

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. PALM BEACH CHAPTER



ISSUE 188 2021-4 PALMBEACH.ABATEFLORIDA.COM APR. 2021

ABATE of Florida Inc. Palm Beach Chapter

**CELEBRATING MOTORCYCLE
SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH**

Lakeside Anchor Inn

2412 Floral Road Lantana FL 33462 located west of
I-95 Hypoluxo exit, turn north on Eastview Dr. east
on Floral Rd. **LIVE MUSIC "Static: / FOOD / DRINK**

Must abide by CDC guidelines to attend, and follow local mask mandates.

VENDORS - 50/50 - DOOR PRIZES

\$3.00 per person / \$5.00 per couple

Proceeds support our continued legislative efforts in Tallahassee

**Sunday
MAY 2
1 to 5 PM**

ABATE PALM BEACH CHAPTER



MEMBERSHIP AND SAFETY BOOTH

Everyone is invited to join the fun, **RAIN or SHINE**

Contact for more information:

Ken Gerecke 561-389-6546

[HTTP://PALMBEACH.ABATEFLORIDA.COM](http://PALMBEACH.ABATEFLORIDA.COM)

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

**NEXT CHAPTER
MEETING
NOON
3rd Sunday
April 18**

**CHECK TWICE
FOR MOTORCYCLES**

**LET THOSE
WHO RIDE
DECIDE!**

2020-2021 Board of Directors & Trustees

PRESIDENT	Ken "Snooze" Gerecke	561-389-6546
VICE PRESIDENT	Tony "Wrench" Mariani	561-319-8095
SECRETARY	Dan "Slo Mo" Henderson	561-702-9929
TREASURER	Suzanne "SushiQ" Seguin	786-574-1344
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	"Quiet Dan" Shawback	561-818-1816
ASST. SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	"Petee" Carroll	561-284-1719
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LEGISLATIVE	Dan "Slo Mo" Henderson	561-702-9929
NEWSLETTER/WEBMASTER	Dan "Slo Mo" Henderson	561-702-9929
STATE DELEGATE	Dan "Slo Motion" Henderson	561-702-9929
STATE DELEGATE	Ken "Snooze" Gerecke	561-389-6546
PR/COMM TRUSTEE	Dan "Slo Mo" Henderson	561-702-9929
PRODUCTS TRUSTEE	Suzanne "SushiQ" Seguin	786-574-1344

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

ABATE - Palm Beach Chapter

P.O. Box 530944

Lake Park, FL 33403

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

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ABATE of Florida Inc
Palm Beach Chapter
P.O. Box 530944
Lake Park, FL 33403

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



President's Message

Ken Gerecke

April already time really does fly ! Normally in April our chapter delegates would be getting ready to go to Tallahassee for our state meeting and the ride to the capital but unfortunately our state capital is still not back to normal operation due to covid-19 protocols. so we will be going to plan B. Our state meeting will be held by our Forest Chapter in Ft. McCoy (just north of Ocala) at the VFW Veteran's village pavilion 130005 N.E. 135th St. April 10. All are welcome to our state meetings if interested let us know for more information.

Also in April at our Chapter meeting on April 18th we will be holding nominations for chapter officers and trustees. These chapter positions are very important to our chapter you see without them we do not have a chapter! I am asking all our members to think about getting involved with your chapter and becoming a board member or trustee. We need people to step up or we simply will not have a chapter here in Palm Beach county any more. So if you care about your chapter please step up or at least nominate some one else.

Our roads are becoming very crowded these days and already we have seen way to many motorcycle fatalities this year. I know we would like them to watch out for us but remember we must watch out for them too!!

We also have Leesburg bike fest April 22-25 although the city of Leesburg has canceled the event this year due to covid concerns the rest of the area will be open for business! Such as downtown bars and restaurants will be open also Gator Harley will be having a huge bike rally 3 full bars, 60 vendors, live music and more! Also on the 23-24 will be the Eustis bike rally and music fest, so mark your calendar and plan on attending and helping the local businesses that have been hit so hard by covid19 lets show them that bikers care !!

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>

UPCOMING Event Schedule All events subject to change

Sat. nights Fly n Wheels Open House

Tuesday and Saturday Lone Legion Happy Hour

Sundays Crazy Uncle Mike's Brews, Bikes & Bands 2pm 6450 N.Federal Boca Raton

Wednesday Bike Night Gorilla Motors at Johnny Qs

Thursday April 8 Bike Night at Handlebars (old Judy's) Tequesta start 6pm

April 8 to 12 Thunder on the Water Cruise leaving Tampa

Friday April 9 AOA WPB Open House & Black Piston's Open House

Saturday April 10 ABATE of FL, Inc. State Meeting Ft. McCoy

Saturday April 10 Open Road Anniversary Party Hwy 70 Arcadia

Thursday April 16 Bike Night Harry's Banana Farm 1919 N Dixie Lake Worth

Friday April 17 Fly n Wheels Lockdown Party

Friday April 17 Space Coast Harley Poker Run

Friday April 17 ABATE Forest chapter Poker Run

3rd Sunday April 18 Palm Beach Chapter Meeting ABATE of FL, Inc. NOON

Our meeting will be in the dining room of Lakeside Anchor Inn 2412 Floral Rd, Lantana
West of I95 Hypoluxo exit, north on Eastview Dr to right on Floral Road

Friday April 23 Lone Legion Brotherhood Open House

April 23—25 Leesburg Bikefest , not downtown but at Harley an other places

Waiting on bar opening last Thursday Turboz Custom Cycles Bike Night 7-10 PM
Ralph's Stand Up Bar Jupiter

**May 2 Palm Beach ABATE Party to Celebrate May is Motorcycle Safety
Awareness month**

May 8 ABATE Polk chapter Motorcycle Rodeo

VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

Tony “Wrench” Mariani, Vice President of Palm Beach chapter of ABATE of Florida Inc., had a family tragedy recently. His daughter’s mate had a motorcycle accident when an 85 year old person turned in front of him suddenly. Matthew Guntle passed away at the scene. Tony had tried to get him to join ABATE, the ADD insurance would have helped Tony’s daughter and grandson. You may have meet them at our December event. To help them during this time a Go Fund Me page has been set up to help them. You can help going to the page with this link



<https://www.gofundme.com/f/matthew-guntles-memorial-family-expenses>



Matthew Guntle was a man with a heart of gold. As many of you knew, he could always light up a room by making anyone laugh with his silly jokes, was always cooking some delicious meal, and knew how to have one hell of a time. Matthew was born on 11/4/1988 and lived an amazing 32 years where he developed amazing friendships and created a beautiful family. Matthew always was there to guide others and impacted many lives. Matthew was an amazing

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.

father to Matthew Jr. and a wonderful soul mate to Danielle Mariani for 9 years. They created a beautiful life together and truly lived life to the fullest with their friends and family. We ask that you please support Matthew Guntle's family Danielle Mariani, and Matthew Junior to cover memorial costs and any additional family expenses that may incur throughout Matthew Juniors life. All contributions will be going to Matthew's significant other, Danielle Mariani. Thank you to all our friends and family for coming together to support someone very special during this very tragic time.

Tony's story tells how important an ABATE membership can be to a family, in times the ADD insurance can really help. The accident DOES NOT have to be motorcycle related. The only requirements are valid membership and the beneficiary form being filled out. The chapter makes sure they go to state office to be stored. Since you don't have to ride, the only requirement is to be 18+. I know of several members you paid for their children's membership to have the coverage.

Since doing Tony's story, I found a member with a GoFundMe page. I had heard that Amanda had an accident a while back, but not information or how serious. I believe she had renewed but we haven't seen her in a long time. I need to reach out to her and see how she is. For me these days ABATE is the only family I have and we we need to help reach other. I've heard the States MC Lake Worth Thirsty is back home how and doing better after his coma. That is good news.



Amanda Stout Medical Bills

Amanda was involved in a serious motorcycle accident Friday night on 1-95. After a few days at the hospital she is resting at home. She's going to be ok but has a long road ahead of her with multiple surgeries and months of healing. She's going to need our help with medical bills, expenses etc.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/amanda-stout-medical-bills>

\$2,310 raised of \$5,000 goal

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We need help in getting
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table

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ad for a member Send in
scan of card or better, bring to
Chapter meeting

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Please Pay for your
Event to be Included and
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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 sales Tax included

SIZE	1 MONTH	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	YEAR
BUSINESS CARD	\$ 12.72	\$ 26.71	\$ 49.61	\$ 89.29
QUARTER PAGE	\$ 25.44	\$ 50.88	\$ 92.86	\$ 167.14
HALF PAGE	\$ 38.16	\$ 78.86	\$ 146.28	\$ 283.33
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 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.

This weird electric motorcycle only has one wheel

Published by: Enrico Punsalang

For those who like to live dangerously?

We've seen electric motorcycles take all shapes and sizes in recent years. From crazy high-performance machines to your run-of-the-mill daily commuters, there's no denying that the electrification of two-wheeled transport can change the world for the better. What I'm not so sure about, though, is this one-wheeled monstrosity of an electric unicycle.



Not only does it (kinda) look like a Ducati Monster with its striking red trellis frame and muscular faux tank, it doesn't come with a front end, either. So, how exactly do you ride this thing? Well, if the Alibaba advert is to be believed, it's just a matter of hopping on and zooming away. Granted, of course, this electric one-wheeled motorcycle is more of a toy than an actual means of transport, I'm guessing you're going to want to put on your best gear every time you hop on this thing.

