that an offer for Ducati could be made as soon as next month.

It's been nearly two months since it was revealed that [Ducati might be on the block](#) as a way to help parent company, Volkswagen/Audi, to pay off the billion-euro fines for its Dieselgate emissions debacle. Early potential suitors included various Chinese firms and, from India, Bajaj, Hero MotoCorp and even [Royal Enfield](#). Also interested were several private equity funds, including Ducati's old owners, InvestIndustrial.

Could Ducati Be Sold To Royal Enfield - Could Ducati Be Up For Sale Again

Reuters' sources indicate VW is hoping to sell Ducati for about 1.5 billion euros (nearly \$1.7 billion USD), which would be a tidy profit from the \$935 million price Audi paid for Ducati in 2012. Investindustrial To Sell Ducati

Some investors have reportedly balked at paying 15 times Ducati's earnings (EBITDA) of around \$100 million to purchase the legendary Italian company. Reuters' sources say Hero and TVS Motor Company have backed away from any sort of deal, and BMW, Honda and Suzuki have also pulled out of consideration, according to, again, Reuters' sources.

That leads us back to Harley-Davidson, which has had a recent history of making huge profits of selling bikes and t-shirts to millions of people who, generally speaking, are aging at a pace that will see many of them stepping out of the moto market over the next decade or so. Ducati's reputation for performance and a youthful persona might be a way for the MoCo to remain relevant to a younger demographic.

That said, Harley's purchase of MV Agusta in 2008 was money poorly spent for the Milwaukee manufacturer, as it eventually sold back the company to its previous owner, Claudio Castiglioni, for a song in 2010.

HD Announces Purchase Of MV Agusta - Harley-Davidson Sells MV Agusta

Could Harley again be interested in acquiring an iconic Italian sportbike manufacturer? Well, it *could, but it might simply be a case of once burned, twice shy.*

<http://www.motorcycle.com/manufacture/ducati/harley-davidson-rumored-to-be-interested-in-buying-ducati.html>

RIDING THE INTERNET *stories I've found on Google—Slo Motion*

DETROIT – Harley-Davidson (HOG) said Friday it will recall approximately 46,000 motorcycles in the U.S., citing a potential oil leak that has been linked to two crashes.

The recall includes certain 2017 Electra Glide, Road Glide, Road King and Street Glide bikes. The affected motorcycles were built between July 2, 2016 and May 9, 2017.

<http://www.foxbusiness.com/markets/2017/06/02/harley-recalls-46000-bikes-for-leaky-oil-linked-to-two-crashes.html>

Everyone was talking about this video at our event where a biker kicked a car causing accident while he stayed on. An apparent case of extreme road rage between a **motorcycle** and sedan on a California highway was captured on video

<https://www.dcourier.com/news/2017/jun/27/video-captures-frightening-motorcycle-car-road-rag/>



Only in Russia would you see a bear riding in a sidecar

<http://kink.fm/wanna-see-bear-motorcycle-sidecar/>

<http://www.craveonline.com/mandatory/1274999-just-bear-taking-ride-motorcycle-sidecar>

Another video of a guy doing a burnout donut in a carwash wipeout
<http://www.thedrive.com/watch-this/11681/watch-this-moron-crash-doing-a-motorcycle-donut-in-a-car-wash>

DELEGATE REPORT

STATE MEETINGS

Host Chapter & Location

July 8 Leadership Seminars Ocala
 August 12, 2017 Lake - Tavares
 October 14, 2017 Peace River
 December 9, 2017 Treasure Coast

Bill Black "Hamish".
 Ken Gerecke "Snooze"

Ken and I went up St Augustine for the State Meeting on 10th June hosted by the Vintage Chapter.

We were told that our Insurance Company 'Ail' had dropped out, but they are looking elsewhere for a new company.

Larry Crowe [our legal] resigned.

Sad news:- The Interstate Chapter closed down.

Good news:- A new Chapter has opened up. I think the name will be North Orlando.

The Chapters with the most new members were....

March / Southwest. April./ Lighthouse & Southeast.

The Leadership Seminar will be held on July 8/9 in Ocala.

The next State Meeting is on August 12th. Hosted by lake County in Tavares.

That's all for this month. Ride Safe. Hamish.



ABATE of Florida, Inc.
Leadership Seminars
 Saturday, July 8, 2017
President's Meeting
 Sunday, July 9, 2017

At the Marion County Association of Realtors
 3105 NE 14th Street Ocala, FL 34470
 Lodging *** Check Reviews and Availability
 Rodeway Inn, 5001 E Silver Springs Blvd, Silver Springs, FL 34488
 352-789-6961 Rates \$65 per Mgr, D Patel

These Leadership Seminars are for ALL CHAPTER OFFICERS AND INTERESTED PARTIES. Each seminar will be presented by a State Board Member. These seminars will offer a good overview of the duties and responsibilities of a Chapter Officer and will give attendees a chance to get answers to their questions on an individual basis. It is highly recommended all chapter officers attend.

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2017

TIME	ROOM A	ROOM B	ROOM C
8:00 - 9:00	Treasury (part 1)	Secretary	
9:00 - 10:00	Treasury (part 2)	Membership	PR/Communications
10:00 - 11:00	Treasury (part 3)	Legislative	Websites
11:00 - 12:00	Treasury (part 4)	Delegates	Sgt-at-Arms
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:00 - 2:00	Safety (part 1)	Newsletter	Products
2:00 - 3:00	Safety (part 2)	Insurance	

SUNDAY, JULY 9, 2017

9am - 12 Noon Presidents/Vice Presidents Meeting



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ABATE of Florida, Inc. Lake County Chapter

State Meeting – Aug 12, 2017 -Lake County FL
 State Board Meeting starts noon — Delegates Meeting at 2:00

Meeting: 2540 Dora Ave, (CR 19A) Tavares 32778 · (352) 343-5000
 Elks Lodge #1578 (1.5 miles from Best Western)

Hotel: Best Western Lake County Inn – 1380 E Burleigh Blvd,
 (US Hwy 441) Tavares 32778 - (352-253-2378)

The hotel is located on US HWY 441, across from Florida Hospital Waterman. 15 rooms are reserved. Mention Group code: P12RJ6Z7 – ABATE for the discounted rate of \$72 (tax not included). **Must reserve before July 12th**

Meet & greet Fri 7-9:00 with food & beverages, check hotel desk for flyer with info & events for the weekend. See who is staying at the hotel, register at: <http://ABATE.HotelPlanner.com>

Contact
 Chapter Pres:
 Griz 352-742-7754
 Vmakingmemories@aol.com

www.abateflorida.com – Visit our Membership & Safety Booth – ABATE of Florida, Inc does not condone drinking and riding. ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. DOES NOT CONDONE DRINKING AND RIDING. DONATIONS TO ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. ARE NOT DEDUCTIBLE FOR FEDERAL INCOME TAX PURPOSES. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. WWW.800HELPFLA.COM 1-800-435-7352

BMW's Electronic Safety Cage Designed to Prevent Motorcycle Accidents

Annhoge | June 5 | 257 Views

“Animals travel on all fours. Mankind on two. Motorcycling is not a means of transport but an ideology, a nomadic way of life.” - Amit Reddy, Who Stole My India?

There is no doubt that there is something unique about travelling on a motorcycle, even if it's just to work and back. The quote mentioned above by Amit Reddy explains the quintessential reasons why motorcycle aficionados are so passionate about their bikes and riding them in spite of the risk of being involved in an accident.

On the other hand, the good news out of the motorcycle manufacturing industry is that manufacturers such as BMW are working hard at developing self-stabilising bikes that will keep the bike upright in the event of an accident; thereby, prevent serious injury or damage to both the bike and rider. BMW has taken this concept one step further and unveiled its new concept bike in the 4th quarter of 2016 with revolutionary safety features that Peter Valdes-Dapena wrote in his article titled "BMW's self-balancing motorcycle of tomorrow."

Not only does the new BMW concept bike has self-balancing wheels, but it also has an "electronic safety cage that communicates with other vehicles and road sensors to help it automatically avoid crashes."

Motorcycle accident statistics: Justifying additional safety features

As noted above, motorcycles might be fun and fuel-efficient; however, the latest motorcycle accident statistics paint a grim picture of the real safety issues that motorcyclists face when travelling on public roads. A 2015 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) report shows that 4,976 people died in motorcycle crashes. Furthermore, motorcyclists were 29 times more likely than passenger car occupants to die in a crash per vehicle mile travelled, and almost five times more likely to be injured.

When compared to 2014, deaths due to motorcycle crashes have increased by 8.3 percent from 4,594 riders deceased in 2014. Additionally, 2014 statistics show that bike riders were 27 times more likely to be killed in a crash per vehicle mile travelled. Finally, the only statistic that has come down is that in 2015, 88,000 motorcyclists were injured, down 4.3 percent from 92,000 in 2014.

The Prevention of Motorcycle Accident Injuries

Apart from the development of new safety features (which are still a very long way away from production), it is important to wear protective clothing at all times. A protective helmet, pants, boots, and a jacket will help cushion and protect riders from injury should they hit the pavement.

Even though here is something novel and freeing riding without a helmet; however, statistics show that helmets are 37% effective in preventing fatalities to motorbike riders and 41% effective for motorcycle passengers. The main aim of the helmet is to avoid injury to the head and brain. During an accident, the foam inside the helmet crushes on impact; thereby, absorbing much of the crash's energy. Ergo, once a helmet has been in an accident, it will not necessarily offer the same level of protection a second time. Therefore, it is important to replace the helmet if the padding has come loose, compacted, or the helmet is dented.

https://www.ibm.com/developerworks/community/blogs/03091a1f-d99b-4e62-b252-110c9c61ee23/entry/BMW_s_Electronic_Safety_Cage_Designed_to_Prevent_Motorcycle_Accidents

NEW LAWS HITTING THE BOOKS SATURDAY

6-29 -17 By JIM TURNER THE NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

THE CAPITAL, TALLAHASSEE, June 29, 2017 Rideshare services, such as Lyft and Uber, will have to comply with statewide rules, and students and teachers will be allowed to express their religious beliefs at public schools, under new laws that will go into effect Saturday.

The changes --- including two bills from the special session --- are among 125 revisions to Florida statutes that hit the books on July 1.

The new laws include Florida's \$82 billion budget, along with a package offering \$91.6 million in tax breaks during the upcoming year and new rules regarding public notification of toxic spills. A controversial law regarding charter schools will also go into effect.

Lawmakers sent 241 bills to Scott during the regular legislative session that ended in May, along with four proposals passed during a three-day special session earlier this month.

The governor has signed 234 measures and vetoed 11.

A number of the bills still require approval from voters before becoming law, including a statewide proposal (HB 7107, HJR 7105) that would expand the homestead exemption by \$25,000, if approved by voters in November 2018.

