

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. PALM BEACH CHAPTER



THE **Chrome Chronicles**



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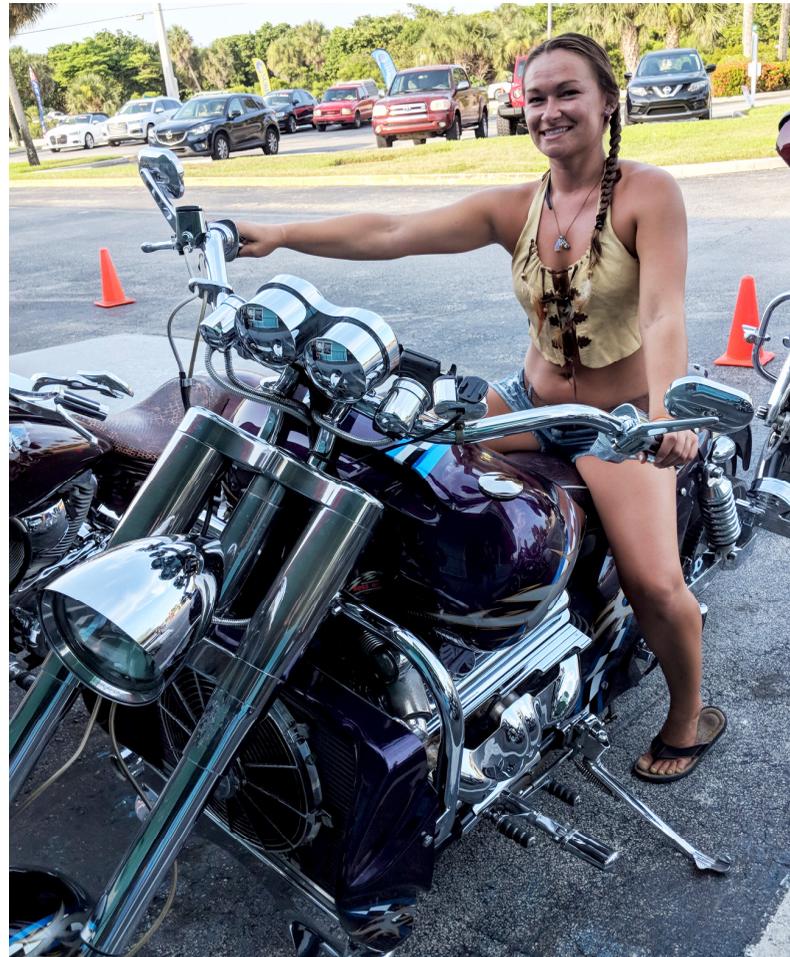


**A
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**NEXT CHAPTER
MEETING
11:30 AM
3rd Sunday
August 19**

**CHECK TWICE
FOR MOTORCYCLES**

**LET THOSE
WHO RIDE
DECIDE!**



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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 HAS CHANGED

ABATE - Palm Beach Chapter

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Our website is palmbeach.abateflorida.com

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President's Message

Curtis Alva

We had a great organizational meeting last Sunday. Our next Chapter meeting is Sunday, August 19 in Riviera Beach and our next State meeting is August 11 in Ocala. The South Florida Tattoo Expo is in Coral Springs August 10-12. The primary election for Florida is Tuesday, August 28, and you can vote by mail, or in person early or in person on Election Day. The primary election is where you select candidates for the ballot in the November General Election, so go out and get your voice heard!

ABATE of Florida is doing another Christmas drawing for a \$5.00 donation you could win one of two different rifles 1st prize is a new Henry .30-.30 lever action rifle. 2nd prize is a new 12 gauge O&U shotgun. For tickets contact me or any of our board members we will also have them at our monthly meetings. The drawing for the guns will be held at our state December meeting in Vero Beach.

We always want to increase our membership so please when you are out and about with other motorcyclist let them know you are an ABATE member. Also let them know what we do. Try to get them to come to our next meeting who knows maybe they will join us and want to help us fight for our rights as motorcyclists. Remember the more members we have the louder our voice is in Tallahassee. We still have our \$4000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment insurance for \$20 year membership, a great benefit

Curtis Alva

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



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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.

Google Maps expands motorcycle mode to Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, and other Asian markets

Motorcycles are very popular in Southeast Asia

By Natt Garun@nattgarun Jul 19, 2018, 11:01am EDT

This week, Google Maps unveiled a new motorcycle mode in several Asian markets where two-wheelers are a very popular form of transportation. The new routing mode accounts for travel times on typical motorbike and scooter speeds, offers driving directions for narrow paths and shortcuts that a full-sized car can't access, and avoids toll roads where they're not allowed to enter.

NAVIGATION USING LANDMARKS, NOT STREET NAMES

The mode launched first in India last December, a country that recently overtook China as the world's biggest two-wheeler market. Unlike a typical driving direction that tells you to turn at certain streets, navigation would use the most current street view information to inform directions with landmarks, such as "turn right at Bangkok Hospital" instead of the formal street name. At an event announcing this feature in Thailand, Google Maps' head of product Krish Vitaldevara says the goal is for drivers to read through the directions first to help memorize the path before they start navigating, especially since these countries tend to contain roads and alleyways without actual names.

Motorcycle mode on Google Maps is now available in Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam, though the update will come first to Google Maps on Android. Google did not specify when the routing option would be available on iOS or the web or whether it plans to expand this to Western markets.

<https://www.theverge.com/2018/7/19/17590426/google-maps-motorcycle-mode-southeast-asia>

Bruce Brown Bruce Brown @brucebrownnc 7.21.18

Grab your helmet: Google Maps for motorcycles is coming

Google Maps for motorcycles is now live in much of eastern Asia, according to RideApart.

After initial testing in India, Google Maps has now rolled out the motorcycle transportation choice option in Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam, and the Philippines.

The motorcycle feature in Google Maps includes roads and routes that are not accessible to cars and trucks, according to NDTV. When a user selects motorcycle transportation with Google Maps, the routing software looks for the bike-only shortcuts to provide two-wheeler-centric traffic and travel duration and arrival estimates.

Taking advantage of narrow lanes and passageways in small towns and big cities alike could help riders avoid traffic congestion en route. Anticipating roads that prohibit motorcycle traffic can also save the aggravation of re-routing on the fly.

Speaking at a Google Maps for motorcycles launch event in Thailand, Google Maps head of product Krish Vitaldevara said the software would often use landmarks such as hospital and hotels rather than street names that could be harder to find and read, The Verge reported. Google's goal is to train drivers to read the directions before heading out and look for landmarks, rather than watching their smartphone while traveling in highly congested traffic, Vitaldevara said.

There's no mystery why Google rolled out the motorcycle feature first in India and then in other parts of Eastern Asia: the company is simply following the market. India is the largest market for two-wheeled motorized transportation in the world, according to The Times of India. At a time when motorcycle sales are lagging in the U.S., sales in India were up significantly in 2017, driven in part by government spending on major rural road construction projects.

Looking forward to motorcycle-centric mapping in America? There is no announcement about when or even if Google will turn on the motorcycle travel feature in the U.S. and the rest of the world.

But Rideapart reports that Waze, the community-updated mapping software, has stated it will have global motorcycle support. Since Google owns Waze, we can probably look forward to Google Maps for motorcycles in America also.

<https://www.digitaltrends.com/cars/google-maps-for-motorcycles/>

Tariffs Dent Harley-Davidson Profit

The motorcycle maker says tariffs will add up to \$55 million to its 2018 costs

By Austen Hufford and Bob Tita Updated July 24, 2018 1:08 p.m. ET

Harley-Davidson Inc. said its profit would take a hit this year as tariffs compound a long sales slump for the motorcycle maker.

Harley said its costs would increase by up to \$55 million this year as the Milwaukee-based manufacturer pays more for steel and aluminum used to make its motorcycles in the U.S. and pays higher duties on Hogs it exports from the U.S. to Europe.