Pumping out nearly three horsepower from its hub motor, this electric monocycle can hit a top speed of 30 miles per hour. Now, what happens when you pull the handlebar-mounted brake lever in an emergency stop maneuver is beyond me, and I honestly wouldn't ever want to find myself in that situation. What's interesting is that the manufacturer claims that this electric unicycle has a range of 35 to 60 miles on a single charge. Additionally, the manufacturer's claimed 6 to 8 hours of charging time doesn't exactly paint a picture of safety and reliability, either.

If for some reason, this one-wheeled electric motorcycle thingy interests you, and you'd want to grab one for yourself and add it to your fleet of weird and amazing vehicles, then be sure to visit the link to the Alibaba ad below. This fancy little toy starts at \$1,800 (approx. £1,300) and can set you back up to \$2,800 (£2,000) depending on where in the world you're ordering from.

<https://uk.motor1.com/news/494332/electric-motorcycle-one-wheel-weird/>

DELEGATE REPORT

With the Capital still locked down, our April state meeting will be Saturday April 10 in Ft. McCoy, north of Ocala. This a open outdoor pavilion so meeting is open to everyone. Might want to bring a jacket if gets cold ou there in the woods. There are may places to camp around and there. Since there was no interest on a chapter camping trip, Ken and I will be staying at the La Quinta Inn and Suites 3530 SW 36th Ave Ocala south of Fort McCoy. We can use our Wyndham points.

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.



State Meeting

Saturday, April 10, 2021

Board Meeting @ 12:00 PM

Delegates Meeting @ 2:00 PM



You must abide by CDC Guidelines to attend meeting & follow local county mask mandates

Held at the VFW Veterans' Village Pavilion

130005 NE 135th ST, Ft McCoy, FL 32134

LODGING OPTIONS

Motel 6 Starting at \$80.00

3810 Northwest Blichton Rd Ocala

Howard Johnson Starting at \$95.00

3951 Northwest Blichton Rd Ocala

Silver Princess Motel Starting at \$70.00

3041 South Pines Ave Ocala

Please remember to search booking.com for other options

For more info contact
John @ 352-318-6514 or forest.abate@gmail.com

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WWW.800HELPFLA.COM 1-800-435-7352"
MEMBERSHIP/SAFETY INFORMATION AVAILABLE



STATE MEETINGS

Host Chapter & Location

2021 State Meetings

April with Capital closed
Ft. McCoy April 10
see flyer to left

June 12 Vintage St. Aug
August 14 Lake
October 9 Gulf Coast
Dec. 11 Peace River

ABATE of FL Inc.
Palm Beach Chapter

GBNF

Ed "Gunner" Bassett
Frank "Pipes" Cook
Robert "Torch" Lyle
Niurka Crespo
Phil Moore
Michael Steffy
Bill Klawsnik
Gregg Lehman
Tom "Ramblin' Man" Botticelli
Karen Watkins
"Bones" Maurice Clark
Danny Palm

ABATE of Florida Inc.



1st Prize



HENRY BIG BOY .44 MAGNUM

\$5 donation

Drawing Dec. 11, 2021

Just in time for Christmas

Please visit www.Abatefloridainc.com

for chapter near you to purchase tickets

2nd Prize



HENRY GOLDEN BOY .22 S/L/LR

Need not to be present to win
ONLY 1500 Tickets Printed



*Full name must be listed on the ticket stub for awards drawing purposes! Winner has 30 days after being notified to pick up prize. Winner will be notified and must qualify for ownership with a Florida Firearms Dealer. MUST BE 18 OR OLDER to purchase ticket.

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ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. FOREST CHAPTER CELEBRATING



YEARS

With a 3-Card Poker Run

April 17, 2021- Registration at 10 AM, KSU at 11:00
Ends at 5:00 PM

Start at Warhorse Harley-Davidson, 5331 N Hwy 441, Ocala, FL 34475
1st Stop- Cactus Jack's, 23740 NE Hwy 314 #6244, Salt Springs, FL 32134
2nd Stop- No where Bar, 8970 SW 27th Ave, Ocala, FL 34476
Ends at Dallas Inn, 16860 US-301, Summerfield, FL 34491

\$10 per hand, 50/50 and drawings, Stuffed Cooler tickets
High Hand and Low Hand Win

Special prizes for 30-point hands. (Any combination of 10's or face cards)
Proceeds go to ABATE of Florida, Inc- Forest Chapter
For questions contact John at 352-318-6514

Join ABATE at this event and save \$5.

1-year membership regularly \$20, event price \$15
Membership and Safety Information will be Available

CDC Guidelines and local mandates will be followed. If you feel sick, stay home.

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ABATE OF FLORIDA INC. POLK COUNTY CHAPTER

10TH SKILLS ON WHEELS MOTORCYCLE RODEO



SATURDAY, May 8th, 2021
SIGN UP BETWEEN 11:00-1:00pm
EVENT ENDS AT 4PM

AT: THE BOONDOCKS 8515 US Hwy 98 N. Lakeland, FL 33809

COME SHOW US YOUR SKILLS ON 2 WHEELS

Clothesline		Joust & Slow Race
Plank		5 second Ball
Balloon Toss		Bearbag Toss
Wienie Bite		Cone Ball

\$5.00 donation covers entrance & participation fee * Do overs \$5.00
Awards for 1st and 2nd place; Separate Award for Wienie Bite & Slow Race

50/50 Drawings Food Available to purchase

For more information call
Mark "Zamm" (PRIS) @ 863-559-0550 or
Tim "Roadmap" McEHEMOTT (VT) 863-712-7548

Must abide by CDC guidelines to attend, and follow local county mask mandates

ALL AGE WELCOMED!
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 Come Join us for our Annual Pre-Leesburg Party
APRIL 10th Starting at 1pm
 Vendors Cold Drinks
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SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 2021
 \$10.00 DONATION PER PERSON.. MEAL INCLUDED
 2:00 PM TILL ???
MUSIC, DRINKS, FOOD AND A GOOD TIME!
 NO BULLSHIT, NO ATTITUDES, NO ASSHOLES, NO PROBLEM!
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Locations

Palm Beach Gardens
4414 Northlake Blvd. Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33411

Port St. Lucie
6688 US Hwy 1 Port St. Lucie, FL 34952

Delray Beach
601 N. Congress Ave., #410 Delray Beach, FL 33441

Harold Walters Realtor®

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BIG 'B' FROM TENNESSEE

Child Liberation

POKER RUN APRIL 17, 2021

Army

REGISTRATION: 10 AM - 11 AM
TICKETS ARE \$20, PASSENGER \$10

RIDE STARTS AND ENDS AT
Space Coast Harley-Davidson
1440 SPORTSMAN LN NE
PALM BAY, FL 32905

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PRIZES GIVEN FOR:
HIGH HAND AND LOW HAND

FULL THROTTLE EXPO 2021!!

Memorial Day Weekend!
May 28th, 29th, 30th

At - Bert's Barracuda Harley-Davidson
10525 49th St N, Clearwater, FL 33762

Bert's Barracuda Harley & The Fran Haasch Law Group Present

FULL THROTTLE EXPO 2021

MUSIC FESTIVAL
A BIKE BUILDER INVITATIONAL

FRAN HAASCH LAW GROUP

BARRACUDA

www.FloridaFullThrottle.com

Fri. May 28th
12noon - 10pm
Sat. May 29th
10am - 10pm
Sun. May 30th
11am - 6pm

Call 727-935-4875 For More Information
Or Visit www.FloridaFullThrottle.com

WEEKLY EVENTS

Subject to change and updates due to COVID and Govt mandates

Tues 6-11 Lone Legion Brotherhood Happy Hour

Wed Bike Night with Gorilla Motors Johnny Q's 6:30- 10 3801 19th Ave N Palm Springs FL

Wed Pirates Well Bike Night 9477 Alt. A1A Lake Park TBA

2nd Thurs Handlebars US1 Tequesta 6 PM (old Judy's)

3rd Thurs Harry's Banana Farms Lake Worth Bike Night

Last Thurs Turboz/Ralph's Bike Night Jupiter When bars open

1st Fri Enforcers MC Party

2nd Fri AOA WPB and Black Pistons WPB Open House

3rd Fri Outcast MC Hang Out 656 MLK Jr Blvd Riviera Bch 8PM

4th Fri Lone Legion MC Brotherhood Open House

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

SAT Lone Legion Happy Hour

SAT night Fly n Wheels Open House

Sat PBH Abacoa Concert Series 7:30 to 10 pm

SUNDAY 2 PM Crazy Uncle Mike's BBB 6450 N. Federal Hwy Boca



West Palm Beach

Open House

Friday

Food, Drinks & Brotherhood

8pm-11pm

\$10 door donation

includes food and your 1st drink

No Guns No Drugs No Attitudes



MUSIC BILLIARDS DARTS

\$5 entry

Food and 1 Drink included

AT OUR CLUBHOUSE



8PM - 11PM

We Ask Everyone Be Socially responsible Support Masks for sale if needed



Tuesday HappyHour

11/24

7pm - 11 pm

Dinner Available

\$5 Donation

BILLIARDS DARTS MUSIC

DRINK SPECIALS \$1 FIREBALL SHOTS*

ALL RIDERS & FRIENDS WELCOMED

At LLBMC Clubhouse Boynton beach DM For our Location *All monies received are Donations

Advertisement for Saturday Happy Hour at Lone Legion Brotherhood Southeast FL, featuring drink specials, complimentary bar snacks, and music/billiards/darts from 7PM-11PM.