Seventy-eight bills became law upon Scott's signature, including rules for medical marijuana (SB 8A) and a plan (SB 10) that will allow the state to bond money for a controversial reservoir intended to help clean South Florida waterways.

Another 27 laws will go into effect on Oct. 1, including a measure (HB 477) that will impose tougher sentencing for fentanyl possession and distribution.

Here are some of the laws that will hit the books July 1:

BUDGET:

SB 2500, the state's \$80 billion spending plan for 2017-2018, dubbed by the governor's office as the "Fighting for Florida's Future" budget. The package outlines funding for state agencies as well as numerous individual local projects.

HB 1A, creates an \$85 million "job growth" trust fund for regional economic development projects and workforce training, and provides \$75 million for the public-private Visit Florida. The new law also steers \$50 million toward repairs on the Herbert Hoover Dike.

HB 3A, adds \$215 million for the Florida Education Finance Program, or FEFP, which should boost per-student funding by \$100. Scott vetoed spending on the program --- which included a \$24.49 per-student increase in the main funding formula for public schools --- during the regular session.

HB 7022, provides across-the-board pay raises to state employees for the first time since 2013. State law enforcement officers will get a 5 percent hike, while most correctional officers will get an extra \$2,500 a year. Judges, state attorneys and public defenders will see 10 percent raises. The legislation also includes changes to health insurance and retirement plans for state employees.

TAX CUTS:

HB 7109, a business-friendly package, has a variety of start dates. The measure provides a three-day back-to-school discount on certain clothes worth up to \$60 each, school staples up to \$15 each, and personal computers that cost less than \$750. Two other key portions of the package an elimination of sales taxes on feminine hygiene products and a reduction in a commercial lease tax go into effect on Jan. 1.

LAW ENFORCEMENT:

HB 111, establishes a public-records exemption for identifying information about murder witnesses. Supporters of the bill said many witnesses fear retaliation for cooperating with police.

HB 151, allows the use of "therapy" and "facility" dogs in courts to help provide support for children who testify in cases involving child abuse, abandonment or neglect.

HB 305, allows law-enforcement officers to review footage from their body cameras before filling out reports.

COMMUNICATIONS:

SB 90, carries out a constitutional amendment approved last August aimed at boosting the use of solar energy in the state. The amendment called for extending a renewable-energy tax break for commercial and industrial properties and making renewable-energy equipment exempt from state tangible personal property taxes.

HB 687, limits the ability of local governments to regulate types of equipment known as "small wireless facilities" in public rights of ways. The equipment is for emerging 5G technology.

EDUCATION

SB 396, requires colleges and universities each year to provide students with financial information regarding their student loans.

SB 436, deals with religious expression in schools. The measure is intended to prevent school districts from discriminating against students, parents or school employees on the basis of religious viewpoints or expression.

HB 989, overhauls the state's policy on instructional materials to allow any county resident --- not just parents --- to challenge materials, such as books, used at schools.

HB 7069, a wide-ranging education bill that encompasses everything from school testing to recess. The bill sets aside \$419 million to encourage charter schools to locate near struggling traditional public schools, and also includes funding for extra services for students at struggling schools, teacher bonuses and assistance for parents to help pay for education services for children with disabilities.

HEALTH CARE:

SB 2514, sets up a process for the state Agency for Health Care Administration to ask legislative leaders to release \$1.5 billion for the Low Income Pool program after a final agreement is reached with the federal government. The program provides extra money to hospitals that serve large numbers of poor and uninsured patients. The wide-ranging bill also revamps the way nursing homes will be paid in the future in the Medicaid program.

BIRTH CERTIFICATES:

HB 101, allows families to request certificates of "nonviable birth" after miscarriages. Called the "Grieving Families Act," the measure gives parents the option of seeking certificates of nonviable birth for fetuses lost between the ninth and 20th weeks of gestation.

TRANSPORTATION:

HB 221, creates long-debated statewide regulations for "transportation network companies," such as Uber and Lyft. The measure, backed by the ridesharing industry, includes insurance and background-check requirements that are less stringent than those sought by local governments.

HB 299, expands the Central Florida Expressway Authority (CFX) to include Brevard County.

SB 368, designates 50 roads and bridges across the state. The measure names sections of Orange County roads after slain Orlando Police Lt. Debra Clayton and the late golf legend Arnold Palmer. In addition, a part of U.S. 441 in Miami-Dade County will be "Muhammad Ali Boulevard," and a portion of U.S. 90 in Santa Rosa County will honor Wendell Hall, who retired last year after 16 years as the county's sheriff.

HB 865, increases the allowed weight of natural gas-fueled vehicles from 80,000 pounds to 82,000 pounds, the maximum amount under federal law. The new law also directs the state

Department of Transportation to study the economic feasibility of acquiring the Garcon Point Bridge from the Santa Rosa Bay Bridge Authority, and orders a study of the boundaries of the transportation department's seven districts to determine the cost of creating an additional district around Fort Myers.

HB 1169, designates part of a road in Pinellas County as "Officer Charles `Charlie K' Kondek, Jr., Memorial Highway," after a longtime Tarpon Springs police officer who was killed in the line of duty in 2014.

ENVIRONMENT:

SB 1018, requires stepped-up public notification of pollution incidents. The law was spurred by controversies last year in response to the handling of a sinkhole at a Mosaic phosphate plant in Polk County and sewage discharges into Tampa Bay. Owners or operators of facilities responsible for pollution will have to submit reports within 24 hours to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The department, in turn, will be required to post the information online within 24 hours.

BOATING:

HB 711, expands a registration-fee discount for boaters to purchase certain locator beacons. The discount was created last year in reaction to the disappearance of Austin Stephanos and Perry Cohen, two 14-year-olds from Tequesta, who went missing in July 2015 after steering a 19-foot boat out of the Jupiter Inlet into the Atlantic Ocean.

HB 7043, allows the owners of private submerged lands adjacent to Outstanding Florida Waters or an aquatic preserve to ask the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to establish boating-restricted areas solely to protect any seagrass and contiguous seagrass habitat within their private property.

STATE PARKS:

HB 185, creates a 50 percent entry-fee discount to state parks for families operating a licensed family foster home, and a one-time, annual entrance pass for families that adopt a special needs child.

Injured in a Bike Accident? What You Need to Know Before You Repair Your Motorcycle

Posted By [Pressley Henningsen](#) - 06.22.17

After you've been in a motorcycle crash, before making your motorcycle accident claim, you may be looking to get your bike repaired as soon as possible. However, it isn't always a good idea to do so.

Here's what you need to know before you decide to repair your motorcycle.

Photos to Take Before Your Iowa Motorcycle Crash

It's a good idea to take photos of your motorcycle before it is ever in a crash. This will help your attorney show the insurance company or a jury the amount of damage that was sustained during the crash.

If you haven't taken these photos before you are in an accident, don't worry. The photos are not necessary – only helpful to show what your motorcycle looked like before the accident.

Photos of Your Bike After The Motorcycle Crash

It is important to properly document the damage done to your bike when you make a motorcycle accident claim. The best way to do this is by taking photos of all parts of the motorcycle after an accident. These photos will help prove just how much damage was done to your vehicle.

Some of the photos you should take include:

- A picture of the VIN (Vehicle Identification Number)
- A picture of the mileage on your bike
- A picture of the plate number
- Take photos from all sides of the motorcycle – left, right, front, and back
- Take photos of the gear you were wearing during the accident – your helmet, gloves, and clothes you were wearing

Settling Your Motorcycle Accident Claim with the Other Driver's Insurance Company

The other driver's insurance company is likely calling you to settle your case. You may be tempted in order to get your bike fixed more quickly and get back on the road.

But before you decide to settle your motorcycle accident case, you should speak with an attorney. It may be that the insurance company is offering you a lot less compensation than your claim may be worth. Besides getting your bike fixed, there are other things you may be compensated for after a motorcycle wreck.

A motorcycle accident claim can include:

- Compensation for time off work that you missed because of your injuries
- Medical bills that your insurance company may have already paid, and that you will need to pay back
- Compensation for pain and suffering because of your injuries

If you do not factor these costs into your settlement offer, you may end up having to pay out-of-pocket for any costs your settlement does not cover. An experienced motorcycle accident attorney can explain the costs of your claim, including repairs to your bike, and let you know what an appropriate amount for settlement should be.

Use Caution When Dealing with Your Own Insurance Company

Your insurance company may pay for your motorcycle repairs and other bills while you are waiting to settle. Be careful when you file a motorcycle accident claim, though – your insurance company may refuse to pay your bills if you don't follow their procedures. Many insurance companies require special steps to be taken before you can get your bike fixed. If you do not follow these steps, your insurance may refuse to pay any of your bills.

The best way to know what your insurance company requires before you repair your motorcycle is to call them and ask.

It's best to talk with an attorney before your motorcycle is repaired. An experienced motorcycle accident lawyer will be able to tell you how to get your bike repaired without losing out on any compensation.

If you have questions about what your motorcycle accident claim may be worth, call RSH Legal at 1-319-774-1903 or visit our website, FightingForFairness.com for more information.

<https://www.fightingforfairness.com/articles/motorcycle-accident-claim-bike-repair/>

This article was originally about what to do in Iowa but it felt it had some important information to share with all bikers—Dan “Slo Motion” Henderson And have someone to deal with your bike if impounded while you in the hospital to prevent storage costs and lost of bike due to non-payment, I speak from experience!