TO READ THE FULL STORY <https://www.wsj.com/articles/harley-davidson-plans-for-motorcycle-tariffs-to-cut-into-margins-1532431919>

Motorcycle Maker to Boost Output in Poland After EU Tariffs

By MARGERY A. BECK, Associated Press

The maker of the Indian Motorcycles brand said Wednesday it plans to increase production in Poland after President Donald Trump ordered tariffs on steel and aluminum and the European Union retaliated with tariffs on motorcycles. But the company said the move will not reduce jobs at its U.S. plants.

<https://www.usnews.com/news/business/articles/2018-07-25/polaris-to-increase-production-in-poland-after-eu-tariffs>

VIDEO: Officer uses cruiser to knock rider off motorcycle

by KCAL / KCBS via CNN Newsource Tuesday, May 29th 2018

Officer uses cruiser to knock rider off motorcycle (Video: KCAL / KCBS / CNN Newsource)

Members of a California motorcycle club are outraged over video which appears to show a California Highway Patrol using his cruiser to knock down the motorcyclist.

The incident happened on Monday during a memorial ride in honor of a fallen brother. The video shows the bikers waiting at a red light as an officer passes in front of the group with lights and sirens, chasing fellow motorcyclist.

A few seconds later, the video appears to show the cruiser pulling to the right, knocking the rider off his bike.

Witness Jose Figueroa said the biker was part of their pack and apparently exchanged words with the officer.

"He panicked, our brother panicked, he got out the way, he sped up to get out of way, and the cop chased him, we pulled to the liquor store and that's when he rammed him," said Figueroa. Other motorcyclists rushed to the biker's side to defend him as the officer handcuffed him.

"You pushed him. You pushed him down. You struck him down with your bike, I have it on camera," says one of the witnesses on the video.

Desiree Garcia, the wife of the man in the video, says her husband was taken to a hospital, then to jail. The CHP says the incident is under investigation.

<https://news4sanantonio.com/news/nation-world/video-officer-uses-cruiser-to-knock-rider-off-motorcycle>

UPCOMING Event Schedule

Wed. August 1 Bike Nights at Island Jack's, Chit Chats and Gin Mill Jensen Beach

Thurs August 2 Palm Beach Harley Abacoa Bike Night 7-10

Friday August 3 Soldiers for Jesus Open House Bike Night

Friday August 3 AOA WPB MC Open House

Monday August 6 Mob of Brothers Open House

Wednesday August 8 Bike Nights at Island Jacks, Chit Chats

Thursday August 9 Black Pistons Open House

August 10 –12 South Florida Tattoo Expo

Saturday August 11 ABATE of FL Inc State Meeting Ocala

Tues August 14 Lone Legion Brotherhood MC Open House 2590 Commerce Park Dr. Unit F5
Boynton

Wednesday August 15 Bike Nights at Island Jacks, Chit Chats

August 16 –18 Maggie Valley Summer Rally

**Sunday August 19 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**

Wednesday August 22 States MC Lake Worth Open House 3570 Boutwell Rd. Lake Worth

Wednesday August 22 Bike Nights at Island Jacks and Chit Chats

Friday August 24 AOA WPB MC Open House

Wednesday August 25 Bike Nights at Island Jacks and Chit Chats

Thursday August 30 Turboz Custom Cycles Bike Night 7-10 PM Ralph's Stand Up Bar Jupiter

REMINDER: EVERY

**Wednesday Night is Gorilla Motors Bike Night at Island Jack's
PLEASE ATTEND THE OPEN HOUSES FOR A GOOD TIME AND SHOW OF SUPPORT WHEN
POSSIBLE**

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Material for ads should be in digital format such a JPG or PDF emailed to
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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:

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P.O. Box 530944
Lake Park, FL 33403

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.



South Bend man builds massive motorcycles

by Kristin Bien, WSBT 22 Reporter Monday, July 23rd 2018

A South Bend business owner has built what he says is the world's largest production motorcycle. It is built with semi-truck parts and has 15-inch tires. It is big. Jim Gesto has been in the trucking business all his life.

"I started driving when I was 15," says Gesto, who likes to joke, "That was three years ago, I just look old."

Gesto owns Belle Way Trucking, but now he's also building motorcycles.

"I just started building and throwing components at it," says Gesto.

Gesto's bike is like nothing you've ever seen before. He calls them Tower Trikes.

His inspiration came from years of driving trucks and seeing serious motorcycle crashes.

"One of the things that kind of bugged me was I'm on our road and I see that car ran over a motorcycle...How do you solve that problem? Well, you build a motorcycle big enough to run over a car," says Gesto.

Gesto researched the biggest motorcycle you could build and still legally call it a motorcycle, and his Tower Trike is what he came up with. It is just under 11,000 pounds, has 15-inch tires and an 80-gallon diesel fuel tank. The horn is, appropriately, a train whistle. The engine can pull a semi.

"We custom build the engine," says Gesto.

Gesto says everything on these bikes are built with safety in mind: Saving lives and saving hearts.

"We are kind of a cross between goth and God. I couldn't tell where to draw the line but we got both," says Gesto.

The bikes will have a large cross mounted to the back, the 10 Commandments written on the tail end and a salute to police and firefighters. Each bike a testimony to his faith.

People notice. During a quick ride down the bypass, countless drivers slowed down, stared and honked. Gesto says that's a good thing.

"This is a testimony that will outlive me. This truck has a lifespan of probably a million miles," says Gesto.

Gesto says he has the ability to mass produce and he hopes to start with 1,000. He says he already has some orders.

Check out his website here: <http://towertrikes.com/>

<https://wsbt.com/news/local/south-bend-man-builds-massive-motorcycles>

DELEGATE REPORT

I learned at the Leadership meeting that to received the safety materials from the Ride Smart program, you have to pledge to always wear a helmet So they are not a friend to us and if they are getting our safety money, we need to take action against them. Will discuss at the state meeting—Slo Motion



ABATE of Florida, Inc.

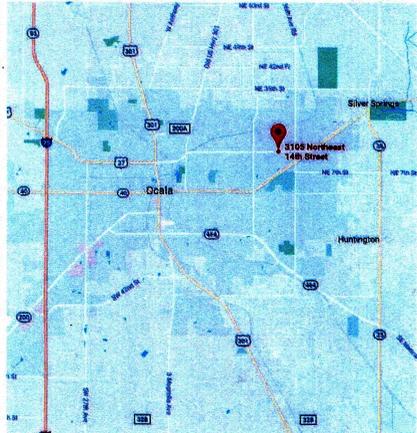
State Meeting

Saturday, August 11, 2018

Board Meeting at 12:00 Noon

Delegate's Meeting at 2:00 PM

**Held at the Marion County Association of Realtors
3105 NE 14th Street Ocala, FL 34470**

<p style="text-align: center;">Lodging **</p> <p>Microtel Inn & Suites by Wyndham 1770 SW 134th St, Ocala, FL 34473 352-307-1166</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Days Inn 3811 NW Blitchin Rd, Ocala 352-629-7041</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Days Inn 5751 E Silver Springs Blvd Silver Springs, FL 34488 352-236-2575</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Super 8 3924 W Silver Springs Blvd Silver Springs, FL 34482 352-629-8794</p> <p style="font-size: small;">**There are more hotels in the area. Do your own research for Rates, Reviews & Availability</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">RV & CAMPING Silver Springs State Park 1425 NE 58th Ave Ocala, FL 34470</p> 
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STATE
MEETINGS

Host Chapter
& Location

August 11 Ocala
Oct. 13 Gulf Coast
Dec.8 Gator Ally

2019 sites will be set at
August meeting



ABATE of FL Inc. Palm Beach Chapter **GBNF**

- Ed “Gunner” Bassett
- Frank “Pipes” Cook
- Robert “Torch” Lyle
- Niurka Crespo
- Phil Moore
- Michael Steffy
- Tom “Ramblin’Man”
Botticelli
- Karen Watkins
- “Bones” Maurice Clark

Beeline Moto minimalist motorcycle navigation simplifies route planning

Beeline's Beeline Moto navigation and route planning accessory for motorcycles and scooters has a single purpose: Providing the simplest, easiest-to-understand navigation cues so riders can focus on the road and not on a display screen.