Advertisement for Burn Up Company Bikes & Coffee, featuring a motorcycle shop and coffee service on Saturdays from 10AM-2PM.

Advertisement for Third Tradition Motorcycle Fellowship Bikers Against Drugs Dance and BBQ XXXIII Annual event on May 8th 2021 at 7:15 P.M.

Advertisement for Crazy Uncle Mike's BBB, featuring brews, bikes, and bands every Sunday at 2PM.

Advertisement for Hang Night at Outcast Florida, featuring a motorcycle and the text 'ENTERING Palm Beach EVERY 3rd FRIDAY 8pm 656 M.L.K. Jr BLVD Riviera Beach, FL 33404'.

Advertisement for Johnny Q's & Gorilla Motors Wednesday Night Bike Night, featuring food, drink specials, and a free raffle & door prizes.

Advertisement for Harry's Bike Night, featuring a motorcycle and the text 'HARRY'S BIKE NIGHT'.

Advertisement for International Female Ride Day for the Homeless, featuring a motorcycle and the text 'Save The Date SATURDAY, MAY 1 | 1PM - 10PM HARLEY-DAVIDSON OF BRANDON'.

**ABATE of FL
Inc. PALM
BEACH
CHAPTER**

Chapter meetings
3rd Sunday
NOON Lakeside
Anchor Inn dining
room. 2412 Floral
Rd, Lantana west
of I95 Hypoluxo
exit north on
Eastview Dr. to
Floral Rd east .
Open to ALL so
come learn about
us. Meetings
usually less than
an hour
2021

- 3rd Sunday Apr. 18
- 3rd Sunday May 16
- 3rd Sunday June 20
- 3rd Sunday July 18
- 3rd Sunday Aug. 22
- 3rd Sunday Sept. 19
- 3rd Sunday Oct. 17
- 3rd Sunday Nov. 21
- 3rd Sunday Dec. 19

THUNDER ON THE WATER
APRIL 8TH THRU 12TH 2021

DAY 1 DEPARTURE FROM TAMPA, FL
DAY 2 AT SEA
DAY 3 COZUMEL, MEXICO
DAY 4 AT SEA
DAY 5 BACK AT PORT OF TAMPA

ADDED COLOR
FRAMING
ROYAL GARIBOLDI
50legs! ROYALSTAR
FRAN FLORIDA

For More Info Visit LegacyEntertainmentandProductions.com
Or Michael At 863-669-3191

KENSBURN 2021

APRIL 23, 24, 25, 2021

HANDLEBARS BAR & GRILL

Bike Night
Every 2nd
Thursday @ 6pm

LIVE MUSIC
COLD BEER
FOOD SPECIALS

US HIGHWAY ONE
TEQUESTA, FL

Bikers Count

Back Off!

16

SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2021 AT 1 PM EDT
BIKERS COUNT NATIONWIDE UNITED RIDE
Online Event

EVERY WEDNESDAY
KENNY VS
OPEN JAM NIGHT
YES OPEN JAMMMMM
BAND 7:00 TIL 10:00
ALWAYS DRINK SPECIALS

Post 4143
Riviera Beach, FL

PALM BEACH BIKE NIGHT

ONE FIST MC
A SATURDAY NIGHT HANGOUT
DOORS OPEN AT 6:00PM
3-13-21

1065 SILVER BEACH RD, RIVIERA BCH, FL

THE WORLD'S OLDEST MOTORCYCLE RALLY

LACONIA
MOTORCYCLE WEEK
JUNE 12-20, 2021

April 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Subject to Change			1	2	3 Lone Legion Happy Hour Fly n Wheels Open House
4 Crazy Uncle Mike Brews. Bikes, Bands	5	6 Lone Legion Happy Hour	7 Bike Night Gorilla Motors at Johnny Q's	8 Bike Night Handlebars Tequesta	9 AOA & Black Pistons Open House	10 ABATE FL Meeting Lone Legion Happy Hour Fly n Wheels Open House
11 Crazy Uncle Mike Brews. Bikes, Bands	12	13 Lone Legion Happy Hour	14 Bike Night Gorilla Motors at Johnny Q's	15 Bike Night LW Harry's Banana Farm	16 Bike Night Outcast MC	17 Lone Legion Happy Hour Fly n Wheels Lockdown Party
18 ABATE PB Chapter Meeting	19	20 Lone Legion Happy Hour	21 Bike Night Gorilla Motors at Johnny Q's	22	23 Leesburg Bikefest Lone Legion Open House	24 Leesburg Bikefest Lone Legion Happy Hour Fly n Wheels Open House
25 Leesburg Bikefest Crazy Uncle Mike Brews. Bikes, Bands	26	27 Lone Legion Happy Hour	28 Bike Night Gorilla Motors at Johnny Q's	29	30	

May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Lone Legion Happy Hour Fly n Wheels Open House
2 PB ABATE celebrates Motorcycle Awareness	3	4 Lone Legion Happy Hour	5 Bike Night Gorilla Motors at Johnny Q's	6	7	8 3rd Tradition Annual Lone Legion Happy Hour Fly n Wheels Open House
9 Crazy Uncle Mike Brews. Bikes, Bands	10	11 Lone Legion Happy Hour	12 Bike Night Gorilla Motors at Johnny Q's	13 Bike Night Handlebars Tequesta	14 AOA & Black Pistons Open House	15 Lone Legion Happy Hour Fly n Wheels Open House
16 ABATE PB Chapter Meeting	17	18 Lone Legion Happy Hour	19 Bike Night Gorilla Motors at Johnny Q's	20 Bike Night LW Harry's Banana Farm	21 Bike Night Outcast MC	22 Lone Legion Happy Hour Fly n Wheels Open House
23 Crazy Uncle Mike Brews. Bikes, Bands	24	25 Lone Legion Happy Hour	26 Bike Night Gorilla Motors at Johnny Q's	27	28 Full Throttle Expo Clearwater Lone Legion	29 Full Throttle Expo Lone Legion Happy Hour
30 Crazy Uncle Mike Brews. Bikes, Bands Full Throttle Expo	31	May 22 Lake ABATE "Can You See Me Now"				

Precinct Finder (<https://www.pbcelections.org/>) 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

PALM BEACH Co. FL House of Representatives

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

D82 John Snyder (R)
850-717-5082 Tallahassee
772-545-3481 Hove Sound

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

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

D87 David Silvers (D)
850-717-5085 Tallahassee
561-352-4824 West Palm Beach

D88 Omari Hardy (D)
850-717-5088 Tallahassee
561-650-6846 West Palm Bch

D89 Mike Caruso (R)
850-717-5089 Tallahassee
561-750-2396 Boca Raton

D90 Joseph A. Casello (D)
850-717-5090 Tallahassee
561-374-7850 Boynton Bch

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

Weekly political notes from The News Service of Florida

BACKROOM BRIEFING: BRINGING HOME THE BUCKS

April 1, Jim Turner, Dara Kam

TALLAHASSEE --- Serving as the House or Senate budget chief offers plenty of perks, including the ability to deliver bacon back home. And this year's legislative session is no different.

The Senate's \$95 billion proposed budget includes a big-ticket item that's especially close to home for Appropriations Chairwoman Kelli Stargel, R-Lakeland.

The proposal would set aside \$50 million for a new 2nd District Court of Appeal building in Polk County. Along with Polk County being Stargel's home turf, her husband, John, has been a judge on the appeals court since July, when Gov. Ron DeSantis appointed him to the post.

While it is always perilous for lawmakers to challenge the priorities of budget chairs, the proposed courthouse spending came under fire Wednesday as the Appropriations Committee discussed and approved the Senate budget.

Sen. Jeff Brandes, R-St. Petersburg, offered an amendment that would have shifted \$30 million of the line item for the Polk County courthouse to cover pay hikes for state prison workers. Brandes' proposal would have directed the remainder of the funds --- \$20 million --- toward a new appeals court building in his home county of Pinellas.

Brandes argued that most of the activity

Palm Beach County FL Senators

D25 Gayle Harrell (R)
850-487-5025 Tallahassee
772-221-4019 Stuart

D29 Tina Scott Polsky (D)
850-487-5029 Tallahassee
561-443-8170 Boca Raton

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

D31 Lori Berman (D)
850-487-5031 Tallahassee
561-292-6014 Boynton

FEDERAL

U.S. Senators

Marco Rubio

Rick Scott

U.S. HOUSE

District 18

Brian Mast (R)

District 20

Alcee Hastings

District 21

Lois Frankel

District 22

Ted Deutch

and people associated with the appellate district --- which spans Pasco, Pinellas, Hardee, Highlands, Polk, DeSoto, Manatee, Sarasota, Hillsborough, Charlotte, Glades, Collier, Hendry and Lee counties --- is centered in the Tampa Bay area.

Without naming names, Brandes noted that only three of the appellate court's judges live in Polk County, while more than a dozen live in the Tampa Bay area, where a 2016 study recommended a new courthouse should be built.

And Brandes pointed out that lawmakers last year earmarked \$21 million for a new appeals court building in Pinellas County, but DeSantis vetoed the funds amid the coronavirus pandemic.

"The Tampa Bay region remains the population center of the district. The Tampa Bay region remains the lawyer center of the district. The Tampa Bay region remains the business center of the district," Brandes said.

But Stargel, who didn't mention that her hubby serves on the appeals court, argued that Florida law identifies Lakeland as the location for the 2nd District Court of Appeal.

"This has been an issue that's been important to me, living in Polk County," she said. "Over the course of the years, little by little, law firms, attorneys, people have been moving over the last 20 years to Tampa, taking businesses, taking jobs and taking opportunities from my area."