WEEKLY EVENTS

One Mon Mob of Brothers MC Open House @ Lone legion Pompano Clubhouse

Once a Month Tues Lone Legion MC Brotherhood Open House

3rd Wed States MC Lake Worth Open House 8pm

Wed Island Jack's Bike Night with Gorilla Motors

Wed Chit Chat's bike night 7pm Free BBQ, music

Wed Tilted Kilt Bike Night Boca

Thurs Once a month UBCPBC Council Ride Night

Thurs Once a month Black Pistons MC WPB Open House

2nd Thurs Vintage Motorcycle Night Double Roads Tavern Jupiter

3rd Thurs Treasure Coast Harley Bike Night

4th Thurs Palm Beach Harley Davidson Bike Night 5-9 PM

Last Thurs Turboz/Ralph's Bike Night Jupiter

Fri Twice a Month AOA MC WPB Open Houses

1st Fri Soldiers for Jesus Open House

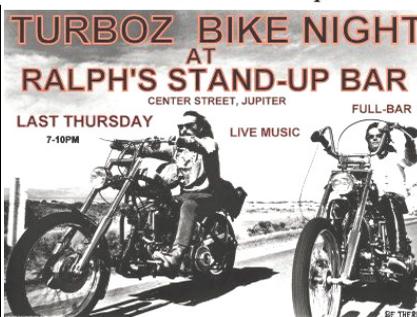
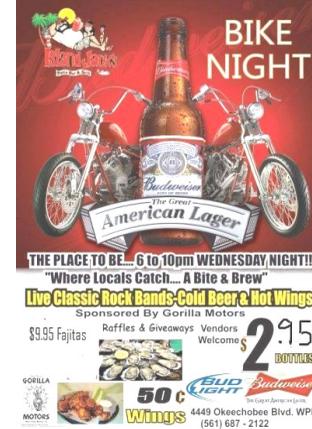
1st Fri Ink Link Bike Night

1st Fri Tom Sawyers Bike Show

1st Fri Enforcers MC Party

Sat Fly-In Wheels MC open house

3rd Sunday ABATE FL Palm Beach Chapter Meeting 11:30 VFW Riviera Beach



UBCPBC CALENDAR 2017

July
 2nd: AOA WPB Party
 10th: UBCPBC Meeting: States
 23rd: Soldiers for Jesus Annual

August
 13th: AOA South House Anniversary Party

September
 10th: AOA Legal Defense Fund Party

October
 9th: UBCPBC Meeting Location to be announced 2018 Calendar setting.
 22nd: Alternative MC Annual

November
 5th: AOA Party

December
 3rd: Toys in the Sun Toy Run
 5th: UBCPBC Christmas Party LLBMC



Bikini Bike Wash and Ice Cream Social
 Saturday, July 15 at 11 AM - 3:30 PM

Palm Beach Harley-Davidson
 2955 45th St. West Palm Beach, Florida 33407



ABATE of FL Inc. PALM BEACH CHAPTER MEETINGS

11:30 AM V.F.W. Post
 4143 at 2404 Broadway,
 Riviera Beach 561-844-
 5718. From I 95 exit Blue
 Heron Blvd. go east to
 Broadway (Federal Hwy.,
 US- 1) turn right, go south
 1 block the V.F.W. is on
 the east side. Look for the
 flag.

- 3rd Sunday July 16
- 3rd Sunday Aug. 20
- 3rd Sunday Sept. 17
- 3rd Sunday Oct. 15
- 3rd Sunday Nov. 19
- 3rd Sunday Dec. 17

MANDATORY ANNUAL CLUB EVENTS ARE LISTED IN BOLD

SFPC
 SOUTH FLORIDA PRESIDENTS COUNCIL
 of Motorcycle Clubs and Organizations

**FOR CHANGES EMAIL:
 INDIAN (WOM MC)
 Indianwommc@yahoo.com
 SFPC CHAIRMAN**

- JULY**
 1: USMV MC S. BROWARD - ANNUAL
 16: Soldiers of Jesus MC Broward - ANNUAL
 29: WHEELS OF MAN MC - CHILI COOK-OFF
- AUGUST**
 6: WINGS OF GOLD MC MIAMI - PARTY
 7-13: 77th STURGIS MOTORCYCLE RALLY
 11-13: S FLORIDA TATTOO CONVENTION
 13: AOA LAUD. 50th Anniversary Moldy's B-DAY
 19: LOS COQUIS MC - Smokey & Diesel B-DAY
 26: OUTCAST MC PARTY
- SEPTEMBER**
 3: SOUTHERN MC - TEDDY BEAR RUN
 10: STATES MC - KEY WEST TUNE UP PARTY
 15-17: PETERSONS KEY WEST POKER RUN
 24: KELTICS MC - PARTY
- OCTOBER**
 1: MYSTIC SEVEN - ANNUAL
 7: NEW ATTITUDES MC - ANNUAL
 8: S.E. ABATE - ANNUAL
 19-22: DAYTONA BIKETOBERFEST
 21: WHEELS OF MAN MC - Halloween Party
 28: ALTERNATIVE MC - PARTY
 29: CMA - MEMORIAL
- NOVEMBER**
 4: HEATHENS MC - ANNUAL
 11: USMVMC CH 1 - ANNUAL F
 SFPC 2017 CALENDAR CONTINUED
 18: Leathernecks MC Annual
- DECEMBER**
 10: SFPC TOYS IN THE SUN RUN
 16: TOY RUN BIKE DRAWING
 16: Hermandad MC - MEMORIAL TOY RUN
 17: WINGS OF GOLD MC MIAMI - TOY RUN



Thursday Bike Night 5 to 9 PM
Palm Beach Harley Davidson
 45th St. West Palm Beach

4th Thursday only July & August

July 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Fly-In Wheels MC Open House PBH Bike Wash
2 AOA Party	3 Mob of Brothers MC Open House	4	5 Island Jack's, Chit Chat's, Tilted Kilt Bike Nights	6 Black Pistons MC Open House	7 Ink Link/ &Tom Sawyer Bike Nights Soldiers for Jesus MC Open House	8 Fly-In Wheels MC Open House ABATE of FL State Leadership Meeting
9	10	11 Lone Legion MC Open House	12 Island Jack's, Chit Chat's, Tilted Kilt Bike Nights	13	14 AOA WPB MC Open House	15 Fly-In Wheels MC Open House Treasure Coast Harley Party
16 Palm Bch ABATE Chapter Meeting	17	18	19 States LW Open House Island Jack's, Chit Chat's, Tilted Kilt Bike Nights	20 St. Lucie Co. American Familia MC Bike Night	21	22 Fly-In Wheels MC Open House
23 Soldiers for Jesus MC Annual	24	25	26 Island Jack's, Chit Chat's, Tilted Kilt Bike Nights	27 Palm Beach Harley Bike Night Turboz/Ralphs Bike Night	28 AOA WPB MC Open House	29 Fly-In Wheels MC Open House Wheels of Man MC Chili Cook-off
30	31 Mob of Brothers MC Open House					

August 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sturgis Black Hills 77th Rally Aug. 4-13	Aug 11-13 Starke Bikefest S FL Tattoo Convention	1	2 Island Jack's, Chit Chat's, Tilted Kilt Bike Nights	3 Black Pistons MC Open House	4 Ink Link/ &Tom Sawyer Bike Nights Soldiers for Jesus MC Open House	5
6 Great American Biker Bash Peggy's Corral Palmetto FL	7	8 Lone Legion MC Open House	9 Island Jack's, Chit Chat's, Tilted Kilt Bike Nights	10	11 South FL Tattoo Convention AOA WPB MC Open House Starke Bikefest	12 ABATE of FL State Meeting South FL Tattoo Convention Starke Bikefest
13 South FL Tattoo Convention Starke Bikefest AOA Laud. Anniversary/ Moldy's Bday	14	15	16 States LW Open House Island Jack's, Chit Chat's, Tilted Kilt Bike Nights	17	18	19 Los Coquis MC Smokey & Diesel Party
20 Palm Bch ABATE Chapter Meeting	21	22	23 Island Jack's, Chit Chat's, Tilted Kilt Bike Nights	24 Palm Beach Harley Bike Night Hot Rods & Harleys	25 AOA WPB MC Open House	26 Outcast MC Party Palm Beach Harley Bike Wash Night
27	28	29	30 Island Jack's, Chit Chat's, Tilted Kilt Bike Nights	31 Turboz/Ralphs Bike Night	Aug. 31 to Sept. 2 Milwaukee Rally	

.....
 Precinct Finder (<https://www.pbcelections.org/PrecinctFinder.aspx>) Palm
 Beach Elections Site - put in your address and get ALL your Election
 Information and look under My Districts for your representatives.
 In these sidebars Underlined District # , names link in the online version.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

DAN "SLOW-MOTION" HENDERSON



PALM BEACH Co. FL House of Representatives

D81 Joseph Abruzzo (D)
850-717-5081 Tallahassee
561-470-2086 Boca/Belle Glade

D82 Mary Lynn Magar (R)
850-717-5082 Tallahassee
772-545-3481 Hove Sound

D85 Rich Roth (R)
850-717-5085 Tallahassee
561-625-5176 Palm Bch Grdens

D86 Matt Willhite (D)
850-717-5086 Tallahassee
561-791-4071(2) WPB

D87 David Silvers (D)
850-717-5085 Tallahassee
No local office info yet

D88 Al Jacquet (D)
850-717-5088 Tallahassee
no phone yet West Palm Bch

D89 Bill Hager (R)
850-717-5089 Tallahassee
561-470-6607 Boca Raton

D90 Lori Berman (D)
850-717-5090 Tallahassee
561-374-7850 Boynton Bch

D91 Emily Slosberg (D)
850-717-5087 Tallahassee
561-496-5940 Delray Beach

Rick Scott has committed political suicide for his race for State Senator. He has done nothing for bikers but steal the safety money from bike registrations. He has angered all in education by signed that last bill
SCOTT SIGNS MORE THAN 36 BILLS
 Continuing to finish work from the 2017 regular legislative session and a special session, Gov. Rick Scott on Friday signed 38 bills on issues ranging from aerial drones to memory-care services. The highest-profile bill (SB 8-A) carries out a November constitutional amendment that broadly legalized medical marijuana. But others included a bill (HB 1027) that sets guidelines for the use of aerial drones; a bill (HB 883) that establishes a memory-disorder clinic at Florida Hospital in Orange County; a bill (HB 813) aimed at helping build a private flood-insurance market; and a bill (HB 1169) that designates part of a road in Pinellas County as "Officer Charles 'Charlie K' Kondek, Jr., Memorial Highway" after a longtime Tarpon Springs police officer who was killed in the line of duty.

REPUBLICAN FOR HAGER HOUSE SEAT
 With state Rep. Bill Hager, R-Delray Beach, barred from seeking reelection because of term limits, a Republican candidate has taken the first step toward trying to succeed him in Palm Beach County's House District 89. Boca Raton Republican Matt Spritz has opened a campaign account to run for the seat next year, according to information posted Monday on the state Division of Elections website. Spritz is a lawyer who has worked as a legislative aide in the House, a campaign news release said. Boca Raton Democrat Ryan Rossi opened an account May 1 to run for the seat and had raised \$1,535 as of the end of May, according to the Division of Elections website.

Palm Beach County FL Senators

D25 Joe Negron (R)
850-487-5025 Tallahassee
888-759-0791 Palm City

D29 Kevin Rader (D)
850-487-5029 Tallahassee
561-443-8170 Boca Raton

D30 Bobby Powell (D)
850-487-500 Tallahassee
561-650-6880 WP Bch

D31 Jeff Clemens (D)
850-487-5031 Tallahassee
561-540-1140 Lake Worth

FEDERAL U.S. Senators

Bill Nelson
Patrick Murphy

U.S. HOUSE

District 18
Brian Mast (R)

District 20
Alcee Hastings

District 21
Lois Frankel

District 22
Ted Deutch

6-23-17 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES TO START IN SEPTEMBER

With the 2018 legislative session starting in January, the Senate and House will begin holding committee meetings the week of Sept. 11, Senate President Joe Negron, R-Stuart, and House Speaker Richard Corcoran, R-Land O' Lakes, said in a memo Thursday to members. The plans call for committee meetings during six weeks before session. Along with the week of the Sept. 11, they are the week of Oct. 9; the week of Oct. 23; the week of Nov. 6; the week of Nov. 13; and the week of Dec. 4. Annual legislative sessions typically begin in early March, but lawmakers moved up the start of the 2018 session to Jan. 9.

