

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. PALM BEACH CHAPTER



ISSUE 201 2022-5 PALMBEACH.ABATEFLORIDA.COM MAY 2022



**May 22
Sunday
2 to 6PM**



Celebrate May MOTORCYCLE MONTH for Safety & Awareness

Johnny Q's 3801 10th Ave. N, Palm Springs

\$3.00 per person / \$5.00 per couple

Proceeds support our continued legislative efforts in Tallahassee

LIVE MUSIC, DRINK, FOOD, AND FUN

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)

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. DOES NOT CONDOONE DRINKING AND RIDING.

DONATIONS TO ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. ARE NOT DEDUCTIBLE FOR FEDERAL INCOME TAX PURPOSES.
A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION
OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT,
APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. WWW.FDOIHELPFLA.COM 1-800-435-7352



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

**NEXT CHAPTER
MEETING
3rd Sunday
May 15 12:30
Johnny Q's**

**CHECK TWICE
FOR MOTORCYCLES**

**LET THOSE
WHO RIDE
DECIDE!**

2021-2022 Board of Directors & Trustees

PRESIDENT	Dan "Slo Motion" Henderson	561-702-9929
VICE PRESIDENT	Ron Rossi	954-822-4200
SECRETARY		
TREASURER	Jeff Adkins	561-373-1742
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	"Quiet Dan" Shawback	561-818-1816
MEMBERSHIP TRUSTEE	Jeff Adkins	561-373-1742
SAFETY DIRECTOR	Dan "Slo Motion" Henderson	561-702-9929
LEGISLATIVE	Ken "Snooze" Gerecke	561-389-6546
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	open	

Our Email is palmbeach.abateflorida@gmail.com

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

Mailing Address **ABATE - Palm Beach Chapter**
P.O. Box 530944
Lake Park, FL 33403

Our website is palmbeach.abateflorida.com (refresh)

www.facebook.com/AbatePalmBeachChapter

DISCLAIMER

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

IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT

This newsletter is the monthly publication of ABATE of Florida, Inc. Palm Beach Chapter published monthly 12 times a year
ABATE of Florida Inc
Palm Beach Chapter
P.O. Box 530944
Lake Park, FL 33403

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

DONATIONS TO ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. ARE NOT DEDUCTIBLE FOR FEDERAL INCOME TAX PURPOSES

A copy of the Official Registration and Financial Information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free within the State. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, nor recommendation by the State.

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



President's Message

Dan "Slo Motion" Henderson

March 24, 2022 Life Member "LB" was hit on his motorcycle by a hit and run driver. Snooze has been in contact with his sister and son. He was hit by a 33 year old man driving restlessly. Good that witnesses were able to help get him tracked down. Like so many in past, he had no insurance, license and likely an illegal. The ABATE of FL attorney is working on the case. John "LB" Valiquette, ABATE Life Member, passed away 11:11 am 4-27-2022. RIP he will be missed. Snooze send me the news that the driver has been arrested and he faces a charge of vehicular homicide. The crime of Vehicular Homicide is a Second Degree Felony in Florida and punishable by up to fifteen (15) years in prison, fifteen (15) years of probation, and a \$10,000 fine. Vehicular Homicide is assigned a Level 7 offense severity ranking under Florida's Criminal Punishment Code. Hearing LB's funeral may be May 21.

The minutes were added post meeting to include LB's update and this also added to the time I needed to finish the newsletter.

Working on promoting our May 22 event at Johnny Q's. So doing a lot of PR work, doing more on our Facebook. To see what the public sees I need to go on as different user. If you are having issues refresh you web browser. This always needs to be done on our website to see the latest. We are still on the State's old site so security issues was problem logging in. Now I can be but that causes more issues. I can't use the old editors to upload, now a FTP program to upload EACH file. Tried a couple of transfer program, finally liking one. So I am researching for new editing software to be easier. Still need to purchase a PDF editor so can make a new online membership form that can be filled out online and emailed. Still having issues with Zell so need to talk to my bank about their app. So all our newsletters can be read online on our website at:
<http://palmbeach.abateflorida.com/newsletter.html>

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

Wednesday Bike Night Gorilla Motors at Johnny Qs

Thursdays Pirates Well Bike Night 7 pm A1A Lake Park

Saturday nights Fly n Wheels Open House

Tuesday May 5 Hop Wheels Bike Nights Boynton

May 7 & 8 Palm Beach Harley Customer Appreciation 11 am to 4 pm

Thursday May 12 Handlebars Bike Night Tequesta

Friday May 13 Ink Link/Rack' n Balls Pub Bike Night 7pm to 11pm

Friday May 13 AOA WPB Open House 8pm -?