Although the majority of judges selected to serve on the appeals court live in the Tampa Bay area, that "doesn't mean that the courthouse needs to be in that area around those judges," she said.

But Brandes didn't back down.

"The simple truth is the times have changed," he said. His amendment was killed in a voice vote.

After Wednesday's meeting, Stargel told reporters that her husband's post at the appeals court has nothing to do with the \$50 million budget item.

"I have been pushing for this long before he was a judge. And the fact that he's on the DCA is really irrelevant to the discussion," she said. "In fact, it would have been kind of weird if I've been pushing to not move the DCA, then he gets appointed and suddenly I stopped, I think would have been a little bit more unusual. So, I'm keeping the same course of action of what I've been trying to do for years."

FLASHING THE GUNS With the age lowered this week to 40 for Floridians to get COVID-19 vaccinations, DeSantis, 42, and Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried, 43, said Wednesday they would get jabbed.

DeSantis confirmed he would roll up his sleeves and get vaccinated as he replied to a reporter at an event at Palm Harbor University High School.

"I'm not sure we're going to do it on camera," DeSantis said. "I mean, we'll see. I mean, if you guys want a gun show, maybe we could do it, but probably better off not."

A short time later, Fried, who is widely expected to run against DeSantis in 2022, announced she would get vaccinated Thursday at Florida A&M University "to promote Floridians getting vaccinated when eligible."

As of Tuesday, 5.87 million people in Florida had received at least one dose. People as young as age 16 will be able to get vaccinated starting Monday.

FAILING GRADES With the legislative session reaching its halfway point Wednesday, House Minority Co-Leader Evan Jenne, D-Dania Beach, gave low marks to the session.

But while he gave the session a C-minus to D-plus grade, Jenne said it could be worse.

"We have not seen anything of significant substance come through that's going to help alleviate the utility and rental woes that so many Floridians had to live through over the course of the last 12 months,"

Jenne said during a Zoom call with reporters Monday. "We have not seen anything really on COVID-19 other than to give big businesses immunity that they may or may not have earned."

Rep. Fentrice Driskell, D-Tampa, chimed in with the session so far being a "mixed bag."

Driskell said a high point has been a bipartisan effort led by House Speaker Chris Sprowls, R-Palm Harbor, that would allow women to maintain Medicaid benefits for a year after they have babies. A low point, she said, was House passage of a controversial bill (HB 1) related to protests.

“I think in that midway point where we can find common ground, we're able to accomplish great, great things and help the people afford to have real relief,” Driskell said. “But when we focus more on partisanship, it's just more rhetoric that divides us.”

TWEET OF THE WEEK: “The Gov has a boomer cover band at a bill signing press conference. I just don't even know what to say about this. Strange, but better than his health care round table full of anti-maskers.” --- Jackson Peel (@JaxPeel), spokesman for Florida House Democrats.

DESANTIS TARGETS COVID-19 'PASSPORTS,' SIGNS LIABILITY BILL March 29, Sexton TALLAHASSEE --- Pointing to privacy concerns, Gov. Ron DeSantis said Monday he will issue emergency rules this week that prevent businesses from requiring customers to show proof of vaccinations through COVID-19 “passports” and will ask the Legislature to pass a permanent ban.

“It's completely unacceptable for either the government or the private sector to impose upon you the requirement that you show proof of vaccine to just simply be able to participate in normal society,” DeSantis said. “If you want to go to the movie theater, should you have to show that? No. If you want to go to a game, no. If you want to go to a theme park, no. ... I think it's something that people have certain freedoms and individual liberties to make decisions for themselves.”

DeSantis said he thought vaccine passports would create “huge” privacy issues that could result in people handing over medical information to a “big corporation.”

“You want the fox to guard the henhouse, I mean give me a break,” the Republican governor said during an event at the Capitol in which he signed a bill (SB 72) that will shield businesses and health-care providers from lawsuits related to COVID-19.

As of Sunday, 3,141,836 people in Florida had been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, through either two doses of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or one dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, according to state data. Another 2,537,765 people had received one shot of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines and were awaiting their second doses.

DeSantis said that while he would use his emergency powers to prevent businesses from requiring customers to show proof of COVID-19 vaccinations, he also wants the Legislature to pass a bill during the ongoing legislative session.

“We need the Legislature to come in and just say this is not happening in Florida,” said DeSantis, noting that emergency orders expire. “I think it would provide a lot of certainty to a lot of people to say that.”

DeSantis' comments came after news reports that the Biden administration is considering pushing federal agencies and private companies to develop a program that would allow people to show they have been vaccinated against the virus that causes COVID-19.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, airline trade organizations and airline labor unions sent a letter to the Biden administration's asking that the United States set some kind of standards for traveling.

The European Union also has announced that it plans to issue a “Digital Green Certificate” that will allow European Union citizens to freely travel across member nations. The certificates will prove that people have been vaccinated against COVID-19, have already recovered from the virus or have tested negative. The goal is for the Digital Green certificates to be in play by summer.

In Israel, people who are vaccinated or who already have been infected by COVID-19 can get a “green pass” from the Health Ministry. The app allows them access to gyms, theaters and clubs.

DeSantis said lawmakers could include the ban on COVID-19 passports as part of bills they are considering related to the pandemic, including bills that would limit gubernatorial power and local-government authority.

The idea of having to show proof of vaccinations is not new. Florida requires children in public and private schools to be vaccinated against several diseases or submit written religious exemptions. DeSantis's remarks about COVID-19 passports came as he signed the liability bill, which received final legislative approval Friday. DeSantis was joined by House Speaker Chris Sprowls, R-Palm Harbor, and Senate President Wilton Simpson, R-Trilby, among others. The ceremonial event kicked off in an unusual way to the Beatles and Joe Cocker tune, "With a Little Help from My Friends," performed by a band called Highway 85.

The liability proposal was a top priority for GOP legislative leaders who had been pressed to shield businesses from lawsuits since the beginning of the pandemic. It was the first bill from the 2021 legislative session that DeSantis signed into law.

The law provides protections to businesses across the state, including nursing homes and assisted living facilities that were closed to visitors for nearly six months. But the law, which took effect immediately, will last for only one year. Lawmakers would have to pass additional legislation to extend the protections beyond March 29, 2022.

"We don't want to be in a situation where people are scared of being sued just for doing normal things," DeSantis said. "We worked very early on to look and see ways we could provide some certainty for both business and health-care providers. This was obviously a top priority for many of us up here."

The law establishes new rules about personal-injury lawsuits related to COVID-19. The law, for example, requires people who are not alleging medical malpractice or violations of nursing-home resident rights to have physicians sign affidavits stating that the defendants caused the injuries or damages. Business owners would be immune from liability if courts determine they made good-faith efforts to substantially comply with government-issued health standards or guidance.

In pursuing COVID-19 medical-malpractice claims or nursing home-related claims, people filing lawsuits would not need to obtain physician affidavits. But they would be required to prove that the health care providers' actions were grossly negligent, which is a higher legal threshold than normal. Health care providers that substantially complied with authoritative or applicable government-issued health standards or guidance related to COVID-19 would also have immunity.

Simpson praised DeSantis for his handling of COVID-19, which has infected more than 2 million Floridians and killed 33,247 residents.

"This governor had a vision, as soon as we shut down, about how do we reopen safely?" Simpson said. "How do we protect our most vulnerable? How do we get our economy moving? That shows up in every metric and every set of numbers we can derive from the pandemic. So, this governor has shown great leadership. We had businesses, front-line workers in health care, that in the face of the tragedy they were facing last March, April and May, had to go to work every day, had to prepare, had less PPE (personal protective equipment) than they would have preferred to have had. This bill is essential to make sure we protected those folks."

HOUSE GOP PASSES CONTROVERSIAL PROTEST BILL March 26, Dara Kam

TALLAHASSEE --- With Black lawmakers condemning the proposal as a return to the Jim Crow era, the Republican-controlled Florida House on Friday approved a measure aimed at cracking down on violent protests by creating a host of new crimes, enhancing riot-related penalties and creating road-blocks for local governments to trim police spending.

The House's party-line passage of the law-and-order bill (HB 1) was a first step in delivering one of Gov. Ron DeSantis' top legislative priorities. As lawmakers approach the midway point of the 60-day legislative session, a Senate version of the measure has not been heard in committees.

Democrats, during nearly four hours of debate on Friday, scalded the proposal, with Black lawmakers especially taking umbrage at what they maintained is a “heartless” approach to civil disobedience at a time when the nation is facing a reckoning over racial biases in policing and other aspects of life.

The Republican governor rolled out a framework for legislation in late September, following largely peaceful protests throughout the country sparked by the death of George Floyd, a Minneapolis Black man who died after a white police officer knelt on his neck for more than eight minutes. In arguing for the bill, Republicans have repeatedly cited violence that occurred in places such as Seattle and Portland, Ore.

The sweeping bill would, among other things, create a new crime of “mob intimidation” and stiffen penalties for injuring police officers during protests that become violent. Also, it would establish an “affirmative defense” for defendants in civil lawsuits involving deaths, injuries or property damage if the injuries or damages were sustained while plaintiffs were participating “in furtherance of a riot.” But Democrats argued the country’s foundations are rooted in protests, with Black House members emphasizing that acts of civil disobedience were responsible for many of the liberties enjoyed by citizens today.