GAINER NET WORTH TOPS \$31 MILLION With state lawmakers facing a July 1 deadline for filing financial disclosure reports, Sen. George Gainer, R-Panama City, is likely to rank as one of the wealthiest members of the Legislature. Gainer, who owns car dealerships in Northwest Florida, filed a report last week showing his net worth at \$31.46 million. Gainer, elected to the Senate last year, listed assets including his ownership of Panhandle Automotive, Inc., valued at \$21.5 million, according to the report posted on the state Commission on Ethics website. While most lawmakers have not submitted the reports, some other early Senate filers also topped \$1 million in net worth. They included Sen. Kathleen

Passidomo, R-Naples, with a net worth of \$6.35 million; Sen Tom Lee, R-Thonotosassa, with a net worth of nearly \$3.39 million; and Sen. Doug Broxson, R-Gulf Breeze, with a net worth of \$3.28 million, according to the reports.

ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES GIVES BOOST TO PUTNAM COMMITTEE

With help from one of the state's most-powerful business groups, Republican gubernatorial candidate Adam Putnam's "Florida Grown" political committee has raised more than \$376,000 in June according to the committee's website. Two PACs tied to Associated Industries of Florida combined to contribute \$250,000 to Florida Grown last week. In all, Florida Grown had raised \$376,005 from June 1 to June 16, according to the website. During that period, Putnam's committee also received \$25,000 from Disney Worldwide Services, Inc. and \$25,000 from United States Sugar Corp. A full report of June finance activity will be filed with the state Division of Elections by a July 10 deadline. Florida Grown, which likely will play a key role in Putnam's 2018 campaign, had about \$9 million on hand as of the end of May.

6-19-17 DEMOCRATS TRY TO BUILD SUPPORT IN GOVERNOR'S RACE

By BRANDON LARRABEE THE NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

HOLLYWOOD, June 17, 2017..... With 14 months to go before they face their party's voters, the three declared Democratic candidates for governor gingerly began outlining their different approaches to the race during a forum Saturday in front of a packed room of activists.

Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum, former Congresswoman Gwen Graham and businessman Chris King did not clash much on the issues, and weren't expected to, as organizers made it clear from the beginning of the forum that it was not supposed to be a debate.

The candidates hewed closely to Democratic positions on issues like the environment, education, health care and the minimum wage. A controversial and wide-ranging education bill known as HB 7069, signed this week by Gov. Rick Scott, came in for a hammering from the candidates.

"And when a Democrat is elected governor, and I hope it will be me, our first priority will be to turn back this regressive, horrible legislation that takes away from our kids the opportunity to learn," Gillum said.

Still, it was the first chance to see the three candidates side-by-side, discussing the challenges facing Florida and the party that hasn't won a gubernatorial election since 1994. It provided a few contours to a race still taking shape, particularly as prominent trial lawyer John Morgan and Miami Beach Mayor Philip Levine are still weighing whether to jump in.

Gillum continued to try to pursue liberal voters in the Democratic base energized by the election last year of Republican President Donald Trump, who narrowly won in Florida. The mayor touted his clash with the National Rifle Association over local gun laws and his early moves to welcome same-sex marriage in Tallahassee.

He also told the crowd that digging in was a way to reach out to Floridians who feel left behind by the Republican dominance of Tallahassee --- and a way to win.

"We're going to stand up unapologetically and stand firmly on what we believe in. ... My opinion is the only way we win is by bringing those folks out to the ballot by telling them that we stand with them too," Gillum said.

He also took an implicit shot at Graham, who has come under scrutiny from some on the left for her voting record

in Congress when she represented a swing district in Northwest Florida.

"The truth is ... that we gotta make sure that people understand that we're not trying to be Republican-lite," he said.

Graham, on the other hand, tried to use her experience winning that district in 2014 to her advantage.

"I won with your help in a red year, a red Republican wave and a red district," she said.

Graham did not run for re-election last year, following a court-ordered redistricting that made her former seat far friendlier turf for Republicans.

She also tried to obscure traces of moderation that might hurt her during an election cycle in which the Democratic Party seems to be moving left. She called repeatedly for a public option in health care and joined Gillum, in particular, in bashing the standardized school-testing regime that has been a Republican hallmark for two decades.

"I will end the testing culture that has taken over our schools," she said, adding that she would also do away with the school grades that come from those tests. "Every school is an 'A' school in this state."

King, a real-estate developer who works in affordable housing and is making his first bid for office, pushed the need for Democratic candidates to promote economic development and growth --- saying the GOP has largely dominated on those issues in recent years.

"We have been beaten over and over by the Republicans. ... We need to be speaking from the same tune on a broad-based economic message that lifts people up, that lifts wages up and that tells the story very clearly that the Republican one-party government has mismanaged this economy," he said.

The Winter Park developer focused on the need to help "home-grown" businesses by trying to generate additional capital for small firms.

The forum took place in Broward County at the party's annual "Leadership Blue" weekend, which includes an annual fundraising dinner expected to host 1,250 people. Former Vice President Joe Biden and U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson, who is up for re-election in 2018, were scheduled to speak to the Saturday night gathering.

6-17-17

SCOTT COMMITTEE RAISES \$96K IN EARLY JUNE

After a relatively quiet May, Gov. Rick Scott's "Let's Get to Work" political committee raised \$96,000 in early June, according to the committee's website. The contributions, all dated June 7 on the website, included \$50,000 from Maryland-based Magellan Health Services and \$25,000 from the pari-mutuel Jacksonville Kennel Club, Inc. The committee, which has played a major political role for Scott, raised \$50,000 in May --- the lowest monthly total since September. It had about \$2.8 million in cash on hand as of May 31, according to a report posted this week on the state Division of Elections website. The committee will have to report all June finance activity to the state by a July 10 deadline. Meanwhile Friday, President Donald Trump publicly urged Scott to run next year for the U.S. Senate. Scott is widely believed to be preparing to challenge Democratic incumbent Bill Nelson. "I hope he runs for the Senate," Trump said during an appearance in Miami.

NEVER TOO EARLY

Other Floridians are gearing up for the more traditional route to public office: running for it. And one who is running particularly hard right now is Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam, preparing for a shot at Scott's office when the governor is termed out in 2018.

Putnam raised nearly \$1.2 million in May for his campaign account, according to a report filed with the state Division of Elections. His political committee, Florida Grown, raised another \$1 million during the month.

On the Democratic side, former Congresswoman Gwen Graham of Tallahassee piled up about \$1.6 million after she joined the governor's race in May. She raised more than \$435,000 for her campaign account and another \$1.16 million for her political committee, Our Florida.

Andrew Gillum, the Democratic mayor of Tallahassee, raised \$97,000 for his gubernatorial campaign fund in May, bringing the total to \$499,000. He had raised a total of \$662,000 for his political committee, Forward Florida.

Chris King, a Winter Park businessman, raised some \$221,000 for his Democratic gubernatorial campaign in May, records show. His political committee, Rise and Lead, raised \$121,000 in May.

The race to replace Putnam was also heating up. Former state Rep. Baxter Troutman, R-Winter Haven, added his

name to a crowded primary race for agriculture commissioner. Troutman said he would use \$2.5 million of his own money to get started.

"For two decades, I've been building a business and continuing my work in Florida agriculture," Troutman, of Winter Haven, said in a statement. "Real experience and success in the private sector is what we need more than ever."

Troutman, 50, a four-term House member, said he would emphasize keeping "taxes low" and growing the state's economy.

The Republican primary battle for agriculture commissioner also includes state Sen. Denise Grimsley of Sebring, state Rep. Matt Caldwell of North Fort Myers and Paul Paulson, an Orlando businessman. Michael Christine, a University of Miami law student, is running on the Democratic side.

PIGMAN CLEARED IN ETHICS CASE

Going along with a judge's recommendation, the Florida Commission on Ethics has cleared state Rep. Cary Pigman, R-Avon Park, of allegations that he acted improperly in a dispute involving the Okeechobee County school district. The commission, with little discussion, voted Friday to approve a recommendation by Administrative Law Judge June McKinney that the allegations be dismissed. The ethics commission in September found probable cause that Pigman violated state law by improperly using his office in the Okeechobee County dispute. But the case went to the state Division of Administrative Hearings, where McKinney issued a 22-page ruling in March that sided with Pigman. Under administrative law, the case then had to go back to the ethics commission for final action. The case involved allegations that Pigman improperly linked efforts to get state funding for the Okeechobee County school district with retaliation against a school principal because of a personal dispute. Pigman's largely rural district includes Okeechobee, Glades, Highlands and part of St. Lucie counties.

6-16-17 SCOTT SIGNS FIERCELY DEBATED EDUCATION BILL

By BRANDON LARRABEE THE NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

THE CAPITAL, TALLAHASSEE, June 15, 2017..... Gov. Rick Scott signed a controversial and wide-ranging education bill Thursday, brushing aside nearly unanimous opposition from the state's major education organizations.

The 278-page measure (HB 7069), which didn't emerge in final form until the final days of the regular legislative session, deals with everything from school testing to recess.

It sets aside \$419 million that will be used to encourage charter schools to locate near struggling traditional public schools, provide extra services for students at struggling schools, provide teacher bonuses and help parents pay for education services for children with disabilities.

The legislation also scales back standardized testing, requires daily recess for elementary students and helps charter schools get access to school construction funding generated by local property taxes.

Scott and House Speaker Richard Corcoran, the main force behind the legislation, touted the benefits of the bill and a \$100 increase in per-student school funding --- approved separately in a special session this month --- at a signing ceremony in Orlando.

"The historic funding we've secured, along with more choices for students, will give every family in Florida the ability to receive a quality education, no matter what ZIP code they live in," Scott said during the event at the Morning Star Catholic School.

The Florida Democratic Party said Scott and the GOP had "declared war on our public schools."

Virtually the entire education establishment, as well as some parents' groups, had urged Scott to veto the bill. They argued that it would move Florida closer to a privatized education system. While charter schools are public schools, they are often operated by private organizations.

Opponents also criticized the closed-door negotiations that decided which of a slate of education bills would be combined to create the final product, and what the details of those policies would be.

Joanne McCall, president of the Florida Education Association teachers union, said the legislation "will do harm to our schools and to our most vulnerable students."

"Blindly jumping into this so-called 'fundamental transformation' of how we educate our children is based almost entirely on ideology," she said. "At best this is malpractice. This is no way to build a high quality public

education system."