Saturday May 14 PBHD Naho Average Party

**3rd Sunday May 15 Palm Beach Chapter Meeting ABATE of FL. Inc. 12:30pm
Johnny Q's 3801 10th Ave. N, Palm Springs**

Thursday May 18 Palm Beach Harley Stars & Stripe Bikini Contest/Bike Giveaway 6-9

Friday May 20 Black Pistons WPB Open House

Saturday May 21 PH Harley Spring Open House Bike Wash

Saturday May 21 Abacoa Santana tribute

Sunday May 22 Palm Beach ABATE Motorcycle Month Awareness Johnny Q's 2-6

Thursday Ma7 26 Ralph's Bike Night Jupiter

Friday May 22 Lone Legion WPB Open House

Sat. May 28 Palm Beach Harley Memorial Day BBQ

Sunday May 29 Southeast ABATE Memorial Day event Noon to 5pm American Legion
Post 36 1620 West SR 84 Ft. Lauderdale

Monday. May 30 Palm Beach Harley CLOSED

**Advertisers
Online**

Tell them you saw ad
in Palm Beach ABATE
Newsletter!

We need help in getting
more advertisers to support
the
production of our newsletter.
Our rates are great so
spread the word so can con-
tinue to
expand distribution to the
general public and riders

Printed copies can be picked
up at meeting and events
table

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

We are in need of more
advertisers to be able to
print more copies
Please Pay for your
Event to be Included and
Support us

ABATE of Florida, Inc.

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

Newsletter Ad Rates 6.5% sales Tax included

SIZE	1 MONTH	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	YEAR
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.

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 to 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.

RENEWAL REMINDERS

One membership concern is that we have lost a lot of members due to their not be aware of renewal dates. It has been many years since we did mailings, sometimes due to money issues. So Jeff will be working with Debbi to rebuilt this campaign. It was discussed and decided to bring back the newsletter notification last. Life members will not be on this list but will be told of changes and to be sure ADD beneficiary forms are on file at State office IMPORTANT to have active membership for this accident insurance and updated forms. Another reason not to be on list are members who aren't aware they have expired I have already found that several members at last meeting were not on active list. I think I know of others so working to let them know. **Membership expires on the last day of the Month/Year column.**

EXPIRED LAST FIRST

11-21 Demarchi Franco
 11-21 Coffery John
 11-21 Baron Jeff
 11-21 Joline James
 12-21 Johnson Randy
 12-21 Freeburn Richard
 12-21 Guarine Jon
 12-21 Prout Ryan
 12-21 Fournier Daniel
 12-21 Strickens Donald
 12-21 Tolbert Thomas
 12-21 Tobert Tyler
 12-21 Guarine Jon
 12-21 Hartstein Howard
 1-22 Turgeon James
 1-22 Williams Deano
 1-21 Navjalios Mike
 1-22 Jimenez Jason
 1-22 Sciderari David
 2-22 Wood Zachary
 3-22 Schmidt Fred
 3-22 Sarni Gregory
 3-22 Cedenno Omar

EXPIRES LAST FIRST .

4-22 Knelson Deborah
 4-22 Schnier Craig
 5-22 Gillette Ronald
 5-22 Halperian Ronald
 5-22 Christian Jason
 5-22 Christian Angel
 5-22 Potts John
 5-22 Stedman James
 5-22 Hayden Bob
 5-22 Henderson Dan
 6-22 Gerekce Ken
 7-22 Beckers Glenn
 7-22 Rossi Ronald
 8-22 Carroll Pete

Help to remind members to renew & to keep their ADD insurance active. Tell them of the change in chapter meetings. Everyone's help is needed for membership.

If you have any questions about your membership, contact Jeff or Slo Motion palmbeach.abateflorida@gmail.com , to check the State records of your member membership status.

ABATE State Board Elections

June is the elections for State officers. They are for a two years terms. The standing board has accepted to run for another term, except Sgt-at-Arms Mudder has turned it over for a new one.

President Nominees –Three

James “Doc” Reichenbach II

I have been ABATE of Florida’s State President since 1993. I have been ABATE’s lobbyist since 1991. In 2012, I retired as State President, however, I was asked to return in 2014. Under my leadership, ABATE has:

- Developed an effective MSAP (Motorcycle and Safety Awareness Program) that has raised motorist’s perceptions and awareness of motorcycles

- Modified the helmet law in 2017 and to keep it going for over 20 years.

- Received funding from the State of Florida totaling over \$1,000,000 to promote motorcycle safety and awareness

- Got the handlebar heights law modified

- Successfully fought the bill against vertical tags that had over \$1,100 in fines for a first offense

- Stopped the law that would require motorcyclists to wear orange vests

- Successfully fought the bill that would confiscate motorcycles for going 30mph over the speed limit

- Supported and fought for a texting-while-driving ban for the last few years

- Became the 4th largest State Motorcycle Rights Organization (MRO) in the country

As President of ABATE of Florida, Inc., I currently sit as a member of The Motorcyclist Advisory Council (MAC) to the Federal Highway Administration in Washington, D.C. and I sit as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Collation of Motorcyclists (NCOM). NCOM has over 1000 member organizations.