“We must be careful that, through our zeal to make something illegal, that we chill the very thing that makes us great,” said Rep. Christopher Benjamin, a Miami Gardens Democrat who is a lawyer. “It is ... through protests that we remind America of its promises. It is through protests that we activate the conscience of America.”

The proposal is contrary to American democracy, Orlando Democrat Travaris McCurdy said during the emotionally charged floor debate.

“Words did not free slaves. Words did not give women the right to vote. Words did not end Jim Crow. And in order for this country to attempt to live up to its full potential, it took protest, civil disobedience, generation after generation,” said McCurdy, who is Black. “This is un-American. It lacks compassion, and it reeks of the foul odor of a new Jim Crow. ... It seems that freedom of speech was free, up until Black and brown people started talking.”

Republicans, however, defended the plan, saying that the proposed new and enhanced crimes are necessary to ensure the safety of Floridians and their property.

“We can act before it’s too late. We do not need to have Miami or Orlando or Jacksonville become Kenosha or Seattle or Portland. We have the ability under House Bill 1 to act now to say you can protest peaceably but you cannot commit acts of violence, you cannot harm other people, you cannot destroy their property, you cannot destroy their lives,” Rep. Cord Byrd, R-Neptune Beach, said.

Republicans also argued that the proposal would ensure the safety of peaceful protesters by giving police more tools to go after violent participants.

But Black Democrats tried to persuade their white Republican counterparts to recognize that, based on history, whites and Blacks are treated in a disparate manner.

“There is a difference in this country and you may as well admit and face it. We Black people will be treated differently from you,” said Rep. Yvonne Hayes Hinson, D-Gainesville.

Tallahassee Democrat Ramon Alexander, who managed the Democrats’ floor debate, acknowledged that the bill is “all about law and order.”

“But the issue that we’re trying to communicate to you, what we’re trying to open your ears to see, is that there’s never been a time in history where the law has been equally applied,” Alexander said.

DeSantis, a close ally of former President Donald Trump, discussed the outline of the plan weeks before the November presidential election. The House and Senate released initial versions of the legislation on Jan. 6, the same day Trump supporters stormed the U.S. Capitol in a violent siege intended to block Congress from certifying states’ election results.

GOP legislative leaders pointed to the Capitol unrest as a justification for the effort, but Democrats' rejected such arguments on Friday.

The bill "exploits tensions versus actually addressing tensions," Rep. Angie Nixon, D-Jacksonville, said. "This bill was written in response to peaceful protests this past summer that were focused on the support of those that believe Black lives matter. This is not a bill that has any other group in mind other than Black lives," she said. "This bill is designed to keep us in check, to keep us fearful, to scare us from speaking out about the fact that Black lives matter."

But bill sponsor Juan Alfonso Fernandez-Barquin said lawmakers on both sides of the political aisle should be able to support the legislation's goals.

"We can agree that violence is wrong. We can agree that riots are wrong. We can agree that the government must protect our residents and we can agree that we must protect our law enforcement," Fernandez-Barquin, a Miami-Dade County Republican. "And most important, I think we can all agree that violence at a protest delegitimizes the protest."

Black lawmakers, however, called the legislation hurtful.

The bill equates to "sending a message that only certain types of protests by certain folks are accepted," argued Rep. Michele Rayner, D-St. Petersburg.

"It's a hard truth and doesn't feel good, but the fact that this bill was conceived in response to protests in support of Black lives and is a priority sends a message," she said. "This message is received, loud and clear." "Ities can remain focused on delivering the high-quality care our state's seniors depend on."

WEEKLY ROUNDUP: TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS March 26, Dara Kam

TALLAHASSEE --- As the 2021 legislative session's midpoint approaches, Florida lawmakers this week started clearing off a list of priorities for Gov. Ron DeSantis and the state's powerful business lobby.

The House finalized a plan Friday to shield businesses, nursing homes and other health-care providers from COVID-19-related lawsuits, teeing up the proposal for DeSantis.

House Speaker Chris Sprowls, R-Palm Harbor, and Senate President Wilton Simpson, R-Trilby, announced last week they had reached agreement on the liability limits. The plan offers protections from lawsuits related to the pandemic to all businesses, from general stores to nursing homes.

The measure is ready for DeSantis' signature, after the House and Senate passed it.

The Senate this week signed off on a separate business-backed proposal that would require out-of-state retailers to collect sales taxes. The money --- nearly \$1 billion --- is slated to be used to help Florida businesses avoid increases in unemployment taxes. A similar House measure hasn't made it to the floor for a full vote.

Aside from business issues, the House delivered a partial victory to DeSantis on Friday when it passed an emotionally charged proposal aimed at cracking down on violent protests.

Meanwhile, House and Senate budget chiefs are beginning to piece together the state's 2021-2022 spending plan.

The two chambers are moving ahead with their respective budget proposals, although lawmakers won't have a clearer picture of how robust Florida's post-pandemic economic rebound is until state economists meet next month.

LIMITING LIABILITY A little more than a year after COVID-19 began wrecking the economy and infecting and killing Floridians, the House gave final approval Friday to a bill that will shield businesses and health providers from coronavirus-related lawsuits.

The measure, which the House passed in an 83-31 vote, was a top priority for politically powerful business groups that had been pushing for legal protections since last spring. The Senate passed the bill (SB

72) last week, meaning it is ready to go to DeSantis.

The House vote came following limited debate at the tail end of a lengthy floor session dedicated primarily to a contentious measure about cracking down on violent protests.

But supporters of the liability legislation contended that shielding businesses from lawsuits related to COVID-19 was needed as the state continues to recover during the pandemic.

“The future of Florida depends on the ability of our businesses and health care providers to stay in business,” said Rep. Colleen Burton, a Lakeland Republican who was a primary sponsor of the bill.

But Rep. Anna Eskamani, D-Orlando, said the bill would protect corporations more than people and pointed out it offers no protections for front-line workers who contracted the virus while on the job. Employees are required to use the workers’ compensation insurance system for on-the-job injuries, but claims often are getting denied.

Eskamani said she’s concerned the bill would make it more difficult to seek what she called a “judicial pathway to justice.”

HEARTLESS OR HELPFUL? With Black lawmakers condemning the proposal as a return to the Jim Crow era, the Republican-controlled House on Friday approved a measure aimed at cracking down on violent protests by creating a host of new crimes, enhancing riot-related penalties and creating roadblocks for local governments to trim police spending.

The House’s party-line passage of the law-and-order bill (HB 1) was a first step in DeSantis’ top legislative priorities. A Senate version of the measure has not been heard in committees.

Democrats, during nearly four hours of debate on Friday, scalded the proposal, with Black lawmakers especially taking umbrage at what they maintained is a “heartless” approach to civil disobedience at a time when the nation is facing a reckoning over racial biases in policing and other aspects of life.

The Republican governor rolled out a framework for legislation in late September, following largely peaceful protests throughout the country sparked by the death of George Floyd, a Minneapolis Black man who died after a white police officer knelt on his neck for more than eight minutes. In arguing for the bill, Republicans have repeatedly cited violence that occurred in places such as Seattle and Portland, Ore.

The sweeping bill would, among other things, create a new crime of “mob intimidation” and stiffen penalties for injuring police officers during protests that become violent. Also, it would establish an “affirmative defense” for defendants in civil lawsuits involving deaths, injuries or property damage if the injuries or damages were sustained while plaintiffs were participating “in furtherance of a riot.”

But Democrats argued the country’s foundations are rooted in protests, with Black House members emphasizing that acts of civil disobedience were responsible for many of the liberties enjoyed by citizens today.

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STORY OF THE WEEK: Lawmakers gave final approval to a proposal that would shield businesses --- from restaurants to nursing homes --- from litigation related to COVID-19.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: “There is a difference in this country and you may as well admit and face it.

We Black people will be treated differently from you.” --- Rep. Yvonne Hayes Hinson, D-Gainesville, speaking about a proposal (HB 1) that would create new crimes and enhance existing penalties when people are involved in violent protests.

March 25, Jim Turner **A GROWING FIELD OF SPECULATION** Add Sen. Randolph Bracy, D-Ocoee, to the list of potential 2022 Democratic challengers to DeSantis.

Calling for “a new kind of politics” that leaves behind “the small fights at the Capitol,” Bracy said in a two-minute campaign-style video posted Tuesday, “that’s what I want to do.”

“We need a vaccine strategy devised by doctors and scientists. We need an unemployment system that is fair and works for every Floridian. And we need a governor who will work with Democrats and Republicans to get us through this crisis,” Bracy said in the video without using the name DeSantis.

“Let’s put Floridians back to work building health centers in urban and rural communities, modernizing schools, extending broadband and today’s technology to every neighborhood. And let’s create a public-private partnership to revitalize rural towns and urban street corners, making them an engine for small-business growth.”

Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried, the only statewide elected Democrat, has been ramping up her criticism of DeSantis but has not opened a campaign account to challenge him.

Others mentioned as jumping into the contest have included U.S. House members Val Demings, Stephanie Murphy and Charlie Crist, former Congresswoman Gwen Graham, state Sen. Lauren Book of Plantation, Tampa Mayor Jane Castor and St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Kriseman.

Former Republican Congressman David Jolly has also floated himself as a candidate for the middle ground by possibly running as an independent.

Meanwhile, with everyone anticipating DeSantis to face little Republican primary opposition, all the talk around the governor involves a possible bid for the White House in 2024. He is a close ally of former President Donald Trump and is a frequent guest on Fox News and other media outlets popular with the Republican base.