The Florida School Boards Association, the Florida Association of District School Superintendents and a coalition of conservative and liberal groups focused on education, known as Common Ground, also called for Scott to veto the bill.

Supporters included the Florida Coalition of School Board Members, a conservative counterweight to the Florida School Boards Association, and school-choice groups.

"This is great news for families --- Hispanics and others --- seeking better educational opportunities for their kids," said Cesar Grajales, Florida coalitions director for The LIBRE Initiative, a conservative Hispanic group with ties to the Koch brothers. "To many Florida parents, nothing is more important than ensuring their kids have access to a quality education, so they're prepared to succeed in life and to build their own American Dream."

The battle over HB 7069 spurred a deluge of tens of thousands of phone calls, emails, letters and petition signatures delivered to Scott. While many of those messages opposed the bill early on, supporters eventually closed the gap in the final weeks of the governor's deliberations.

After being unyielding in his push for the legislation during the session, Corcoran told reporters in Orlando on Thursday that he would be willing to listen to the concerns of opponents.

"We're going to continue to work with them, and to the extent that these things can get better or be improved, we're absolutely going to go down that path," said Corcoran, R-Land O' Lakes.

The signing came just one day after Scott vetoed a higher-education bill (SB 374) that was a key priority of Senate President Joe Negron, R-Stuart.

HB 7069 barely passed the Senate, clearing the upper chamber in a 20-18 vote last month. Senate Republicans didn't issue statements of support for the bill Thursday, while Democrats ripped into the measure.

"HB 7069 aims an arrow straight at the heart of public education in Florida, a system that is struggling to stay alive despite repeated overhauls, starvation, and mandates under the latest standardized tests-du-jour," said Senate Minority Leader Oscar Braynon, D-Miami Gardens. "And it sets up a guarantee for the profitability of the charter school industry in this state by delivering public schools we've purposely ignored to corporate managers we've deliberately positioned for success."

The Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, anticipating a Scott challenge to incumbent Democratic U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson next year, also criticized the bill, as did Democratic candidates for governor in 2018.

"This bill is another massive step toward turning Florida's public school system into a public school industry designed to benefit corporations and powerful interests at the expense of our kids and schools," said former Democratic Congresswoman and gubernatorial candidate Gwen Graham.

Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum, another Democratic gubernatorial candidate, called the signing "another deeply painful decision by our state's leaders giving tax dollars away to for-profit charter school executives --- instead of to our students."

6-15-17

BATTLE BEGINS ABOUT APPOINTMENTS TO SUPREME COURT

The battle over the future makeup of the Florida Supreme Court began in earnest Wednesday, as a pair of voting-rights groups asked justices to determine whether Gov. Rick Scott has the power to reshape the court. A petition filed by the League of Women Voters of Florida and Common Cause called on the court to clear up a simmering dispute about who has the right to name the successors to three justices whose terms will end the same day that Scott leaves the governor's mansion. The three outgoing members of the court --- justices Barbara Pariente, R. Fred Lewis and Peggy Quince --- are part of the court's more-liberal majority and have been an annoyance to Republicans for years. Scott has already replaced one liberal former justice, James E.C. Perry, with the more-conservative Alan Lawson. Scott, who is term-limited, has already indicated that he has the right to appoint the justices' replacements, because he will still essentially be governor for part of Jan. 8, 2019, the day when their terms end. But many legal observers have questioned that assertion, saying previous Supreme Court decisions and the wording of the Constitution suggest otherwise. In their filing with the court, the voting-rights groups argue that the conflict needs to be sorted out well before a potential constitutional crisis engulfs the judiciary. Pariente, Lewis and Quince will have to leave the court at the end of their current terms because of a mandatory retirement age.

"Although the general election is over a year away, there is simply not time for this case to work its way through the circuit court to the district court and back to this (Supreme) Court for final resolution," the petition says. "The importance of deciding this issue before Governor Scott attempts to make the subject appointments cannot be overstated." Under the Constitution, the new governor comes into office on Jan. 8, 2019, the same time the terms expire. But governors often are not inaugurated until around noon, a window that could allow Scott to name new justices in the interim.

SCOTT VETOES MAJOR HIGHER EDUCATION BILL

Gov. Rick Scott late Wednesday vetoed a bill that would have made wide-ranging changes in Florida's higher-education system, rejecting a top priority of Senate President Joe Negron, R-Stuart. Negron has focused heavily on revamping state universities, and the bill (SB 374) included issues such as moving to "block" tuition. But in a veto message, Scott focused on parts of the bill dealing with the 28 state colleges, saying the legislation "impedes the State College System's mission by capping the enrollment level of baccalaureate degrees and unnecessarily increasing red tape." The News Service will have a full story Wednesday night.

LOTTERY, WIRELESS BILLS HIT SCOTT'S DESK

Measures to place warnings on state lottery games and to give wireless providers a boost in dealing with local-government regulations were among 63 bills sent to Gov. Rick Scott on Wednesday. The bills are the last of 241 approved by the House and Senate during the regular legislative session to go to Scott. He has until June 29 to act on each of the 63 proposals. The lottery measure (HB 937) would require warnings about the addictive nature of the games to be posted on lottery tickets, as well as on all print and electronic advertisements issued by the Department of the Lottery after Jan. 1. The wireless proposal (HB 687) would limit the ability of local governments to regulate types of equipment known as "small wireless facilities" in public rights of ways. The equipment is for emerging 5G technology.

SCOTT SIGNS FENTANYL, POLLUTION NOTIFICATION BILLS

Gov. Rick Scott signed measures Wednesday that will impose minimum mandatory sentences on people who traffic in the dangerous drug fentanyl and require increased public notification of pollution incidents. The bills were among 28 that Scott signed into law late Wednesday. Scott also vetoed a higher-education measure (SB 374) that was a top priority of Senate President Joe Negron, R-Stuart. The measure, for example, would have required state universities to develop "block" tuition plans and created a new board to oversee the 28 state colleges. The fentanyl legislation (HB 477), sponsored by Rep. Jim Boyd, R-Bradenton, and Sen. Greg Steube, R-Sarasota, will impose a minimum three-year sentence for anyone caught with at least four grams of fentanyl or other synthetic opioids like carfentanil. Anyone caught with 14 or more grams of fentanyl will be imprisoned for at least 14 years and those caught with 28 or more grams will serve minimum 25-year prison sentences. Attorney General Pam Bondi said earlier Wednesday that the three-year minimum mandatory is needed to get synthetic opioids "off the streets." "This is black market fentanyl. This isn't the fentanyl that is being administered to cancer patients, to surgery patients," Bondi said. "This is the black-market stuff that is being manufactured in Asia and it's coming in the through the traditional smuggling routes, Canada, but mainly Mexico." In May, Scott issued an executive order declaring that an opioid epidemic "state of emergency" existed in Florida. The order, which came amid calls for action because of deaths linked to drugs such as fentanyl and heroin, allowed the state to draw down \$27 million in federal money for prevention, treatment and recovery services. The Florida Sheriffs Association pushed for the bill, which takes effect Oct. 1, as a way to expand efforts to combat the growing opioid epidemic. "We must continue to be equipped with the necessary resources and laws to reduce the supply and demand of illegal drugs," Orange County Sheriff Jerry Demings, the president of the association, said in a prepared statement. The legislation nearly failed to pass in the final days of the spring legislative session when the Senate sought to give judges more discretion in sentencing people in fentanyl cases. But the House prevailed in its position, insisting that even four grams represented a major amount of the synthetic drug, which has been linked to a surge of overdose deaths. Meanwhile, the measure requiring stepped-up public notification of pollution incidents (SB 1018) is the result of controversies last year in the handling of a sinkhole opening at a Mosaic phosphate plant in Polk County and sewage discharges into Tampa Bay. The measure, which was sponsored by Sen. Denise Grimsley, R-Sebring, and Sen. Bill Galvano, R-Bradenton, and becomes law July 1, requires owners or operators of facilities responsible for pollution to submit reports within 24 hours to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The department, in turn, will be required to post the information online within 24 hours. The department will also have to

create a subscription system for people to receive the notices. "The sewage spill in Pinellas County and pollution incident at Mosaic last year demonstrated the importance of a 24-hour public notification requirement following pollution incidents," Scott said in a prepared statement. "Floridians deserve to know about these types of events, and every Florida resident should enjoy clean water and a healthy environment."

6=14-17

PUTNAM LEADS MONEY CHASE IN STATE RACES

By LLOYD DUNKELBERGER THE NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

THE CAPITAL, TALLAHASSEE, June 13, 2017..... Candidates seeking to follow Gov. Rick Scott are off to a fast fundraising start, with new reports showing **Adam Putnam** holding a money advantage in the 2018 governor's race.

Putnam, the two-term Republican state agriculture commissioner who kicked off his campaign May 10 in Bartow, raised nearly \$1.2 million through the end of May for his campaign account, according to a report filed Monday with the state Division of Elections.

His political committee, Florida Grown, raised another \$1 million in May, bringing the total to \$12.35 million for the fund, which Putnam created after his re-election to the Cabinet in 2014.

Between the two accounts, Putnam had about \$10 million in cash available to spend on his campaign as of May 31.

Major contributors to his political committee in May included \$100,000 from A. Duda and Sons, an Oviedo-based agriculture company, \$100,000 from the Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association and \$50,000 from the phosphate industry.

Also, Florida Grown in May received a transfer of more than \$221,000 from a prior fund, SSLP Political Committee, records show.

On the Democratic side, former U.S. Rep. **Gwen Graham** of Tallahassee piled up about \$1.6 million after she joined the governor's race in May.

She raised more than \$435,000 for her campaign account and another \$1.16 million for her political committee, Our Florida, bringing the fund's total above \$1.8 million, records show. After expenditures, Graham had about \$1.9 million to spend on her campaign.

Her political committee was bolstered by a transfer last month of \$950,000 from a prior congressional campaign fund, records show. Major contributors to Graham have included \$100,000 from James Finch, a Lynn Haven developer, and \$50,000 from Wayne Hogan, a Jacksonville trial lawyer.

Andrew Gillum, the Democratic mayor of Tallahassee, raised \$97,000 for his gubernatorial campaign fund in May, bringing the total to \$499,000. He had raised a total of \$662,000 for his political committee, Forward Florida.

Gillum had about \$763,000 to spend on his campaign. Major contributors have included \$150,000 from George and Alex Soros and \$50,000 from television producer Norman Lear. (Emphasis is mine because they are from outside Florida - Scribe)

Chris King, a Winter Park businessman, raised some \$221,000 for his Democratic gubernatorial campaign in May, records show. It included \$100,000 for his campaign account, bringing the total to nearly \$1.5 million. King previously made a \$1 million personal donation to his campaign account.

His political committee, Rise and Lead, raised \$121,000 in May, bringing its total to about \$544,000. King had about \$1.6 million to spend on his campaign, records show.