Beeline Moto features the same easy-to-follow interface for motorized two-wheel transportation that the company first introduced with its bicycle Beeline Bicycle smart compass in 2015. Like the earlier version, Beeline Moto was launched with a Kickstarter crowdfunding campaign.

After a rider pairs the Beeline Moto with a smartphone with the Beeline app, the app and the device will be ready to provide directions by using the smartphone's GPS signal. According to Beeline, the maps in the app will have global map coverage and automatic updating when the device ships in early 2019.

Beeline says the company plans to partner with the best mapping providers for each geographic region. In the single coverage exception, Beeline states that because of local regulations, it cannot guarantee the software will work in mainland China.

After a rider selects a trip destination on the smartphone app and sets off on the journey, a spare arrow icon on the Moto's 1-inch transfective LCD indicates the current direction. Just below the arrow, the distance to the next turn displays in either miles or kilometers. The only other indicators on the display are the direction of the next turn and a simple journey progress indicator.

Riders can choose between route or map mode for directions. In route mode, the Moto bases directions turn by turn. When the navigation device is in compass mode, the rider is free to select roads and turns at will, always knowing the Moto display will point to the final destination. All routes are saved in GPX format files that can be reviewed and shared.

Beeline claims the Moto's rechargeable battery will last 30 hours without the display backlight (which comes on automatically), 10 hours with the backlight, and 20 hours in blended use.

Customers who order a Beeline Moto have a choice from different styles and types of mounts. When the Moto is installed in the mount, the company claims it is IP67-rated for water and particle resistance.

As Beeline refines and adds features, the company will send automatic software updates. According to the company, it has released eight feature updates for Beeline Bicycle since product launch and will continue the same practice for the motorcycle version.

Perhaps due to the company's success with Beeline Bicycle, the Beeline Moto's 30-day crowdfunding campaign was a blowout success, far surpassing its \$50,000 goal with 4,234 backers pledging \$669,891. <https://beeline.co/pages/beeline-moto>
See video/photos at <https://www.digitaltrends.com/cars/beeline-moto-motorcycle-navigation/>

MORE ABOUT MOTORCYCLE NAVIGATION

[Garmin's Zumo 396 LMT-S helps motorcycle riders find the road less traveled](#)

[Grab your helmet: Google Maps for motorcycles is coming](#)

[Smart glove gives bikers turn-by-turn navigation](#)

[Jarvis adds Alexa and AR to make its motorcycle helmet even smarter](#)

Fishing line strung across road cuts neck of motorcycle rider

by Gabe Cohen Tuesday, May 29th 2018

GRAHAM, Wash. -- A motorcyclist nearly wrecked after he cut his neck driving through fishing line that was strung across a Graham road.

Alex Teston was driving to a friend's house just after 10 p.m. Friday when he turned the corner from 224th Street East onto Snellstron Bush Road.

He made it a couple hundred feet when he noticed what looked like a dim flashlight along the side of the road. Suddenly, he felt a force yank him backward by the neck, nearly throwing him from his motorcycle. Somehow he kept his balance.

Teston quickly realized he had a long, shallow cut across his neck from whatever he hit in the road. He was shaken and confused but kept driving.

He couldn't quite piece together what he had hit until his story spread, and a friend reached out told Teston he had driven his truck through fishing line in that area this weekend. Alex escaped with just that cut on his neck after driving through fishing line that was apparently strung across a Graham road. @PierceSheriff deputy found the line attached to a pole today. They're investigating. #komonews

Teston finally filed a police report Tuesday morning, and a deputy came to the scene. Sure enough, they found fishing line tied around a utility pole where Teston said the incident had unfolded.

"I think it was just some kids trying to play a prank but obviously don't know the results and consequences to their actions," Teston said. "They tried being funny, but it almost cost somebody their life."

Teston thinks he broke the line when he hit it. Otherwise, he might not have survived. Pierce County Sheriff's Office confirms they found fishing line attached to utility pole where motorcyclist's neck was cut. Investigation is open but they don't know who would have done this. #komonews

"I could have been decapitated," he said. "It's OK to have fun, but don't have fun with someone else's life being the expense."

The Pierce County Sheriff's Department opened an investigation but doesn't have any leads right now. The Sheriff's Department is asking the public for any tips that might help investigators figure out who did this.

<https://news4sanantonio.com/news/nation-world/fishing-line-strung-across-road-cuts-neck-of-motorcycle-rider>

UPDATE: 2 teen girls have come forward admitting they were responsible for the prank. Updated Story Here>>

BREAKING: two 15-yr-old girls turned themselves in to @PierceSheriff today & admitted they strung that fishing line across a Graham road, which a motorcyclist drove into & cut his neck. But the girls weren't arrested. Here's why...#komonews

Deputies said they don't believe the girls had any intent to harm anyone so no arrests have been made, but they will fully investigate the case and forward it to the prosecutor's office for review, deputies said.

Teston said Tuesday he thinks he broke the line when he hit it. Otherwise, he might not have survived.

"I could have been decapitated," he said. "It's OK to have fun, but don't have fun with someone else's life being the expense."

CLASSIFIEDS

It's hurricane season and I have about 8 of the long metal shutters I don't need FREE to anyone that does

Cleaning my house to install floors I have found several things to go

Vertical blinds that cover 4 door sliders. Best offer

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THIS MOTORCYCLE WITH AN AIRPLANE ENGINE LOOKS LIKE A TRON BIKE

POSTED BY DERRICK ROSSIGNOL ON JULY 23, 2018 SHARE: TWITTER FACEBOOK
GOOGLE+ REDDIT

The iconic and bright bikes in Tron are a real pleasure to look at, but they couldn't exist in real life, right? That's not necessarily true, because Former F1 racer and designer Taso Marques has created a bike that sure does look like it was ripped out of a sci-fi movie. The TMC Dumont was made in Brazil and has some notable features, like an airplane engine and wheels that look like just giant silver rings (via Laughing Squid).

It has a sharp body design, with the engine right in the middle, a lot of slick angles, and giant "hubless" wheels. Technically, it's not hubless, but its hubs have a giant diameter, giving the wheel a hollow center and a hubless look, as one commenter noted.

The bike is pretty surreal looking, although it might not be the best thing for practical everyday use. Another YouTube commenter who claims to be an aircraft mechanic notes there are some significant functional differences between plane engines and a traditional motorcycle or car engine: "I hate seeing aircraft engines used for anything but flight. [...] Aircraft engines would not be suitable for road going vehicles. They get an RPM and stay there. Road vehicles must vary RPM to conditions."

Marques also shared a video of the bike being built in a start-to-finish time lapse video:

<https://nerdist.com/futuristic-motorcycle-airplane-engine-tron-bike/>

<https://www.scmp.com/magazines/style/news-trends/article/2156753/tmc-dumonts-hubless-motorcycle-powered-aircraft-engine>



THIS ULTRA-SLEEK HUBLESS MOTORCYCLE IS POWERED BY AN ACTUAL AIRCRAFT ENGINE

Yes, this is a real thing. MAXIM STAFF JUL 17, 2018 Tarso Marques

There are hundreds of crazy concept bike renderings that, sadly, are never built into reality. The Tarso Marques Concept Dumont is among the most radical designs we've ever seen... and it actually exists.