TWEET OF THE WEEK: “If the Florida legislature really wanted to do something against voter fraud, it would address the problem of sham candidates used to manipulate elections.” --- **Palm Beach County State Attorney** Dave Aronberg (@aronberg).

SENATE TO TAKE UP NO-FAULT REPEAL, TOLL ROADS March 22, NSF Staff

A proposal to repeal Florida’s longstanding no-fault auto insurance system and a measure that would scale back a controversial toll-road plan are scheduled to go before the full Senate on Thursday. The auto insurance bill (SB 54), filed by Sen. Danny Burgess, R-Zephyrhills, would eliminate no-fault --- and its requirement that motorists carry personal-injury protection, or PIP, coverage --- and mandate bodily injury coverage. Lawmakers have considered such a move for years but have not passed it.

Meanwhile, the toll-road bill (SB 100), filed by Sen. Gayle Harrell, R-Stuart, would do away with much of a plan pushed through in 2019 by then-Senate President Bill Galvano, R-Bradenton. The 2019 law called for building a toll road from Collier County to Polk County; extending Florida’s Turnpike to connect with the Suncoast Parkway; and extending the Suncoast Parkway from Citrus County to Jefferson County. Harrell’s proposal would eliminate the planned road between Collier and Polk counties, while requiring plans to extend the turnpike west from Wildwood to the Suncoast Parkway and to lay out a route that would weave the Suncoast Parkway north along U.S. 19 to connect with Interstate 10 in Madison County. The insurance and toll-road bills were among nine that were placed Monday on what is known as a “special order calendar” to be heard during a floor session Thursday.

GOP LAWMAKERS BACK CONTROVERSIAL ELECTION CHANGES March 22, Dara Kam TALLAHASSEE --- Florida Republican lawmakers are pushing ahead with sweeping election changes largely focused on making it more difficult for people to vote by mail, an effort mirrored in GOP-led

state houses throughout the country.

In a party-line vote Monday, the House Public Integrity & Elections Committee signed off on a measure that would give supervisors of elections less leeway when comparing signatures on mail-in ballots, require voters to request mail-in ballots for each general election and make it harder to submit other people's ballots at drop boxes.

But the House plan does not go as far as another controversial bill, also opposed by Democrats and the state's elections supervisors, that is one step away from the Senate floor.

For example, the House bill, sponsored by Spring Hill Republican Blaise Ingoglia, would impose limits on supervisors' use of drop boxes by requiring that the boxes be staffed and only available for ballot drop-offs during regular early voting hours if they are not located at the supervisors' offices. The Senate companion bill would completely eliminate drop boxes, which about 1.5 million voters used for the November election. Both the House and Senate measures would require voters to request mail-in ballots every two years. But the House measure (PCB PIE 21-05) would "grandfather" in requests made before the 2020 election. Under current law, requests are good for two general elections, which occur every two years.

Republicans throughout the country are targeting mail-in ballots after millions of voters opted to vote by mail amid the coronavirus pandemic last year. More than 4.8 million Floridians cast ballots by mail in the November elections, compared to about 2.6 million in 2018, according to the state Division of Elections. Democrats relied far more heavily than Republicans on voting by mail in November.

Gov. Ron DeSantis and other GOP leaders praised the Sunshine State's handling of the presidential election, in which former President Donald Trump's victory in Florida over now-President Joe Biden was decided well before midnight.

But Republicans maintain that the state needs to clamp down on vote-by-mail procedures.

"There are problems that happened in other states that we've recognized. Just because we've seen it in other states, and we don't have something in law to prevent some of that, doesn't mean it is not good policy and we shouldn't attack it now. We should never have to wait for a problem to occur to head off that problem," Ingoglia, a former chairman of the Republican Party of Florida, said before Monday's committee vote.

Ingoglia's proposal (PCB PIE 21-05) slightly eases off some other restrictions included in the Senate version of the bill (SB 90).

Under current law, voters may designate other people to pick up mail-in ballots for them. The Senate measure only would allow immediate family members to pick up mail-in ballots.

The House plan would allow people who reside at the same address to pick up mail-in ballots for voters and drop them off at drop boxes, if they show identification or sign affidavits.

That provision could be problematic for voters with disabilities and residents of group homes and assisted-living facilities, said Rep. Allison Tant, a Tallahassee Democrat whose adult son has a disability and is unable to drive.

"There is no allowance for a guardian in here. There is no allowance for a caregiver in this. So, I am concerned about what we do for someone in that situation, or even myself when all of my children are gone and I am 90 years old and can't get my ballot somewhere," Tant, a former chairwoman of the Florida Democratic Party, said.

Other proposals in the bill "add time-intensive, costly procedures to the conduct of elections and jeopardize the timely reporting of election results," the Florida Supervisors of Elections association wrote to the committee on Monday.

The House proposal would require mail-in ballots to be returned in envelopes, called "certificates," that show voters' names, addresses and signatures. Supervisors would be required to record digital images of the certificates, make them available to the public and allow members of the public to challenge the signatures before the ballot envelopes are opened. Challenged ballots would have to be handled by county canvassing

boards.

it “That creates havoc. There will not be a way for us to get all of our mail ballots tabulated on time,”
s Leon County Supervisor of Elections Mark Earley told reporters after Monday’s committee meeting.
p In addition, making signatures public could be a “breeding ground for identity theft,” argued Rep.
Tracie Davis, a Jacksonville Democrat who is a former deputy supervisor of elections. She urged her
colleagues on the committee to vote against Ingoglia’s proposal.

“This is unnecessary. It’s cumbersome. It denies basic simple access to voting and basically what
we’re trying to institute here ... is a waste of taxpayer dollars,” she said.

A number of organizations, including the League of Women Voters of Florida, the American Civil
Liberties Union of Florida and the state chapter of the NAACP, strenuously oppose the House and
Senate proposals, calling them “voter suppression” efforts.

County election officials want to ensure “that all eligible voters have convenient and ample opportu-
nities to vote, and that the elections in which they cast their ballots are safe and secure,” the supervi-
sors’ association wrote in Monday’s letter.

“Calling for unnecessary election reforms doesn’t just endanger our ability to conduct elections effi-
ciently and effectively. It also risks destroying the voter confidence that we have worked so hard to
earn,” they added.

Election officials also raised questions about a portion of the House bill that would require supervi-
sors to match signatures on mail-in ballots with “the most recent signature” on file.

Such a requirement “is a disservice” to voters, the supervisors wrote, pointing to the use of electronic
pads at election precincts or driver’s license offices. Signatures on the electronic pads could be very
different from a person’s signature on a paper ballot, they argued.

Elections officials currently receive training that instructs supervisors to examine several examples of
people’s signatures to determine if they are valid, a standard recommended by experts, Florida Elec-
tions Supervisors association lobbyist David Ramba told the House committee.

But Ingoglia said “there has to be some sort of standard” for supervisors to use to prevent signature
mismatches.

Voting by mail should have the same safeguards as voting in person, he told the committee, adding
that people have “serious concerns” about election integrity.

“I would say our constituents are demanding more integrity and more transparency in our elections,”
he said.

--- News Service Assignment Manager Tom Urban contributed to this report.

I have a bit of good news to report, our safety money bill (HB 2489) passed it's first committee on
Wednesday. The Infrastructure & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee passed it 12-0

Our bill for the safety money now only has one more committee scheduled and it is the Appropria-
tions Committee. No date yet has been set.

Stay tuned...

WEEKLY ROUNDUP: BRIGHT FUTURE OR BITTER HORIZON? March 19, Dara Kam
TALLAHASSEE --- The outlook for the state’s Bright Futures program might not be so sunny for
students, as Senate Republicans are putting a bullseye on the popular scholarships.
Since the program benefiting students who make good grades began more than two decades ago,
Florida has spent more than \$6.8 billion to help cover tuition at colleges and universities. More than 2
million students have taken advantage of Bright Futures since the 1997-1998 school year, according
to the program’s website.

But Bright Futures could undergo a makeover, under a proposal a Senate committee approved this
week.

The revamp, which is creating an uproar among students, would reduce Bright Futures scholarships for students who pursue degrees deemed unlikely to lead to jobs.

Lists of those degrees don't exist yet, but perhaps they could include social-science majors targeted by Republicans in the past.

Former Gov. Rick Scott, now a U.S. senator, created national headlines a decade ago when he singled out anthropology as a lackluster career path. He wanted to steer students into science, technology, engineering and math, or STEM, degrees.

Scott in 2011 said tax dollars should not "educate more people who can't get jobs in anthropology." One of Scott's daughters, incidentally, received a degree in anthropology but never pursued her major as a profession.

"I got accused of not liking anthropology," Scott said at the time. "But just think about it: How many more jobs do you think there is for anthropology in this state? Do you want to use your tax dollars to educate more people who can't get jobs? I want to make sure that we spend our money where people can get jobs when they get out."

The Republican-controlled Senate Education Committee signed off on the new proposal (SB 86), sponsored by Sen. Dennis Baxley, R-Ocala, in a 5-4 party-line vote.

An amendment adopted by the committee changed the proposal from completely cutting Bright Futures aid for certain majors to reducing scholarship amounts awarded to students.

"We're redesigning the program to have efficacy between the world of work and the world of education," Baxley said.

Baxley added that his proposed changes aren't meant to be a cost savings but part of "rethinking the philosophy" of the higher-education system.

Opponents have repeatedly raised a concern that the lists have not been defined. If the bill passes, it would then be the responsibility of the state university system's Board of Governors, the State Board of Education and the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida to create such lists.