His largest contributor in May was \$100,000 from Sam of Heathrow, an Orlando development company. Prior major contributions included \$179,000 from Paul Morgan, one of King's business partners, and \$166,000 from David King, his father who is a Winter Park attorney.

State candidates and political committees were required to file updated campaign-finance reports by a Monday night deadline. The 2018 election cycle is expected to be costly, at least in part because the governor's office and three Cabinet seats will be on the ballot.

In the race to replace Putnam as **agriculture commissioner**, state Sen. **Denise Grimsley**, R-Sebring, raised nearly \$50,000 for her campaign in May, bringing her total to \$384,000. Her political committee, Saving Florida's Heartland, has raised more than \$1 million. She had about \$722,000 available to spend on her campaign as of May 31,

records show.

Rep. **Matt Caldwell**, R-North Fort Myers, raised about \$102,000 for his agriculture commissioner campaign in May, the first month of his campaign, records show. His political committee, Friends of Matt Caldwell, had raised a total of \$763,000. He had about \$720,000 in cash on hand.

Paul Paulson, an Orlando businessman and another agriculture commissioner candidate, had raised \$396,000 for his Republican campaign, including \$393,000 in loans, records show. He had spent \$108,000.

Former state Rep. **Baxter Troutman**, R-Winter Haven, entered the agriculture commissioner's race this week.

Although he hasn't filed a report yet, his campaign announced he would loan \$2.5 million to the campaign.

On the Democratic side, **Michael Christine**, a University of Miami law student, had raised \$3,559 for his agriculture commissioner campaign.

In the race to succeed **Attorney General** Pam Bondi, state Rep. **Jay Fant**, R-Jacksonville, raised about \$80,000 in May, the first month of his campaign, records show.

His political committee, Pledge This Day, had raised nearly \$226,000 through the end of May, with the largest recent contribution of \$9,000 coming from J.B. Coxwell Contracting in Jacksonville. He had a total of \$157,000 to spend on his campaign.

Republican **Ashley Moody**, a former Hillsborough County circuit judge who has the backing of Bondi, was not required to file a report this week because she opened her campaign account June 1, the day after the end of the reporting period.

Democrat **Ryan Torrens**, an attorney from Hillsborough County who opened his campaign account on May 22, raised \$3,618, records show.

In the race for **chief financial officer**, former Democratic state Sen. **Jeremy Ring**, who opened his campaign account on May 30, reported no financial activity. But a political committee affiliated with Ring, Florida Action Fund PC, reported raising \$18,500 last month and spending \$12,000, records show.

6-12-17

ATWATER SET TO LEAVE OFFICE AT END OF MONTH

Florida Chief Financial Officer Jeff Atwater formally delivered his letter of resignation on Monday, five months after announcing he was leaving for a job at Florida Atlantic University. The letter said June 30 --- the end of the current fiscal year --- will be Atwater's final day in the statewide job.

He's held the Cabinet office, which has duties ranging from overseeing the state treasury to serving as the state fire marshal, since 2011. "I assure you that I and the entire Department of Financial Services staff (are) prepared to assist our new CFO during this time of transition in order to facilitate the seamless passing of responsibilities and duties to my successor," Atwater wrote. The letter was hand-delivered Monday by Atwater's chief of staff to the office of Gov. Rick Scott, who will appoint a replacement. John Tupps, a Scott spokesman, said the governor's office will have an announcement "in the near future." Democrat Jeremy Ring, a former state senator from Parkland and former executive with the internet firm Yahoo, is the only candidate who has opened a campaign account to run for chief financial officer. Atwater's statewide post pays \$128,972 a year. At Florida Atlantic University, he will replace Dorothy Russell, who retired in January after a decade at the university and was paid nearly \$250,000 last year. Atwater is expected to attend a Cabinet meeting on Wednesday.

In February, Atwater announced he intended leave office after the 2017 regular legislative session, which ended May 8. But a month ago, as talk circulated about the need for a special session, Atwater said he was waiting for action on the state budget to be completed. "We had a responsibility, when we said to finish session, maybe I should have been more clear about that, that all the work is completed, and not put it in the hands of someone who will be coming in for just a couple of days, to try to learn the systems and get it uploaded to start the fiscal year," Atwater said before a May 23 Cabinet meeting. He will become a vice president at the Boca Raton school managing finances and economic development.

PUTNAM, COMMITTEE COLLECT \$2.2 MILLION IN MAY

Republican gubernatorial candidate Adam Putnam's campaign and a closely aligned political committee combined

to raise \$2.2 million in May, according to finance reports posted Monday on the state Division of Elections website. Putnam raised \$1,190,946 for his campaign after opening the account May 1 as he formally entered the race. His longstanding "Florida Grown" political committee, meanwhile, raked in \$1,017,702 and had about \$9 million in cash on hand as of May 30, the reports show. The committee received \$221,237 during the month from SSLP Political Committee, which has been backed by major corporations and agriculture businesses. Among other gubernatorial candidates, Democrat Gwen Graham's "Our Florida" committee reported raising \$1,163,892 during the month, with about \$950,000 of that amount coming from her congressional committee. Graham served in Congress from 2014 to 2016. A report for Graham's gubernatorial campaign committee had not been posted early Monday evening on the Division of Elections website.

MONEY FLOWS IN HD 116 SPECIAL ELECTION

Rushing toward a July 25 special primary election, Republicans Jose Mallea and Daniel Anthony Perez raked in tens of thousands of dollars in recent weeks for their race in Miami-Dade County's House District 116, according to finance reports posted Monday on the state Division of Elections website. Mallea raised \$50,640 from May 1 through Thursday, bringing his overall total to \$140,156. He had nearly \$88,500 on hand as of Thursday. Perez, meanwhile, raised \$33,660 during the period, bringing his overall total to \$83,450. Perez had more than \$35,000 in cash on hand. The winner of the primary will face Democrat Gabriela Mayaudon in the Sept. 26 special general election. Mayaudon entered the race June 5 and had raised \$1,800 as of Thursday, the finance reports show. The candidates are vying for a House seat that opened when Miami-Dade Republican Jose Felix Diaz resigned to run for a vacant Senate seat.

TROUTMAN LAUNCHES BID FOR AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER

Former state Rep. Baxter Troutman entered the race for state agriculture commissioner on Monday, priming his Republican bid for a Cabinet seat with \$2.5 million of his own money.

"For two decades, I've been building a business and continuing my work in Florida agriculture," Troutman, of Winter Haven, said in a statement. "Real experience and success in the private sector is what we need more than ever." Troutman, 50, who runs Labor Services Inc., a Winter Haven company that provides temporary workers, said he would emphasize keeping "taxes low" and growing the state's economy. Troutman, who served four terms in the Florida House until term limits forced him out in 2010, enters a crowded field of candidates seeking to replace Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam, who is running for governor next year. Troutman joined a Republican primary campaign that includes state Sen. Denise Grimsley of Sebring, state Rep. Matt Caldwell of North Fort Myers and Paul Paulson, an Orlando businessman. Michael Christine, a University of Miami law student, is running in the Democratic primary. Troutman comes from a wealthy and politically connected family. His grandfather, Ben Hill Griffin Jr., created an agriculture enterprise that included citrus, cattle, sugar cane and major land holdings. Troutman, who is an heir to the Griffin fortune, is starting his campaign with a \$2.5 million personal contribution. Troutman, who will have to file a new financial disclosure when he formally qualifies for the Cabinet race next year, listed his net worth at \$40 million in 2009 while he was a member of the Florida House. And in an indication the Cabinet race may be an expensive one, Grimsley's campaign announced on Monday that she has raised a total of \$875,000 for the race, including \$386,000 in her agriculture commissioner's campaign account and \$488,500 in her Saving Florida's Heartland political committee. "Denise is building a broad-based coalition of support in the agriculture commissioner race," said Ryan Smith, her campaign manager. "We will continue our aggressive efforts to travel the state, grow our social media audience and build our grassroots conservative network in the weeks and months ahead." Caldwell's political committee, Friends of Matt Caldwell, has raised more than \$700,000 since January, and he was expected later Monday to report additional contributions raised since he formally announced his campaign on May 1. Troutman said his wife Becky, whom he proposed to on the House floor in 2008, will be the co-chairman of his campaign.

FANT TOPS \$79K IN ATTORNEY GENERAL BID

State Rep. Jay Fant, R-Jacksonville, raised \$79,575 in May, his first month in the 2018 campaign to succeed term-

limited Attorney General Pam Bondi, according to a report filed Monday with the state Division of Elections. Meanwhile, Democrat Ryan Torrens, an attorney from Hillsborough County who opened his campaign account on May 22, raised \$3,618. Republican Ashley Moody, a former Hillsborough circuit judge who has the backing of Bondi, was not required to file a report Monday because she opened her campaign account June 1, the day after the end of the reporting period. Fant, a two-term state House member, put \$5,000 of his own money into the campaign. Other examples of contributions included \$3,000 from the Ramba Law Group in Tallahassee, \$1,500 from a PAC tied to Associated Industries of Florida and \$500 from lobbyist and former Department of Environmental Protection Secretary Herschel Vinyard. Fant also received \$3,000 from a political committee he founded called "Pledge This Day." That committee raised \$9,000 in May, with the money coming from a single contributor, J.B. Coxwell Contracting of Jacksonville. Pledge This Day had nearly \$79,000 in cash on hand as of the end of May. Pledge This Day spent \$2,750 in May for consulting services from Tallahassee-based Front Line Strategies. Of the \$2,069 Fant spent from his personal campaign account in May, \$1,948 went to Front Line Strategies, the reports show.

CANDIDATES EMERGE FOR PETERS, BRODEUR, LATVALA SEATS

Three candidates have filed paperwork to run next year for seats that will be vacated by Republican state House members Kathleen Peters and Jason Brodeur and Senate Appropriations Chairman Jack Latvala, according to the state Division of Elections website. Madeira Beach Republican Raymond Blacklidge opened a campaign account to try to succeed Peters, R-Treasure Island, in Pinellas County's House District 69. Peters plans to run for a Pinellas County Commission seat instead of seeking another term in the House. Blacklidge is the first candidate to open an account for the House race. Meanwhile, Lake Mary Republican Christopher Anderson opened an account to run next year in Seminole County's House District 28. Rep. Jason Brodeur, R-Sanford, will leave the seat because of term limits. Winter Springs Republican David Smith opened a campaign account in February and had raised \$47,891 as of May 31, according to a new finance report. Casselberry Democrat Lee Vernon Mangold also has opened an account in House District 28 and had raised \$2,085 as of May 31. In the Senate, Dunedin Democrat Bernie Fensterwald opened a campaign to try to replace the term-limited Latvala, R-Clearwater, in District 16, which includes parts of Pinellas and Pasco counties. Former state Rep. Ed Hooper, R-Clearwater, also is running for the seat and had raised \$79,108 as of May 31.