The savagely powerful two-wheeler is the brain-child of Tarso Marques, a Brazilian-born former Formula One racer and award-winning custom motorcycle creator. Its roar comes courtesy of a 300-horsepower Rolls-Royce engine from a

damn helicopter. As one would expect, transplanting a power plant designed for aviation created a logistical nightmare.



"We found this engine of the 1960s totally finished in an air club in Paraná," Marques said on his website. "As in aviation all systems are redundant and more complex, reworking the entire engine and standardizing it to run more simply on a motorcycle has demanded more time."



Its continuously variable transmission was also developed and manufactured from scratch. The pair of machined hubless 36-inch wheels are the largest ever equipped on a motorcycle, according to Marques.

For all its borderline-absurd components, the TMC Dumont has a surprisingly elegant aesthetic that's both balanced and fluid.

For Marques, the futuristic bike is a huge achievement for TMC and serves as an outstanding example of Brazilian ingenuity.



"My greatest motivation was to show the Americans our capacity for creation and innovation with a 100% national project," he said. "And I think these trophies of the photos respond well to this doubt and prove that not only did we succeed, but that the dream was worth it."



All photos by Tarso Marques

WEEKLY EVENTS

One Mon Mob of Brothers MC Open House @ Lone legion
Mon Dinner 6:30 States MC Pompano Clubhouse

Once a Month Tues Lone Legion MC Brotherhood Open House
2nd Tues Jupiter Moose Bike Night

1st Wed, Bike Night @ the Beach Gill Mill Jensen Beach
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

Thurs Once a month Black Pistons MC WPB Open House
1st Thurs PBH Abacoa Bike Night
2nd Thurs TBS Bike Night Tequesta
3rd Thurs Palm Beach Harley Davidson Bike Night 5-9 PM
3rd Thurs Treasure Coast Harley Bike Night
Last Thurs Turboz/Ralph's Bike Night Jupiter

1st Fri Soldiers for Jesus Open House
1st Fri Enforcers MC Party
Fri Twice a Month AOA MC WPB Open Houses

SAT HOG Morning Palm Beach Harley and often other events and bikini bike washes Grill Days

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 Aug 19
3rd Sunday Sept. 16
3rd Sunday Oct. 21?
3rd Sunday Nov.18
3rd Sunday Dec. 16



Fuel for the Ride Pancake Breakfast

📅 Sat, Aug 4, 2018 ⌚ 10AM 'til Gone! 📍 Palm Beach Harley-Davidson

FREE PANCAKE BREAKFAST! WITH: SAUSAGE, OJ, & COFFEE TOO While Supples Last, Get Them While They're Hot!

SEPTEMBER 20-22
MAGGIE VALLEY FALL RALLY-MAGGIE VALLEY,
NORTH CAROLINA



August 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Island Jack's, Gin Mill Bike Nights	2 Palm Beach Harley Bike Night Abacoa	3 Soldiers for Jesus MC Open House AOA WPB Open House	4 Palm Beach Harley Custom bike Build Tri Glide Ultra Classic
5	6 MOB Open House	7	8 Island Jack's, Bike Night	9 Black Pistons Open House	10 South Florida Tattoo Expo	11 South Florida Tattoo Expo ABATE FL State Meeting
12 South Florida Tattoo Expo	13	14 Lone Legion Open House	15 Island Jack's, Bike Night	16 Maggie Valley Summer Rally Palm Beach Harley Bike Night	17 Maggie Valley Summer Rally	18 Maggie Valley Summer Rally
19 ABATE PB Chapter Meeting	20	21	22 Island Jack's, Bike Night States LW Open House	23	24 AOA WPB Open House	25
26	27	28	29 Island Jack's, Bike Night	30 Ralphs / Turboz Bike Night	31	

September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 Island Jack's, Gin Mill Bike Nights	6 Palm Beach Harley Bike Night Abacoa	7 Soldiers for Jesus MC Open House	8
9	10	11	12 Island Jack's, Bike Night	13	14	15
16 ABATE PB Chapter Meeting	17	18	19 States LW Open House Island Jack's, Bike Night	20 Maggie Valley Fall Rally	21 Maggie Valley Fall Rally	22 Maggie Valley Fall Rally
23	24	25	26 Island Jack's, Bike Night	27 Ralphs / Turboz Bike Night Palm Beach Harley Bike Night	28	29
30						

.....
 : 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

From Darin Brooks State VP/Leg.

Florida election dates, 2018

Statewide election dates in Florida are listed below.

July 30: deadline to register to vote in the primary election

August 13 - August 26: early voting

August 28: election day

Polling hours: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m

I am sending out again the Adam Putman video that he did for ABATE of Florida, Inc. for our Tally event in February.

I have attached the video but in case that does not work for you I have put the link below to the "DropBox" location where you can see the video. If you do not have Dropbox, you will need to download the app.

https://www.dropbox.com/s/x52fpgzhxaumzyz/Putnam_FreedomRally%20%281%29.mpg?dl=0

I hope that either one of these videos will work for you.

Please share with all your members Darrin (I put this video on our Chapter Facebook page- Slo Mo)

THE HUNT FOR THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION

Floridians are watching two competitive gubernatorial primaries that are being conducted in different

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
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

manners.

On the Republican side, DeSantis is hoping to complete a Scott-2010-style upset of the establishment favorite, Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam. That would be similar to what Scott did to former Attorney General Bill McCollum.

DeSantis has tried to paint his opponent as a career politician and has been aided as Putnam faces widespread scrutiny for his agency's handling of the state's concealed-weapons licensing process. However, potentially the biggest difference in the race was on display this week. DeSantis held a campaign event and a fundraiser in the Orlando area with Donald Trump Jr., while avoiding a potential joint appearance with Putnam in the GOP stronghold of The Villages.

Putnam has fought back by slamming DeSantis, a frequent guest on Fox News, for campaigning from a TV studio in Washington. But momentum has appeared to swing toward DeSantis, who has already pocketed potentially the biggest get in the primary battle: the endorsement of Donald Trump Jr's father.

Meanwhile, the Democratic candidates debated Wednesday at Florida Gulf Coast University in Fort Myers and showcased few major policy differences. Instead, they relied on issues of gender, race and degrees of opposition to President Trump --- oh, and for some, lots and lots of money --- to ingratiate themselves to their party's base.

Former U.S. Rep. Gwen Graham appeared in a hot-pink blazer to offer a striking contrast to her dark-suited male opponents, called herself a "mom" who once worked for a school district and emphasized her strength as a mediator in a Republican-dominated Congress.

Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum used African-American icons Martin Luther King Jr. and former President Barack Obama to set the stage for a history-making victory that would make him Florida's first black governor.

Former Miami Beach Mayor Philip Levine boasted of accomplishments as an elected official, where he dealt with climate change, passed an ordinance to raise the minimum wage, created inroads for the LGBTQ community and reformed the police department.

"I'm not somebody that just talks about things. I actually get them done," Levine said. And Orlando-area entrepreneur Chris King continued to portray himself as a progressive vying for a new generation of voters among candidates who "have to win the contest of ideas." One of the biggest differences from prior Democratic debates was that the event included Palm Beach billionaire Jeff Greene, who entered the contest after a second debate had already been set up last month.

Greene, who lives next door to Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort, made a point of noting he hasn't been afraid to take on his island neighbor when asked how he would work with the president.

"The problem is we haven't had anyone who can get the message out and to fight these Republicans dollar-for-dollar, toe-for-toe-for-toe," Greene said. "I am committed to do that. I will put up my own money to get out there and fight these Republicans and I will back up the down-ticket races that will turn Florida blue."

Greene in recent weeks has dumped at least \$9.6 million of his own money into the contest.

Of course, Greene's self-funding has a long way to reach the \$13.5 million Scott has put up for his U.S. Senate campaign, which means the governor has spent nearly \$100 million of his own money for three statewide contests starting in 2010.