"Just so we can have clarity, can you give us examples of a particular major that might end up on this list?" asked Sen. Shevrin Jones, D-West Park.

"I won't do that, because all the sudden that becomes the story. And that isn't the story, the story is pairing up these pathways," Baxley said. "When it becomes a matter that affects the flow of dollars, it will affect the path of consultation and the shape of courses and programs, so that you've got everything you need when you get there."

Several Democratic lawmakers insisted the proposal would take aim at liberal arts education.

"I think this bill is peddling a false dichotomy between a liberal arts education and preparation for work and life," Sen. Lori Berman, a Delray Beach Democrat who is a lawyer, said. "The argument that vocational and pre-professional degrees are better investments than degrees in the arts and humanities is flawed."

FREEDOM'S JUST ANOTHER WORD FOR ... Scholarships aren't the only higher-education issue Republicans are zeroing in on during the legislative session scheduled to wrap up April 30. Speech is also a target.

Lawmakers this year could pass a long-debated bill requiring colleges and universities to conduct campus-wide surveys gauging "intellectual freedom and viewpoint diversity" at the institutions.

The House on Thursday passed a measure requiring the surveys, and the full Senate is ready to consider the proposal after it cleared a final committee hurdle.

The bills would require the university system's Board of Governors and State Board of Education to commission surveys that would be issued at institutions annually. The measures would require the surveys to be "objective, nonpartisan, and statistically valid" and aimed at evaluating the level of freedom

students feel they have to speak their mind on campus and in the classroom.

House sponsor Spencer Roach, R-North Fort Myers, said Thursday his measure (HB 233) would require conducting the surveys, but completing the surveys would be voluntary for people on campus.

“I’m not asking you to make a policy decision here, all I’m asking you to do is to allow us to ask the question, gather empirical data, to see if a future legislature may want to ... use that data as the basis to make a policy decision,” Roach said during floor debate.

But House Democrats objected vigorously to sections of the bill, such as a provision that would prevent higher education governing boards from “shielding” students, faculty and staff from any speech.

Rep. Omari Hardy, D-West Palm Beach, criticized the measure as being so vague that administrators’ or professors’ actions to “gain control of the academic environment” could be construed as shielding students from speech.

“So I wonder, can a professor teaching a class on terrorism stop a student from contributing to the class discussion by showing video clips of American soldiers being harmed abroad? Can a professor of gender studies stop a proponent of pedophilia from having that kind of discussion in the classroom?” Hardy asked.

The House passed the measure in a 77-42 vote along party lines, with Democrats voting against the bill. The Senate Appropriations Committee on Thursday approved a similar measure (SB 264) in a 12-8 vote, also along party lines.

BACKROOM BRIEFING: HISTORY? OR POLITICS? March 18, Jim Turner, Dara Kam
Weekly political notes from The News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE --- Gov. Ron DeSantis rolled out more fodder for conservatives on Wednesday, when he announced a \$106 million “civics literacy” proposal to educate kids --- and teachers --- about the nation’s roots.

Speaking to reporters in Naples, the Republican governor said Florida students should learn about the Cold War, Abraham Lincoln and the country’s “foundational concepts,” not “unsanctioned narratives like critical race theory.”

Critical race theory is based on the premise that racism is embedded within American society and institutions. But conservative politicians, including former President Donald Trump, have slammed the theory as being un-American.

Before exiting the White House, Trump ordered federal agencies to stop diversity training based on critical race theory. Trump’s order came amid a national reckoning about racism following the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

DeSantis, a staunch supporter of Trump, wants state lawmakers to pass his civics education plan, which includes a proposed \$3,000 bonus for teachers who undergo special training, and use federal stimulus money the state received last year to underwrite it.

The governor blasted critical race theory during a second media appearance on Wednesday.

“It’s basically teaching kids to hate our country and to hate each other based on race. It puts race as the most important thing. I want content of character to be the most important thing,” DeSantis told reporters in Palm Harbor.

Students should be taught about the Constitution, the Cold War, Lincoln and “what we did in World War II,” the governor added.

“Those are all very important. When you start talking about these wacko theories, it’s all designed to put a political agenda under the guise of history and civics. I don’t want politicized civics. I don’t want politicized history. I want accurate history,” he said.

According to an article posted on the American Bar Association's website, critical race theory "critiques how the social construction of race and institutionalized racism perpetuate a racial caste system that relegates people of color to the bottom tiers."

But DeSantis isn't having any of it.

"I want to make sure people understand that this is a great country, OK? And if you want your tax dollars funding education that's going to run down this country, you got the wrong governor because I am not going to allow that to happen," he said.

NO GIVEBACKS DeSantis also offered suggestions this week to the House and Senate for using \$4.1 billion of the \$9 billion or \$10 billion the state is expected to get through the new federal \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan.

The proposal would funnel money to seaports, roads, combating sea-level rise, recruiting new members of the Florida National Guard, increasing Florida tourism marketing and providing \$1,000 bonuses for first-responders.

And while he continues to bemoan Florida getting shorted in favor of Democratic-run states, one thing DeSantis is not planning to do is follow the advice of U.S. Sen. Rick Scott, R-Fla., on sending back some of the cash to Washington.

DeSantis, who like Scott is reportedly eyeing a 2024 presidential run, said it wouldn't "make sense to do that" because the legislation behind the relief package addresses what happens if you return money. "If you send the money back, Janet Yellen, the secretary of Treasury, is allowed to apportion to other states," DeSantis said Tuesday. "So, if Florida were to send the money back, Yellen is going to send it to Illinois, California, New York or New Jersey. I don't think that would make sense for Floridians, for us to be giving even more money for the blue states that are already getting such a big windfall in this bill. So, it doesn't make any sense to do that."

Scott, the former Florida governor, on March 10 sent a letter to governors and mayors across the country, urging them to reject and return funds that exceed federally reimbursable COVID-19 expenses.

"This commitment will serve the best interests of hard-working American taxpayers and will send a clear message to Washington: Politicians in Congress should quit recklessly spending other people's money," a news release from Scott's office said.

DeSantis is awaiting guidance from the federal government on additional aspects of how the money can be used. No member of his party voted for the funding in D.C., but the windfall has altered the fortunes of the Florida Legislature, which a few months ago was facing a large coronavirus-created revenue shortfall.

HUGS DeSantis' stimulus announcement drew praise from Democratic Congressman Charlie Crist. The former Republican and former governor, who accepted stimulus money from then-President Barack Obama during the 2007 to 2009 recession, called DeSantis' decision to accept the relief funds "the common-sense thing."

"Floridians deserve every penny of the over \$10 billion that I fought for and helped pass," Crist, a potential 2022 gubernatorial candidate, said in a statement. "Governor DeSantis needs to further commit to ensuring the communities most in need receive this funding --- no special interests, no wealthy donors. These resources belong to the people. And now that Governor DeSantis has agreed that Florida's share of federal money shouldn't go to other states, he should follow his own logic and accept the \$3.5 billion for Medicaid expansion that would provide health care for 800,000 working Floridians during this pandemic."

MERELY A PROPOSAL As DeSantis touted his stimulus funding proposal, Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried, another potential 2022 Democratic gubernatorial candidate, was talking resiliency Wednesday.

Fried held a news conference pushing Democratic-sponsored legislation (HB 993 and SB 1362) that in part would set rules for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. A third of the way through the session, the bills haven't been heard in committees.

She also touched on DeSantis' stimulus proposal, suggesting the federal money could also go to the Florida Forever and Rural and Family Lands Protection conservation programs.

When asked if DeSantis' use of part of the stimulus money for environmental issues could take away Democratic talking points in 2022, Fried retorted, "That proposal ... was merely that, a proposal." She added that "these are not partisan issues. So, we just need to get it done."

SENATE PANEL TAKES AIM AT LOCAL POWERS March 16, Jim Turner

TALLAHASSEE --- Orders imposed by local officials after hurricanes, pandemic outbreaks or other emergencies could be overturned by the governor or Legislature, under a measure that moved forward Tuesday in the Senate.

The proposal (SB 1924), approved along party lines by the Republican-controlled Senate Community Affairs Committee, comes after months of controversy about local COVID-19 mask and curfew directives.

The bill, sponsored by Sen. Manny Diaz Jr., R-Hialeah, would limit to 10 days locally issued emergency orders, which could be invalidated by the governor or the Legislature. The proposal would allow the orders to be extended but would require the support of city or county elected officials. Currently, local states of emergency can be ordered for seven days and extended indefinitely in seven-day increments as needed.

Diaz, said his proposal is due to the "different iterations" of emergency orders issued during the pandemic "that have gone above and beyond in restricting individual freedoms, rights and an ability to live."

A similar measure in the House (HB 945) would allow the extensions to go a maximum of 42 days, approved in seven-day extensions.

Sen. Tina Polsky, D-Boca Raton, said with the governor and Legislature undoing local orders, people might not heed the directives of local officials in future emergencies.

"We elect local government to support our local needs, and they should have the freedom to rule as they need and not be dictated to by a timeline that may not work," Polsky said.

Tonnette Graham, associate director of public policy with the Florida Association of Counties, called the proposal an overreaction amid the year-long pandemic.

"Ordinarily, our emergency orders are not historically this long," Graham said. "We are in a historic time in this current pandemic."

But Sen. Dennis Baxley, R-Ocala, said the bill "clarifies freedom" without stepping on home rule.

"I think it's very wise to establish some precedent of how we will restrict these protocols," Baxley said.

"They can't just go on and on with special orders. Eventually, that's a dictatorship if nobody ever comes back to the legislative bodies."