DOCS VS. GLOCKS' LEGAL BATTLE ENDS

By DARA KAM THE NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

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THE CAPITAL, TALLAHASSEE, June 12, 2017..... Six years after Florida lawmakers tried to stop doctors from asking patients about guns, health-care providers have emerged victorious in a legal battle as the state did not appeal a federal-court ruling striking down major parts of the 2011 law.

The controversial measure, dubbed the "docs vs. glocks" law and supported by the National Rifle Association, included a series of restrictions on doctors and other health providers. For example, it sought to prevent physicians from entering information about gun ownership into medical records if the physicians knew the information was not "relevant" to patients' medical care or safety or to the safety of other people.

Also, the 2011 law said doctors should refrain from asking about gun ownership by patients or family members unless the doctors believed in "good faith" that the information was relevant to medical care or safety. And the law sought to prevent doctors from discriminating against patients or "harassing" them because of owning firearms.

"This law is dead," Tom Julin, a First Amendment lawyer who represented a coalition of medical groups and others who took part in the case as "friends of the court," told The News Service of Florida in a telephone interview.

The plaintiffs in the case, including individual doctors, argued that the restrictions were a violation of their First

Amendment rights. A federal district judge agreed with them and blocked the law from going into effect. A three-judge panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the constitutionality of the law in three separate rulings, but the ban keeping the law from going into effect remained in place.

A February ruling by the full appellate court --- in a 90-page decision comprised of two majority opinions authored by different judges, as well as a dissent --- struck down the law. Florida officials did not appeal that ruling before a deadline last month, Attorney General Pam Bondi's office confirmed.

"Florida may generally believe that doctors and medical professionals should not ask about, nor express views hostile to, firearm ownership, but it 'may not burden the speech of others in order to tilt public debate in a preferred direction,' " appeals-court Judge Adalberto Jordan wrote in one of two majority opinions on Feb. 17.

Bondi's office referred questions about the case to state health officials, who, along with Gov. Rick Scott, were the defendants in the case.

Scott's office also acknowledged the deadline had passed but did not say why the state decided not to appeal.

"As a strong supporter of (the) Second Amendment, Governor Scott is glad that a vast majority of this law was never challenged and upheld in court," Scott spokeswoman Lauren Schenone said in an email last week.

The court found that the record-keeping, inquiry and anti-harassment provisions of the law are unconstitutional, but upheld the portion of the law that bars doctors from discriminating against patients who have guns.

The law --- the first of its kind in the country --- also prohibits insurers from discriminating against gun owners, an element of the statute that was not challenged.

Howard Simon, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Florida, called the state's decision not to appeal a major victory for free speech and the medical community. The ACLU organized a coalition of medical groups, including children's health-care groups, who, represented by Julin and others, joined the legal challenge.

"What is important is that every doctor in Florida knows that the First Amendment right guaranteeing freedom of speech once again provides protection for the medical community to honor its mission to protect the health and lives of patients. And this includes counseling patients who own guns to ensure that they are safely stored so as to prevent suicides and out of the reach of children to prevent tragic accidental shootings," Simon said.

The Florida case was especially significant because it was considered a test case, Simon said.

But for the appellate decision striking down the statute, the NRA would have "had this dangerous law introduced in every state," Simon predicted.

A number of Republican legislators pushed the law, entitled the "Firearms Owners' Privacy Act," in 2011 after learning that a pediatrician told an Ocala mother to find a new doctor because she refused to answer questions about guns in the family home.

Lawmakers learned of five other anecdotes, in which doctors asked patients about gun ownership, before passing the law, signed by Scott, according to court records.

State Sen. Dennis Baxley, an Ocala Republican who was one of the House sponsors of the measure, said the law may have done its job, even if it was ultimately stricken from the books.

"I think we certainly made our point," Baxley, who has frequently sponsored NRA-backed proposals, told The News Service. "If you've been able to present your case and move the hearts of people, sometimes you've won and you don't know it."

Baxley said it was too soon to tell whether lawmakers would revisit the measure.

"I don't assume that we'll abandon the issue. If there's already been an impact made by bringing this issue forward, it may have worked itself out. We'll see," he said.

The litigation may have informed the Legislature --- and the medical community --- about balancing First and Second Amendment rights, Baxley said.

"I don't think anything's ever finished here. It's an ongoing conversation for 20 million people about how these various issues fit together," he said.

5-31-17 NEW STATE BUDGET GOES TO SCOTT

Little more than a month before the July 1 start of the fiscal year, the Legislature on Wednesday sent an \$82.4 billion budget to Gov. Rick Scott. The governor will have 15 days to act on the budget (SB 2500), which was approved May 8 by lawmakers. Scott can sign the spending plan, use his line-item veto powers or veto the entire budget. Scott also received 12 other bills Wednesday, including what is known as an "implementing bill" (SB 2502) to carry out parts of the budget. The News Service will have a full story on the budget later Wednesday.

SCOTT TIGHT-LIPPED ON BUDGET STRATEGY

Gov. Rick Scott continued to offer few clues Tuesday about what he might do when the newly passed state budget (SB 2500) lands on his desk. The \$82.4 billion package, which lawmakers approved May 8, does not include spending at the levels Scott requested for business recruitment, tourism marketing and repairs to the dike around Lake Okeechobee. Asked for hints Tuesday about how he might address the spending plan, Scott simply repeated his options. "I have a lot of options," Scott replied. "I can veto it. I can veto a section or any line. I'm still reviewing it." People who have contacted Scott's office about the budget have been overwhelmingly opposed to it. The office has received 364 phone calls, 2,786 emails and nine letters in opposition to the budget, according to numbers released Tuesday. The breakdown didn't address if the opposition was over a single item or the entire package. There have been just four phone calls and two emails in support. Once the budget is delivered from the Legislature, Scott will have 15 days to act. The budget is slated to take effect with the July 1 start of the fiscal year.

RING TAKES PLUNGE INTO STATE CFO RACE

By JIM SAUNDERS THE NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

THE CAPITAL, TALLAHASSEE, May 31, 2017..... After months of speculation that he would run, former Democratic state Sen. Jeremy Ring has become the first candidate to formally emerge in the 2018 race for state chief financial officer.

Ring, who represented parts of Broward County in the Senate from 2006 to 2016, opened a campaign account Tuesday for the Cabinet race, according to the state Division of Elections website.

The move came after Ring has made appearances in various parts of the state in recent months in preparation for a run. All three Cabinet seats --- chief financial officer, attorney general and agriculture commissioner --- and the governor's office will be on the ballot in 2018.

A measure of uncertainty, however, surrounds the race for chief financial officer because Republican incumbent Jeff Atwater plans to step down in the coming weeks to take a position at Florida Atlantic University. Gov. Rick Scott will appoint a replacement to finish Atwater's term --- and it remains unclear whether that replacement would seek a full term in 2018, potentially going into the race with the trappings of an incumbent.

Scott has not named a replacement for Atwater, who said last week that he will wait for final action on the state budget before leaving office. Lawmakers passed a budget May 8, but it had not been sent to Scott as of early Wednesday.

Ring, a former executive with the internet firm Yahoo, is a businessman who listed a net worth of \$12.55 million on a financial disclosure filed last year with the state. He easily won three Senate elections in Broward County, a Democratic stronghold.

During his time in the Legislature, Ring was often viewed as a relative moderate. As an example, he served as chairman of the Senate Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee and was heavily involved in pension-related issues in the Republican-dominated Senate. He also worked last year with then-Senate President Andy Gardiner, R-Orlando, on legislation aimed at boosting employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

Democrats have had little success in Cabinet races during the past two decades, with their most-recent victory in 2006 when Alex Sink was elected chief financial officer. Sink did not seek re-election in 2010, instead running unsuccessfully for governor.

But the 2018 elections could provide an opportunity for Democrats, with Republican incumbents Atwater, Attorney General Pam Bondi and Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam leaving their seats. Bondi and Putnam face term limits, with Putnam running for governor.

Among the candidates seeking the other Cabinet posts are state Sen. Denise Grimsley, R-Sebring, and Rep. Matt Caldwell, R-North Fort Myers, running for agriculture commissioner and Rep. Jay Fant, R-Jacksonville, running

for attorney general.

HURRICANE SEASON ARRIVES AFTER 2016 WAKEUP CALL

By LLOYD DUNKELBERGER AND TOM URBAN THE NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

THE CAPITAL, TALLAHASSEE, May 30, 2017..... After ending an 11-year stormless streak in 2016, Florida enters its annual hurricane season on Thursday with forecasters predicting an above-average season.

The 2016 season was the most active since 2012, with 15 named storms in the Atlantic Ocean, including seven hurricanes and four major hurricanes.

Hurricane Hermine, a Category 1 storm, struck Florida south of Tallahassee on Sept. 2, marking the first hurricane to hit the state since 2005.

A little more than a month later, Hurricane Matthew, a more powerful storm, moved along the East Coast. Although it did not make landfall in Florida, it caused extensive damage, particularly in Northeast Florida, with some \$1.18 billion in property insurance claims, according to the state Office of Insurance Regulation.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in a forecast released last week, predicted a similarly active season this year, based on warm sea-surface temperatures and a weak El Nino ocean-atmosphere pattern. The federal agency is predicting 11 to 17 named storms, five to nine hurricanes and two to four major storms. The forecast will be updated in early August, right before the peak of the hurricane season, which runs until Nov. 30.

"Regardless of how many storms develop this year, it only takes one to disrupt our lives," said Robert Fenton, acting administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Bryan Koon, director of the Florida Division of Emergency Management, said Floridians' experience with Matthew and Hermine last year may heighten their awareness of the new hurricane season.

"Those folks will have that memory fresh in their minds," Koon said. "Matthew was such a big storm that it threatened much of the state at some point during its existence. I think people will recognize June 1 maybe a little bit more than they have in the past few years."

Koon and other state officials stressed the need for Floridians to prepare for the possibility of a major hurricane, which would bring high winds, flooding and power outages. During Hurricane Matthew, some 1.2 million customers of Florida Power and Light, the state's largest electric utility, lost power at some point.

"Hurricanes are always going to be an inconvenience for us, but the more you plan ahead right now, the better chance you'll have to get back on your feet and get back to normalcy more quickly," Koon said.

Koon also said residents need to consider evacuation plans, which do not necessarily mean moving to public storm shelters.

"We want them to plan ahead," Koon said. "They are going to be much more comfortable staying with somebody they know, or in a hotel, than they would in a shelter. Right now is a great time to start thinking about what you would do in that situation."

Florida Insurance Commissioner David Altmaier said property insurance coverage should be part of residents' disaster plans.

"The time to evaluate your insurance coverage, fortify your home and prepare for how to protect yourself and your family is now," he said.

One tip from Altmaier's office is that residents can review the "declaration page" of their property insurance policies, which summarizes the coverage.