AMENDMENTS - Darrin Brooks

I am going to do a series on the proposed amendments on the ballot. This first part will just be a general quick overview of each amendment.

The next few days I will do more of a deep dive on each amendment so that we are all better educated. In Florida, a constitutional amendment requires a 60 percent vote of electors to be approved.

Here are the 13 proposed statewide amendments and what they mean.

Amendment 1: Increased Homestead Property Tax Exemption

What it means: Would increase the portion of a home's value that's exempted from non-school property taxes. The changes would apply to the value of a home between \$100,000 and \$125,000 with the maximum exemption climbing to \$75,000.

A "yes" vote supports exempting the portion of home values between \$100,000 and \$125,000 from property taxes other than school taxes, bringing the maximum homestead exemption up to \$75,000.

A "no" vote opposes exempting the portion of home values between \$100,000 and \$125,000 from property taxes other than school taxes, keeping the maximum homestead exemption at \$50,000.

Amendment 2: Permanent Cap on Non-homestead Parcel Assessment Increases

What it means: Would limit increases to assessment rates to 10-percent per year. Secures an existing cap on non-homestead property assessments.

Amendment 3: Voter Approval for Casino Gambling

What it means: Would provide voters with the "exclusive right to decide whether to authorize casino gambling" and expansions in the state. Both the state legislature and the voters currently have the authority to authorize casino gambling through constitutional amendment. A "yes" vote supports this amendment to provide voters, through citizen-initiated ballot measures, with the exclusive right to decide whether to authorize casino gambling in Florida. A "no" vote opposes this amendment to provide voters, through citizen-initiated ballot measures, with the exclusive right to decide whether to authorize casino gambling in Florida.

The measure would provide voters with the "exclusive right to decide whether to authorize casino gambling in the State of Florida." Amendment 3 would make the citizen initiative process "the exclusive method of authorizing casino gambling," meaning the Florida State Legislature would not be permitted to authorize casino gambling through statute or through referring a constitutional amendment to the ballot.[1] In Florida, the number of signatures required for an initiative is equal to 8 percent of the votes cast in the preceding presidential election. Florida also has a signature distribution requirement, which requires that signatures equal to 8 percent of the district-wide vote in at least half (14) of the state's 27 congressional districts must be collected.

The measure would consider card games, casino games, and slot machines to be casino gambling. The measure would not consider pari-mutuel wagering on horse racing, dog racing, or jai alai exhibitions to be casino gambling. The measure would not impact casino gambling on Native American tribal lands established through state-tribe compacts.

As of 2018, card games, casino games, and slot machines were prohibited at non-

tribal facilities in all but two counties in Florida. In 2004, voters passed an initiative, Amendment 4, to allow voters in Miami-Dade and Broward counties to authorize slot machines at parimutuel facilities, such as horse racing, greyhound racing, and jai alai exhibitions, that existed and were licensed during the two years prior.[2] The Seminole Tribe of Florida, through the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA), negotiated a Class III gaming compact with Republican Gov. Charlie Crist in 2010.[3] The compact allowed the Seminole Tribe to operate blackjack at five facilities through 2015 and required the tribe to share revenue with the state. In 2015, Gov. Rick Scott (R) formed a new 20-year compact with the Seminole Tribe, which added craps and roulette to the agreement and gave the tribe the exclusive right to blackjack.

Amendment 4: Restorage of Voting Rights for Individuals with Felony Convictions

What it means: Would restore the right to vote for more people with prior felony convictions upon completion of their sentences. It would exclude those convicted of murder and felony sexual offenses.

Amendment 5: Increase to Two-Thirds Vote Majority in Legislature to Increase Taxes

What it means: Would increase the majority needed in the state Legislature to two-thirds to impose, approve or raise taxes. It would also mean it would take only a third of members in either the House or Senate to block tax increases or repeal exemptions.

A "yes" vote supports requiring a two-thirds vote of each chamber of the Florida State Legislature to enact new taxes or fees or increase existing ones.

A "no" vote opposes the amendment, thus allowing the state legislature to continue to enact new taxes or fees or increase existing ones, except the corporate income tax, through a simple majority vote.

Amendment 5 would require a two-thirds vote of each chamber of the Florida State Legislature to enact new taxes or fees or increase existing ones. As of 2018, the state legislature can enact new taxes or fees or increase existing ones, except the corporate income tax, through a simple majority vote in each chamber. Voters approved the amendment for the corporate income tax, with a three-fifths vote requirement to increase the tax above 5.0 percent, in 1971.[1] The passage of Amendment 5 would mean that a tax or fee could not be increased along a party-line vote, unless a single party controlled 27 seats in the state Senate and 80 seats in the state House. In 2018, Republicans controlled a majority of seats, but less than two-thirds of seats, in each chamber.

Amendment 5 would also require that a bill enacting a new or increasing an existing tax or fee contain no other subject

Amendment 6: Rights of Crime Victims, Increase Judge Retirement Age, and Interpreting Statutes

What it means: Would add a list of rights for crime victims, known as a Marsy's Law. The other two aspects of this measure would increase the retirement age for judges to 75 and would prohibit judges from deferring to administrative agencies' interpretations of a law when ruling in cases.

Amendment 7: First Responder and Military Member Survivor Benefits, and Public Colleges and Universities

What it means: Would require employers to provide benefits to surviving spouses of first responders if they die on duty, and it would require the state to provide benefits to surviving spouses of active-duty military members who are killed. The last parts of the measure would require university trustees to agree by a third-thirds super-majority to raise college fees and establish the state college system in the state Constitution. Universities are currently in the Constitution, but state colleges (community colleges) are not.

Amendment 8: School Board Term Limits and Duties, Control of Certain Public Schools by the State, and Civic Literacy in Public Education

What it means: Creates a consecutive eight-year term limit for school board members, allows state governments to control public schools not established by the school board and requires the Legislature to promote civic literacy in public education.

Amendment 9: Prohibition of Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling and Prohibition of Vaping in Enclosed Indoor Workplaces

What it means: It would ban offshore drilling for oil and natural gas on all lands beneath state waters. The measure also bans the use of vapor-generating electronic devices, including electronic cigarettes, in indoor workplaces.

Amendment 10: State and Local Government Structure and Operation

What it means: Would add a state Department of Veterans Affairs and create a state office of Domestic Security and Counter-terrorism. The measure would also require the Legislature session to start in January rather than March in even-numbered years. Lastly, the measure includes a proposal that would require five county-level offices to be elected statewide: sheriffs, tax collectors, property appraisers, supervisors of elections and clerks of circuit court. Many counties already elect these positions.

Amendment 11: Repeal of Prohibition of Foreign-Born Persons Owning Property, Removal of Obsolete High-Speed Rail Provision, and Revision of the Effect of a Repeal of a Criminal Statute

What it means: Would do away with the prohibition against foreign-born persons from owning, inheriting, disposing or possessing property. The measure removes a provision that stated a high-speed rail system be developed in Florida and revises a provision on criminal prosecution so that it's clear that repealing a criminal statute does not retroactively affect the prosecution of a previously-committed crime.

Amendment 12: Lobbying and Abuse of Office by Public Officers

What it means: Expands restrictions on lobbying for compensation by former public officers, creates restrictions on lobbying by current public officers and prohibits certain abuse of public office for personal benefit.

Amendment 13: Ban on Racing and Betting on Dog Racing

What it means: The measure would prohibit the racing of and betting on greyhounds and other

dogs after a specified date.

BACKROOM BRIEFING: Weekly political notes from The News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE --- Facebook said this week it mistakenly banned an ad by Republican Matt Caldwell, but not before the candidate for Florida agriculture commissioner was able to score plenty of statewide free media on the issue.