The measure about emergency powers was one of a series of proposals that the committee supported Tuesday that could limit authority of local governments.

The other bills include proposals to prohibit the replacement of gas stations with greener energy options (SB 856), limit the ability of local governments to set "building design elements" on many single- and two-family homes (SB 284) and block the replacement of natural gas as a home energy source (SB 1128).

Sen. Travis Hutson, a St. Augustine Republican who is sponsoring the two energy-related "preemptions," said his proposals will allow local governments to advance clean energy options without prohibiting energy sources already in place.

ABATE of FL Inc. Palm Beach Chapter Minutes

3-21-2021 18 members 3 guests in attendance Start at Noon Lakeside Anchor Inn

President: Ken Gerecke. State board has ok'd no insurance needed for poker runs (since riders on own). Safety money bill progressing thru committees but with all the COVID bills doubt will pass. Our membership is rising but registered voter numbers is not. There may be a state party in Peace river.

VP: Tony Mariani Tony is going to need to help his daughter after he man's death. He should have been a member so money problems could be helped. Why so important to keep membership updated and the ADD form filled out

Secretary: pro temp Dan Henderson. The minutes from last meeting as in newsletter were accepted

Treasurer: Suzanne Seguin. Doing great, will get insurance for May event in

Membership: Suzanne Seguin. Membership is still increasing, new form to be used

Products: Suzanne Seguin. T-shirts will be ordered, there was sign up sheet for them at meeting. Looking for ideas for new items

Sgt at Arms: Quiet Dan Shawback. Ride safe, wear helmet

Safety: Dan Henderson. Trying to get to more events now that seem to coming back. Thursday seems to be the big bike night. 2nd Thursday Handlebars US1 Tequesta 6 PM (old Judy's). PB Harley still does 3rd Thursday and new 3rd Thursday is Harry's Banana Farm 1919 N. Dixie Hwy Lake Worth. COVID still seems to have put a hold on Turboz/Ralph's Stand Up in Jupiter on the last Thursday. Gone is the First Thursday Abacoa bike night, replaced by PB HD sponsored monthly Concert Series on Saturday.

Delegate Report: Dan Henderson. With the Capital still locked down, our April state meeting will be Saturday April 10 in Ft. McCoy, north of Ocala. This a open outdoor pavilion so meeting is open to everyone. Might want to bring a jacket if gets cold out there in the woods. To get a view of the complex watch VP Darin's podcast of the December State Meeting Wrap-up <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YAbvrzg3Bqo> Also you can see his report of the Feb. meeting at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7HJR4cfFvo> There are may places to camp around and there. Since there was no interest on a chapter camping trip, Ken and I will be staying at the La Quinta Inn and Suites 3530 SW 36th Ave Ocala south of Fort McCoy. We can use our Wyndham points.

Legislative: Dan Henderson. 2-3 Our Safety Money bill has recently been filed, it is HB 2489 by Rep. Stan McClain. It will be a tough fight this year as the effects of COVID-19 has really had an impact on the Florida budget and revenue.

Public Relations: Dan Henderson. Will be working to promote our May event, make more newsletters

Old Business : Our May event (Sunday May 2 flyer on cover. Post meeting update: all approved and a go. Static will be the band. Working on door prizes, had a lot of generic shirts. Spread the word for a great turnout)

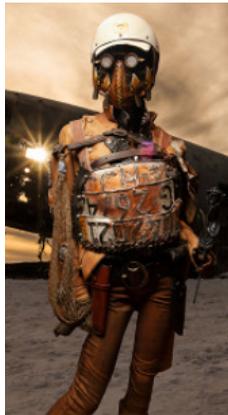
New Business : Nominations for chapter officers will start next meeting since we forgot to do this meeting

Good of the Order: Leesburg Bikefest is on but the city downtown will not be participating. Last heard Lake chapter campground is NOT on state calendar, just their May 22 “Can You See Me Now” event. More events seem to be coming finally, from ABATE chapter, even more local bike nights (see my safety report). Burn Up Bikes and Coffee on Saturday (not sure how often) needs to be checked out. Old Metal Classic diner 431 Northwood Rd WPB got a good Snooze review. We has a selection of t-shirts for prizes. Joey won one. Snoozw won the 50/50 and donated his winnings back to the chapter.

Meeting adjourned 1:15 Next meeting April 18

After the meeting Snooze, Slo Mo and Suzanne went to Boca Town Center to meet up with Southeast chapter to talk to some bikers about membership. But we got there too late, they were gone. Still a lot of bikers around enjoying the music on the patio. So we got to experience

Rex Baron Survivors Kitchen/ VRex Lounge



“Rex Baron is a “none like it” interactive, multi-sensory experiential destination, meeting place, dining haven, watering hole and hi-tech VR escape lounge. Where the art of food meets the art of survival. Experience the avant-garde post-apocalyptic themed restaurant concept — where food, culture, community, interactive tech and art thrive.”
<https://therexbaron.com/>

This them is Mad Max style scifi with lots of displays to see, everything has a story. Snooze and I tasted the 11 am to 7 pm Happy hour \$8 menu so food was good. I will go back to check the VR lounge (has entrance in the mall). Check out their website and then meet me there —Slo Mo



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. It does not matter what you own 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 read it online. The chapter newsletter is available by the start of each month online at palmbeach.abateflorida.com. There it 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. We used to get a card in the mail from state office to register your beneficiary for ADD insurance. Be sure your family knows about the policy. We have the form online and now included in membership form. We will get it to the ABATE of FL Inc. State office. It does not have to be a motorcycle accident.

Be sure to renew in time so are always covered!

MOTORCYCLE INSURANCE 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. Local events are included and sometimes urgent matters may be included. No one will see your email Postings are on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/AbatePalmBeachChapter>

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

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, 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

We all realize the \$4,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment insurance policy is 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. contact ABATE of FL. main office and

STATE OFFICE: ABATE OF Florida, Inc. PO Box 2520, Deland, FL 32721-2520

Phone: (386) 943-9610 Fax: same Email: flabate@bellsouth.net

Get your card at chapter meeting or our table at events. **Keep membership up to date for the insurance**

ABATE of Florida, Inc. Membership Application

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Date of Birth: / /

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____ Chapter: _____

Are you a registered voter: Yes _____ No _____

Voting Districts _____ Fl House: _____ Fl Senate: _____ Us Congress Dist. : _____

Membership Options Annual New Member \$20.00: _____ Lifemembership \$600.00: _____

Member Transfer to New Chapter: _____ From old Chapter: _____

Change of address: _____ Home Chapter: Palm Beach Chapter

Signature: _____ Date: _____

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL. Membership is open to anyone 18 years or older. All members receive a membership card and voting privileges in their home chapter, Personal involvement in statewide Legislative actions and their freedom to ride. Mail to Po Box 530944 Lake Park, Fl. 33403 Questions: (786) 574- 1344

Membership Use Paid By Cash: _____ Check: _____ Paypal: _____ Square: _____

Verified By: _____ Date paid: _____ **Do Not mail Cash**

ABATE of Florida, Inc has partnered with American Income Life to provide all members with a \$4000.00 AD&D Policy Please fill out the card below

Mail to State office: ABATE of Florida, Inc. Po Box 614 Cantonment, Fl. 32533-0614 Phone: (386)943-9610

ABATE of Florida, Inc Members Information

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Date of Birth: / /

Physical Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Beneficiary Information

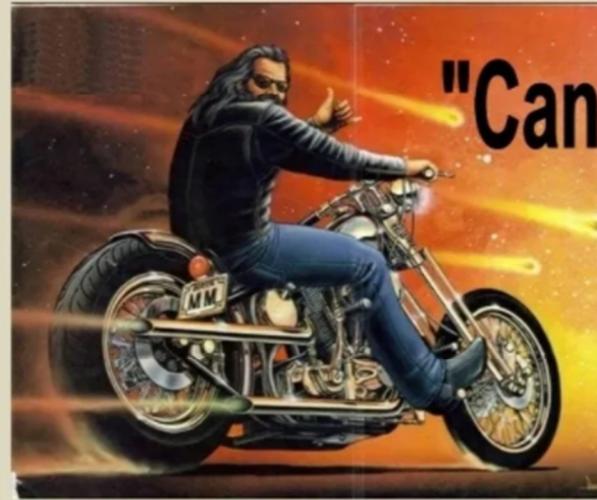
Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Date of Birth: / /

Physical Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

2021 May is Motorcycle Awareness Month

ABATE of Florida, Inc *Lake Co Chapter*



Join us May 22, 2021

"Can You See Me Now"

Reg 9:30-10:30 am @ Rainbow Restaurant,
704 E Myers Blvd, Hwy 50, Mascotte.
\$10. pp First 75 registered riders get a free
TShirt (not all sizes may be available). A scenic ride
through Lake County- with 3 separate routes
Ending at #1271 Moose Lodge, 1512 SR 44,
Leesburg-- @ 3pm more info on the day of run.
Marcus 321-607-2516 --All are welcome.
Visit our Membership & Safety Booth

Ride to Promote Visibility & Public Awareness

Looking for 2021 Sponsors *Chandler's Electric LLC *Full Throttle Works, Groveland

Next Palm Beach Chapter Meeting 3rd Sunday April 18 , 2021 Noon

Chapter meetings 3rd Sunday NOON Lakeside Anchor Inn Lantana (Lake Worth) dining room. 2412 Floral Rd, Lantana west of I95 Hypoluxo exit north on Eastview Dr. to Floral Rd east . Open to ALL so come learn about us.

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.