In last year's season, more than 119,000 Floridians made property-insurance claims after Hurricane Matthew, with more than 101,000 residential claims.

Hurricane Hermine resulted in nearly 20,000 claims, including 14,000 residential claims, representing \$139 million in total losses.

Under a new law signed by Gov. Rick Scott, residents starting Friday will have a three-day tax "holiday" when they will not have to pay sales taxes on "disaster preparedness" supplies.

The exemption covers things like flashlights, portable radios, tarpaulins, first-aid kits, batteries and coolers, with all items having a price limit. For instance, Floridians can buy a portable generator tax free, if it costs \$750 or less. There has already been one named storm in the Atlantic, with Tropical Storm Arlene, a rare pre-season storm that formed over the eastern Atlantic in April. It is included in NOAA's estimate of up to 17 named Atlantic storms this season.



BRIAN MAST U.S. CONGRESSMAN for
THE 18TH DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

June 24: This week I had the opportunity to question Mike Reininger, who is the primary executive overseeing the All Aboard Florida project. All Aboard Florida says that the project is privately funded, but when you really dig into it, that's not true. They've received, and have been looking for more, taxpayer funding. When I confronted him with this information, he continued to obstruct the truth. All Aboard Florida doesn't want you to know exactly what's going on or how much it's going to cost you. All Aboard Florida says it cares about safety, but they're planning a high-speed train that will fly through ground-level intersections in our community without stopping. They say they care about the economy, but the proposed train doesn't even stop in the 18th District and will trap boats in Stuart and Jupiter for long periods of time. They say they're privately funding the project, but they've continued to apply for public financing. You deserve the truth about who is paying for All Aboard Florida, as well as why they are failing to address critical safety and economic concerns (like at grade-crossings and major disruptions to our maritime industry). I'll continue fighting to get you this information and put a halt on these major problems for our community.

June 17: Many veterans have had similar experiences and have shared healthcare challenges as a result. That's why it's so critical for the VA to establish and maintain expertise in providing our unique healthcare needs. I know from personal experience that many of the VA employees are hard-working and dedicated. Unfortunately, far too many VA facilities have lost their hunger to provide our care. A passion to meet the individual needs of veterans has become too much of a rarity, and a vast bureaucracy of regulations have hurt care for veterans. I want to update you on some real action we took to help veterans this week: In the past several years, bureaucratic red tape has obstructed the VA's ability to fire employees that engage in conduct that hurts veterans, including a nurse who participated in a surgery while drunk and a psychiatrist who was watching porn on his iPad while meeting with a veteran. These kinds of incidents are simply unacceptable and it's exactly why we passed the Department of Veterans Affairs Accountability and Whistleblower Protection Act. Our bill improves critical whistleblower protections so we can ensure veterans are getting the best possible care, and when the system fails veterans, we can hold those people accountable. We also passed the VETERAN Act, which ensures our nation's veterans can access the health care that's right for them. The bill puts an existing regulation into law so there's no question about whether veterans will continue to have access to tax credits and subsidies that are in place to help them purchase health insurance. These bills are part of my agenda to address the systemic problems in Washington and ensure veterans have access to care when and where they need it.

It is an honor to represent you in Congress.

Sincerely,
Brian Mast
United States Congressman

ABATE Palm Beach Chapter Meeting Minutes June 18, 2017

Meeting Called to order at 11:35 AM 24 Members Present 0 Guest Present

Meeting started with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence

PRESIDENT: Thanked everyone for attending and said today was important being that it's elections. Our event is coming up and would like everyone to show up.

VICE PRESIDENT: Nothing to report.

SECRETARY: Asked if anyone had any objections to last month's meeting minutes as published in chapter newsletter. There were none.

TREASURER: Chapter is in good standing but need to increase revenue for increased expenses.

MEMBERSHIP: 160 is our current chapter membership.

SARGENT AT ARMS: Excused.

SAFETY: PB Harley bike night is going through changes, July and August ONLY on 4th Thursday Kathleen is no longer there. Gun raffle tickets are available for sale.

DELEGATE: ADD insurance was discussed. Jerry Theopolopoulis is the new State legal counsel. Inerstate chapter closed but 2 new chapters may be opening. Next state meeting is August in Tavares. Leadership seminars will be in Ocala July.

LEGISLATIVE: Governor Scott once again vetoed our safety money. Doc will have a message in the Masterlink.

PR/COMMUNICATIONS: Nothing to report.

PRODUCTS: We still need a products person. T shirts remaining are now \$1 until inventory is depleted.

NEWSLETTER: Please submit your stuff timely.

OLD BUSINESS: June 25th will be our event from 1-6pm at Renegades.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business. Elections were held. Results on page 2 of this newsletter

GOOD OF THE ORDER: Peace River event Nov 3-5. 50/50 was won by Hamish who donated his winnings to the chapter.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 12:42 pm

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These ads are free to members so send in your items/needs.
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WHY JOIN ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.?

ABATE is a non-profit Motorcycle Rights Organization whose cause is to EDUCATE the government, motorcyclists and the general public on freedom, rights, road safety, and awareness of motorcycles on the road.

REQUIREMENTS—must be at least 18 years of age. In does not matter what you or even if you ride. You can be an independent or member of a club or association. All are welcome at meetings.

JOIN FOR THE CAUSE. Everything is voluntary, we understand work and family comes first. We hope you can help in any small way, vote and spread the word.

BENEFITS Your money is used to provide a lobbyist to the state and federal government to watch for our rights and freedom. The State *MasterLink* newsletter every 2 months we bring back from State meeting or read it online. The chapter newsletter is available online at palmbeach.abateflorida.com so is in color, with active Internet links and zoomable. Members get free classified ads in our newsletters.

INSURANCE As an active member you have a \$4,000 **Accidental Death and Dismemberment** policy from American Income Life. You will get a card in the mail from state office to register your beneficiary for ADD insurance. Do NOT mail it, just be sure your family knows about the policy. If you send it in and they try to meet to sell you more so only if you are interested in more insurance. If they bother you contact our State Office to have it stopped. You can mail to the office as Registered letter to have it done when you family notifies. Be sure to renew in time so are always covered! It does not have to be a motorcycle accident.

MOTORCYCLE INSURANCE Palm Beach Chapter members can get an insurance discount with Leslie Kay Progressive insurance company. Contact them for a quote 1-866-367-1788 www.LeslieKays.com The \$3000 accessory package is normal. The State has arranged with Coastal Insurance Company to offer members up to 10% discount and \$3000 parts and accessories coverage. They are at 190 Hwy A1A Suite, Satellite Beach FL . Agent Doug Guido's phone is 888-596-2453. So these are two more options to compare with your company

PRIVACY Your email, address and phone are never given out to anyone except State/Chapter executive board.

EMAILINGS you can be added to a mass mailing which you can opt to be removed at end of email. Usually only do twice a month to let you know our Newsletter is online and remind you of chapter meetings. Local events are included and sometimes urgent matters may be included. No one will see your email **PHONE TEXT** another way to communicate with members. Your phone number may be added to our text alert system To change or add the chapter email is palmbeach.abateflorida@gmail.com Our website is palmbeach.abateflorida.com

We have a Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/AbatePalmBeachChapter>

Mail: **ABATE - Palm Beach Chapter, P.O. Box 1256, Loxahatchee, FL 33470**

Another benefit of chapter membership in ABATE of FL Palm Beach is having a free business card in newsletter and free newsletter classified for items to sell or acquire. Support your brothers and sisters when possible, Besides a \$4.000 ADD insurance policy, discount Leslie Kay insurance, we are looking into other benefits for members. We are always in need of more paid advertisers so find any business to benefit from our low rates and support our newsletter and chapter.

A.D.D. INSURANCE POLICY UPDATE

At the June State meeting it was announced that we might lose our present ADD insurance since they were not getting the chance to (hard) sell more insurance. Stay tuned for news.

STATE OFFICE: ABATE OF Florida, Inc.

PO Box 2520, Deland, FL 32721-2520

Phone: (386) 943-9610

Fax: same

Email: flabate@bellsouth.net



ABATE OF FLORIDA INC. PALM BEACH CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Membership Dues: \$20 for 1 year or \$600 for Life Membership per person

Fill out form, print, sign attach your check or money order and mail to:

**ABATE — Palm Beach Chapter
P.O. Box 1256
Loxahatchee, FL 33470**

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY Will Palm Beach Chapter be your HOME voting Chapter _____
NEW Member: Year ___ or Life ___ Renew: ___ Transfer: ___ Address Change: ___

First : _____ Last : _____ Road : _____

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City: _____ State: ___ Zip (full): _____-_____

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Registered Voter? Yes No State House: ___ State Senate: ___ US Dist: ___

How can you best help ABATE? Time, Labor, Money, Other _____

SIGNATURE _____

State newsletter the *MasterLink* every other month online and our Chapter newsletter *The Chrome Chronicles* is online at start of month in color with active Links. If you do not have Internet printed copies can be gotten at the meeting or various locations.

MEMBERSHIPS FEE \$ _____

Large Chapter Patch 10" by 10.5" \$35 each # ___ Total \$ _____

Small Chapter Patch 5" by 5.5" \$10 each # ___ Total \$ _____

Date: _____ Grand Total membership, patches, postage fee Paid \$ _____

MEMBERSHIP CARD / PATCHES CAN BE GOTTEN AT CHAPTER MEETING (on the third Sunday of Month) OR MAILED WITHIN 30 DAYS . LIFE CARD MAY TAKE LONGER AS PICKED UP AT STATE MEETINGS EVERY OTHER MONTH

**BIG BIKE RIDERS CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION
Fundraiser!**





Date: Saturday August 5th 2017
Starts at Mickey's Tiki Bar
 350 SW 12th Ave Pompano Beach Fl. 33069
 8:30 AM last bike out at 11:30 AM

\$20 per entry
First PRIZE \$100
2nd Prize \$25 Bar Tab @Mickey's

STOPS ARE:
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 Last stop is Mickey's Tiki Bar Pomapna Beach
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Next Palm Beach Chapter Meeting
 VFW POST 4143
JULY 16, 2017 11:30 am

Directions: 2404 Broadway (US1), Riviera Beach - Exit I-95 at Blue Heron Blvd, go east to Broadway (US1) turn south and is 1 block on east side. **Bike Parking is on south side of building.**

GOALS & PURPOSES OF ABATE

- To** print a newsletter to keep all bikers informed with regard to legislative actions and events around the state and throughout the country.
- To** become a powerful and viable political force in legislative matters concerning all motorcyclists rights.
- To** provide a lobbyist to represent ABATE of Florida, Inc. on the state and national level.
- To** promote voter registration and motivate members to write their legislators.
- To** promote safe riding habits without infringing on individual rights.
- To** educate the public about motorcycle awareness.