Caldwell, a state House member from North Fort Myers, couldn't have asked for better pre-primary publicity than for Facebook --- under fire from conservatives for its perceived liberal advertising rules --- to reject a 15-second ad in which an armed Caldwell brags of his National Rifle Association endorsement.

Caldwell is running in the Aug. 28 GOP primary against Sen. Denise Grimsley of Sebring, former Rep. Baxter Troutman of Winter Haven and Plant City businessman Mike McCalister, as they seek to replace outgoing Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam.

According to Caldwell's campaign, the ad was banned under a Facebook guideline that ads can't promote the sale of guns or ammunition.

"I'm Matt Caldwell. I like guns. I love the Second Amendment. And I support our president," Caldwell says in the video ad while seated on the edge of a pickup truck tailgate.

"That's why I'm endorsed by the NRA."

"I'm Matt Caldwell," Caldwell continues before locking a gun used for skeet shooting.

"And that's all there is too it."

After Facebook looked into the ad, spokesman Devon Kearns said Tuesday it was "rejected in error."

"We review millions of ads each week, and sometimes we make mistakes," Kearns said. "We have overturned the incorrect decision and the ads are now running live on Facebook."

Before Facebook's admission, Caldwell sent out a news release proclaiming, "Facebook's liberal agenda is keeping our campaign for commissioner of agriculture from sharing our message."

"The U.S. Constitution could not be clearer: our Second Amendment rights are inalienable," Caldwell said in the release. "These God-given rights were enshrined in the Constitution by our Founding Fathers and Facebook's censorship regime cannot get away with waging a war against conservative ideals and our pro-liberty message. Washington, Jefferson, and Madison are the names on the U.S. Constitution, not Zuckerberg."

A number of media outlets, from the Tampa Bay Times to the online Sunshine State News, blogged Caldwell's initial claim, with a link to the ad, before Facebook announced its mistake.

DEMS FUNDRAISING ON TRUMP'S RALLY

Florida Democrats wasted little time in trying to cash in on President Donald Trump's plan to stump next week in Tampa.

"He's flying in to pick his puppet for Florida governor," the Florida Democratic Party said in a fundraising email Monday, shortly after Trump's campaign announced the Tampa trip.

The email later stated: "We need to fill our Rapid Response Fund with \$25,000 in the next 24 hours."

Trump will be in Tampa on Tuesday to reaffirm support for gubernatorial candidate Ron DeSantis, as well as Gov. Rick Scott's run for U.S. Senate and Congressman Matt Gaetz'

re-election effort.

Trump's campaign announced that the president will be at the Florida State Fairgrounds, where he is "expected to address the latest record-breaking jobs and economic data from the booming Trump economy, his nomination of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court, and the importance for Floridians to get out and vote this fall for key races to support his agenda; including to support Rick Scott who is running to defeat Ben Nelson in the U.S. Senate, Matt Gaetz for re-election to the U.S. House, and Ron DeSantis for Governor."

One problem: Ben Nelson is a former Nebraska governor who served in the U.S. Senate from 2001 to 2013.

Scott is challenging Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla.

Scott, a booster of Trump during the 2016 campaign, won't be at the rally. His campaign said he has a fundraiser that night. But Scott will saddle up with Trump at an education event earlier in the day in Tampa.

Donald Trump Jr., the president's son, is expected to also be in the state Aug. 2 to pitch for Gaetz and DeSantis during an event at Northwest Florida State College in Niceville. That is in the heart of Gaetz's Panhandle district.

Besides the fundraising request, Florida Democratic Party spokesman Kevin Donohoe reacted to the news of the president's visit with a tongue-in-cheek email: "Our condolences to Adam Putnam."

Trump is backing DeSantis over Putnam in the Republican primary for governor.

GREENE MONEY

Palm Beach billionaire Jeff Greene, one of the five Democrats running for governor, flew through Tallahassee this week, making numerous stops to garner media good will.

While talking up issues such as his education credentials --- he founded The Greene School for "for bright, curious and joyful learners" in Palm Beach County --- gun legislation, the environment and differences between himself and the rest of the Democratic field, he also talked money.

Specifically, \$10.6 million he'd already put up for the contest, with a vow that more is to come.

"As of now, I know that I've probably spent a little more than (former Congresswoman) Gwen Graham, less than (former Miami Beach mayor) Philip Levine," Greene said. "There are only five weeks left, I don't have any idea what it will take."

If he advances to the general election, could he reach the \$76 million that Scott spent of his own cash in 2010?

"Hopefully not. I don't want to throw money away," Greene said. "But we'll spent whatever is needed to get our message out in the primary and definitely in the general election. I'll do absolutely whatever is needed, because I'm absolutely certain that with Donald Trump and Rick Scott running, there is going to be a lot of money on that side. And I'm prepared to do what it takes. I'm not doing this to go halfway. I'm not running the marathon so I can come in 10th place."

TALLAHASSEE --- Restoring the voting rights of felons has long been a flash point in Florida politics.

Democrats want to quickly restore the rights of felons who have served their sentences and are trying to re-establish themselves in society. But many Republicans, including Gov. Rick Scott and Attorney General Pam Bondi, oppose quick restoration, arguing that felons

should first have to prove they won't return to lives of crime.

While the debate has raged for years, Florida is in a pivotal period.

A federal appeals court Wednesday will hear arguments in a challenge to the constitutionality of Florida's lengthy rights-restoration process. U.S. District Judge Mark Walker this year ruled that the process is unconstitutional, writing, in part, that it "strips the right to vote from every man and woman who commits a felony" and leaves ex-felons at the mercy of the whims of Scott and Cabinet members, who act as the state clemency board.

But the state appealed Walker's ruling to the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta, contending that the governor and Cabinet have the authority to determine rights-restoration procedures. The appeals court gave the state a preliminary victory by blocking a Walker order that would have required officials to come up with a new restoration process by an April 26 deadline.

Regardless of the outcome of the legal fight, the rights-restoration issue will continue at least until the November election.

A political committee known as Floridians for a Fair Democracy has put a proposed constitutional amendment on the November ballot that would require automatic restoration of rights for most felons after they have completed terms of their sentences. The proposal would not apply to felons convicted of murder or sexual offenses.

APPEALS COURT WEIGHS RESTORATION OF FELONS' RIGHTS

July 25, 2018 Dara Kam

ATLANTA --- Yraida Guanipa, a Miami consultant, stood outside the federal appeals court Wednesday morning in downtown Atlanta dressed in a bright orange scarf draped over a smart dark gray suit.

Guanipa has a master's degree and is working on a doctorate, achievements she's garnered since her release from prison in 2006.

Despite her academic successes and the creation of a business devoted to helping other families deal with the stain of incarceration, the shame and pain of the 11 years Guanipa served behind bars for drug-related charges persists.

That's because she can't vote.

Under a Florida process scrutinized Wednesday by a three-judge panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Guanipa is one of hundreds of thousands of felons waiting to have their voting rights restored.

"This is another sentencing that is a timeless sentence," Guanipa, who was born in Venezuela, told The News Service of Florida. "Every time I talk to somebody about I cannot vote, it feels like I'm still incarcerated. It feels like I'm still doing part of the sentence."

Guanipa is among the plaintiffs in a lawsuit challenging the Florida Board of Executive Clemency's process for restoring the right to vote to felons like her who've completed their sentences and paid restitution. Gov. Rick Scott, aided by Attorney General Pam Bondi, initiated the revamped process shortly after taking office in 2011.

Lawyers for the plaintiffs are taking a novel approach to the case. They maintain that Florida's discretionary process violates the First Amendment, despite a dearth of cases anywhere in the country supporting that argument.

"This is a groundbreaking case. No court in the country before the district court in this case had ever ruled that the First Amendment prohibits arbitrary licensing of the right to vote

to felons, the way Florida is engaged in its process right now,” Jon Sherman, an attorney with the Fair Elections Center, which represents the plaintiffs, told reporters after Wednesday’s hearing.

U.S. District Judge Mark Walker found that the state’s arbitrary process violates the First Amendment and ordered the clemency board --- made up of Scott and the state Cabinet --- to come up with a set of “specific, neutral criteria” upon which to base their decisions. But that victory was short-lived, when a separate three-judge panel of the 11th Circuit in April blocked a Walker order that would have required state officials to quickly overhaul Florida’s process of restoring felons’ rights. That panel decided 2-1 that “binding precedent” gives the governor “broad discretion to grant and deny clemency, even when the applicable regime lacks any standards.”

The April ruling, however, did not end the state’s appeal of Walker’s ruling that the current restoration process is unconstitutional, prompting Wednesday’s hearing. Florida Solicitor General Amit Agarwal told Wednesday’s panel --- comprised of Chief Judge Ed Carnes, Judge Elizabeth Branch and U.S. District Judge Darrin Gayles, who serves in Florida’s Southern District and was assigned to the appeals court --- the state’s clemency process is not facially unconstitutional.

“No case, state or federal, published or unpublished ... has ever held or even implied that clemency decisions or vote-restoration decisions in particular must be made pursuant to specific standards,” Agarwal said.

Allowing Walker’s decision to stick would have far-reaching “practical implications” ranging from state decisions about clemency to presidential pardons, Agarwal argued. But Gayles seemed bothered that Florida’s system puts it in a small class, joined only by Iowa and Kentucky.

“Would I be correct to say that at least 40 states restore rights automatically” for felons convicted of certain crimes, Gayles said, asking, “How many of the states employ no standards for this important decision?”

“We’re not aware of any state that has clemency processes that are directed by neutral, non-discriminatory standards,” Agarwal said.

But Gayles said that was because most states automatically restore felons’ voting rights after a certain period of time has elapsed and/or certain conditions are met.

And the judge seemed to reject the argument that requiring more specific standards to restore voting rights would infringe on decisions about pardons.

Agarwal conceded “there are legitimate policy concerns” but said those decisions were best left up to “policy-making branches of state government.”

The state requires felons to wait five or seven years to apply for rights restoration --- and years after that to complete the process. Since the process went into effect in 2011, the clemency board has restored rights to about 3,000 of the 30,000 felons who’ve applied, compared to more than 155,000 whose rights were restored under former Gov. Charlie Crist and about 70,000 who regained their voting rights under Crist’s predecessor, Jeb Bush.

When asked why a “purely discretionary clemency system” would not violate the Constitution, Agarwal said clemency does not take rights away.

“That problem is caused by the criminal conviction, not by the absence of mercy,” the solicitor general said.

That comment bothered Guanipa, who said she understood the case hinges on a constitutional matter.

“But I just wish the court would be a little more human and see the human part of this. It’s a timeless sentencing, apart from your sentencing,” she ruefully said.

Agarwal urged the panel to side with the state, arguing that “a convicted felon who has lost the right to vote ... does not and cannot have the right to vote under the First Amendment.”

But Sherman said the U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly ruled that “arbitrary” licensing is unconstitutional.

Carnes appeared unconvinced by Sherman’s arguments, repeatedly interrupting the lawyer and pointing out that there was no basis for his First Amendment theory.

“You’re asking us to be the first court of appeal in the country to hold this?” a skeptical Carnes asked.

“Yes, your honor, that is true,” Sherman said.

And Carnes seemed bothered by the implications on presidential pardons.

“The point is, does the president have to have and follow standards. ... What’s the difference?” he asked.

Sherman said the right to vote would have to be “handled separately” from other rights being granted in a presidential pardon.

Branch, meanwhile, asked if the plaintiffs, who concede that the Constitution doesn’t require Florida to restore voting rights to felons, weren’t running the risk of forcing the state to do away with the clemency process altogether.

Sherman said the state had promised it would not do away with restoration of voting rights and pointed out that just a small number of felons have had their voting rights restored since the new policy went into effect seven years ago.

“You’re willing to throw the next couple of hundred under the bus?” Carnes demanded.

“That’s not our risk assessment,” Sherman replied.

Pressed by Carnes, Sherman refused to identify the criteria the state should use to develop standards he thought would meet constitutional muster.

That line of questioning prompted Branch to explore whether the plaintiffs were actually seeking automatic voter restoration by creating a checklist so someone “could sit in a dark room and start plugging in” data to determine whose rights would be restored.

Sherman said the district court had already rejected an attempt to have Florida adopt an “automatic” restoration of rights system.

“At the end of the day, there’s still unfettered discretion unless we impose automatic restoration,” Branch persisted.

After the hearing, Sherman told reporters a ruling against the plaintiffs would allow the clemency board to adopt “any manner of arbitrary basis for deciding” whether someone would get their voting rights restored.

“If we’re wrong, then the executive clemency board can restore people based on their eye color, their height, whether they’re attractive or not, whether they deem them intelligent or not, whether they’re fluent in English,” Sherman said. “And you would never learn of that, because they can make that determination in their own minds and never say as much, publicly. That’s the real harm in the system.”

JUDGE DISMISSES CLASS ACTION ON RED LIGHT CAMERAS

July 17, 2018 NSF Staff

Following the lead of the Florida Supreme Court, a federal judge has dismissed a class-action lawsuit that challenged the way red-light camera programs have been operated throughout the state. U.S. District Judge Federico Moreno last week issued a two-page order dismissing the case, which was filed in 2014. In the decision, Moreno cited a May 3 ruling by the Florida Supreme Court that rejected a motorist's challenge to the red-light camera program in the city of Aventura. The federal and state cases focused heavily on questions about whether local governments had violated state law by giving too much authority to private red-light camera companies in operating the programs. But the Florida Supreme Court ruled that the

“Legislature has permitted a local government's agent to review information from red light cameras for any purpose short of making the probable cause determination as to whether a traffic infraction was committed. We thus hold that (a section of state law) authorizes a local government to contract with a private third-party vendor to review and sort information from red light cameras, in accordance with written guidelines provided by the local government, before sending that information to a trained traffic enforcement officer, who determines whether probable cause exists and a citation should be issued.” Red-light cameras have long been a controversial issue in Florida, with critics arguing that they have become a way for local governments and red-light camera companies to make money. Supporters, however, contend the cameras improve traffic safety and dissuade motorists from running red lights

STATE URGES DISMISSAL OF CHALLENGE TO GUN LAW July 12, 2018 NSF Staff

Attorney General Pam Bondi's office this week urged a circuit judge to dismiss a challenge to a law that imposes strict penalties on local governments and officials who violate a restriction on regulating guns and ammunition. Numerous local governments and officials are plaintiffs in the lawsuit, which was filed in April in Leon County circuit court. The case is rooted in a decades-old law that gives the state power to regulate firearms and ammunition and “preempts” the ability of local governments to approve such regulations. In 2011, the Legislature approved stiff penalties for local governments and officials who violate the state preemption law, including potential removal from office and fines. The municipalities allege in the lawsuit that the penalties are unconstitutional. But Bondi's office this week filed a motion to dismiss the case on a number of grounds, including that the local governments' arguments are “speculative” because the state has not threatened to enforce the law against the plaintiffs. “Plaintiffs do not allege that any of the defendants named in these actions (or any other state official) has ‘actually threatened’ them (or anyone else) with enforcement of the challenged provisions,” the motion said. “Instead, plaintiffs allege only that, because they wish to enact and enforce ordinances that may be preempted ... they are concerned that they may, at some indeterminate point in the future, be threatened with enforcement by some entity or individual they do not identify. Accordingly, these actions should be dismissed for a lack of judicable case or controversy.” The case has been assigned to Leon County Circuit Judge Charles Dodson

REGULATORS APPROVE NEW AREA CODE FOR CENTRAL FLORIDA**TALLAHASSEE --- State utility regulators gave the go-ahead Tuesday for a new area**

code to keep up with growth in Central Florida.

The Public Service Commission unanimously approved a proposal that will make the area code 689 available as an overlay to the existing 407 area code in Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties, as well parts of Lake and Volusia counties.

The new area code will only affect new numbers and shouldn't be much of a change for existing customers since calls within the counties already require 10-digit dialing. That's due to an existing overlay with the 321 area code, which was set up for the Space Coast but has a small reach into Central Florida. The new area code won't have an impact on Brevard County.

The new Central Florida prefix has been in the works for more than a decade, but the state received notice on May 16 from the North American Numbering Plan Administrator that the 407 area code would run out of numbers by May 2019.

The 689 area code was initially proposed in 2001, but implementation was delayed a year later due to changes in projections and in the way numbers were assigned to telephone companies.

FPL CUSTOMERS TO RECEIVE HURRICANE MATTHEW RECOVERY REFUND

TALLAHASSEE --- Florida Power & Light customers will see a small, one-time credit in August that in part corrects an "over-recovery" cost for Hurricane Matthew, which whipped the east coast in 2016.

The Florida Public Service Commissioner on Tuesday approved the \$27.7 million agreement between the Juno Beach-based power giant and the Office of Public Counsel. The adjustment should equate to about a \$3.18 credit for a residential customer who uses the industry standard of 1,000 kilowatt hours a month.

SUNPASS CONTINUES TO CATCH UP ON TOLL TRANSACTIONS

State transportation officials estimate that about two days' worth of toll transactions will be processed on a daily basis as the SunPass Centralized Customers Service System catches up with what was expected to be a weeklong upgrade. "As improvements to the system move forward, it is anticipated that up to 8 million transactions will be posted on a daily, recurring basis until all accounts are reconciled," Department of Transportation spokeswoman Kim Poulton said in press release Monday evening. As of Monday, more than 20 million backlogged toll transactions had been posted, following a systemwide upgrade that began June 6.

GAS REMAINS AT FOUR-YEAR HIGH IN FLORIDA

Even as the cost of gas in Florida declined by a half-cent over the past week, prices at the pump are the highest in four years, according to AAA auto club. "Reduced global oil supplies have caused summer travelers to pay a higher price at the pump this year," AAA spokesman Mark Jenkins said in a press release. "Fortunately, domestic gasoline production remains strong, which should help prevent major swings in summer gas prices." But Jenkins warned that prices could "pop" if refineries along the Gulf Coast are again threatened by a hurricane.

MRF For Immediate Release July 29, 2018

Motorcycles, Boats, & Lawnmowers Ask for Help on Ethanol

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, representatives from the marine, motorcycling, and outdoor power equipment gathered on Capitol Hill to discuss concerns over ethanol-blended gasoline and a lack of consumer education and understanding of the risks associated with ethanol. Hosted by the Congressional Motorcycle and Boating Caucuses, the breakfast briefing featured a panel of industry representatives and welcomed congressional staff and policymakers to learn about the issue from those with direct experience.

Speaking on behalf of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation was Mike Sponseller, an avid motorcyclist, professional racer and part owner of a Washington, D.C. motorcycle shop. Sponseller explained to the audience why higher ethanol blended gasoline is such a concern for riders, showing images of corroded and damaged motorcycle engine parts including fuel injectors, tank liners, fuel lines and even showing a snapshot taken directly from a Harley-Davidson owner's manual explaining the risks of using E15, E30 and E85.

He outlined riders concerns and the lack of consumer education that currently exists despite these types of fuel being federal prohibited for use in motorcycles. "The problem with E15 isn't that motorcycles are unreliable, but it creates the perception that they are because of the damage it can cause. When in reality, it's the fuel that we are being forced to use."

Panelists agreed, citing their own industry examples of damage, lack of consumer education and misfuelling.

The event also touched on newly introduced legislation, H.R.5855, the Consumer Protection and Fuel Transparency Act of 2018. Authored by Rep. Austin Scott (R-Ga.) and U.S. Rep. Lois Frankel (D-Fl.), the legislation would require the EPA to revise the labeling requirements for fuel pumps that dispense E15 and conduct a consumer education campaign to inform the public about the risks of improper use of E15 and the vehicles and equipment that are prohibited from using E15.

In coordination with the panel, a letter was sent to all Members of the House and Senate signed by the Motorcycle Riders Foundation, the National Marine and Manufacturers Association, the American Highway Users Alliance and others conveying support for the legislation. More information on the legislation can be found here: <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr5855>



About Motorcycle Riders Foundation

The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) provides leadership at the federal level for states' motorcyclists' rights organizations as well as motorcycle clubs and individual riders. The MRF is chiefly concerned with issues at the national and international levels that impact the freedom and safety of American street motorcyclists. The MRF is committed to being a national advocate for the advancement of motorcycling and its associated lifestyle and works in conjunction with its partners to help educate elected officials and policymakers in Washington and beyond.

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ABATE Palm Beach Chapter Meeting Minutes

Call to Order A meeting of Abate Palm Beach Chapter was held at The VFW 2404 Broadway Ave, Riviera Beach, FL 33404 on July 22, 2018.

Meeting Called to Order at 11:31 A.M. 11 Members Present 0 Guests Present

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

President: Discussed what our goals are for this year, what ABATE is about and we are striving to do more networking to recruit new members.

Vice President: he attended the State Leadership meetings.

Secretary: Last month's minutes were approved. She rode up to Vero for the weekend to attend the State Leadership training classes for Secretaries class and Insurance.

Treasurer: Rode up to Vero to attend the state Leadership training classes.

Sargent At Arms: Excused

Membership: We have 6 new members as of today's meeting. We sold \$20 dollars worth of t-shirts. We want to remind members to remember to renew.

Legislative: Elections coming, prepare! Full report in newsletter

Public Relations: State Newsletter *MasterLink* is back online.

Products: Kathy Hale agreed to take over as Products person. We are researching new product ideas. We are open for suggestions. We proposed getting hats made for the chapter and perhaps smaller patches.

Old Business: none

New Business: Proposed to move our June event to May 2019. We discussed having another chapter co-host our December event.

Good of the Order: Reminder others of who we are and what we stand for. Vinnie won 50/50 and donated all to chapter

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Type by Secretary, Kathy L. Hale, July 24th, 2018

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 530944, Lake Park, FL 33403**

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.

Membership Melissa Limbaugh 561-312-4080 Melissapalmbeachabate@yahoo.com

A.D.D. INSURANCE POLICY UPDATE

We all realize the \$4,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment insurance policy if one of the best benefits of being an ABATE member. That is one reason to keep your membership up to date. You MUST name someone to get the money in case of death to prevent taxes and being in probate court. So when you receive the yellow card mailed from our state office, you can complete it and mail to insurance company. Most likely an agent will contact you even if you said not to. If they do be, SURE to get their name and number upfront. They do NOT need to visit you even to deliver the certificate. If they insist or get push, contact ABATE of FL. main office and report it but you MUST have the agents' name and number for action to be taken. Otherwise you may just return the completed yellow card to ABATE to have on file. Then be sure your survivors know to contact ABATE for the benefits.

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, and attach your check or money order and mail to:

ABATE — Palm Beach Chapter

PO Box 530944 Lake Park FL 33403

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY Will Palm Beach Chapter be your HOME voting Chapter

NEW Member: Year or Life Renew: Transfer: Address Change:

First : Last : Road :

Address:

City: State: Zip (full): -

Phone: Cell: Text notification Yes No

Email for News Alerts

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

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

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.

MEMBERSHIPS FEE \$

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

SIGNATURE Date:

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

palmbeach.abateflorida.com



Next Palm Beach Chapter Meeting
VFW POST 4143

3rd Sunday August 19, 2018 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

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.