We have become a respected and driving force in the motorcycle community, not only in Florida, but nationwide. We are a respected force in the Florida Legislature and our Congressional delegation.

Respectfully,

Doc

To all my fellow ABATE of FL members,

My name is Martha Harris, I have been a member of ABATE for 10 years and currently serving as the Gulf Coast Chapter President. I am currently running for the position of State President. Through the years I have seen our organization on a continued downward trend. It is important for us as a team to work together to rebuild our organization. With this we need a leader that is open minded, willing to work with others, listen to others’ ideas, and not afraid to get down in the trench and work with everyone to make it happen. I know that I am that person that is willing and can do it.

I have in the past been in leadership roles in which organizations/groups were failing. I have been able to bring these organizations to a much better place. Please know I did not do this by myself. I built teams to do certain things and work together to bring the organizations/groups to a better place. Both with membership and financial stability. This is also my plans for us, if elected.

We all need to work toward building membership. Bring the brotherhood/sisterhood back to the organization. We all need training in how we need to communicate with our legislators to get our point across, so that we can get more support from them. I will teach other how to be a passionate advocate for our rights. With better communication, I feel that we would be able to get the support we need to provide more protection to us all on the highway. I will work closely with whoever our lobbyist is to make sure proper paperwork is prepared and filed to give us a better chance at getting the funding that we so deserve.

I have several fund-raising ideas to help make the state become more self-supporting.

In closing none of this is possible without teamwork, So, let us all work together to build teams to make us a fighting force within our state. I look forward to working with all of you in the future.

Thank you and as always ride safe and aware.

Martha Harris
850-393-7527

Hey everyone, my name is Will Deaver better known as Grizz. I am running for the office of Abate state president. I have been a member since 1994. I served four years as sergeant at arms for Lightning alley chapter. In 1997 I moved to Lake County and joined that chapter. I became vice president, served six months and was elected president in 1998. I have been president of Lake County chapter since then with the exception of two years. In my time as a member I've seen this organization go from 39 chapters to less than 20. I believe that if we keep going in the direction we are going this organization will not survive. If elected I will do my best to change the direction this organization is going. I may not have all the answers to what we need but I will surely give it my best shot.

Please give this information to your chapters and your support would be greatly appreciated. If anyone has questions I can be reached at 352- 516-2982. Look forward to hearing from everyone with questions.

Ride safe, Ride free, Griz.

STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS

My name is Bill Bird and I am running for the State PR position. I have been a member of the Peace River Chapter for 26 years. I first joined ABATE of Florida in 1985 as a member of the Panhandle Chapter. During my years with Peace River Chapter I have held President, VP, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership, Newsletter, State Delegate and Road Captain.

I have been a member of the State Board for 3 years. The State President asked me to fill a vacant position as PR. I did so and was nominated and retained the position after the 2020

election.

During my time as PR, I have insured that the Tally Run flyers were in all major publications and websites. I also sent them to the Tally area motorcycle shops. I arranged for an interview for our State President for a Florida Magazine. A copy of that interview was sent out to everyone on the legislative email list and was included in a 2021 State Meeting packet. I sent out flyers for the upcoming 5 Star Event in May to all major publications. I have also filed for several grants to try to get funding for our organization. I have helped assist several chapters with their PR needs.

I would like to continue to help ABATE over the foreseeable future. I would appreciate your vote at the June meeting.

Thank You

Bill Bird

ABATE Brothers & Sisters, I would like to be considered as your new State PR Trustee. My goals would include frequent public relations messages to boost membership to educate Motorcyclist what ABATE stands for. Our story has a rich history. History is relevant for growth. We need to get our (2) ABATE acronyms out to our Motorcyclists at large. There are now generations of Motorcyclists that never heard of our organization. Many of you have great ideas that I want to use. I want to get a clear, concise public relations message out to Motorcyclists and the Public. We need a streamlined public relations message. I believe in effective communication. If elected, I will be keeping in touch with each chapters Public Relations Trustee to assure they have the latest ABATE State Board approved message. On that note, I will encourage my leadership that we need to take a bolder approach to meeting our goals for our mission; Motorcyclist's Rights and Motorcyclist Safety Awareness. I've been a Biker since I started riding with my Father at three years old.

I rode with my husband for 19 years, then got my own scoot. I've been an

r Executive Officer and Life Member in Forest Chapter of ABATE for many years. I have been married to "Ace" Russ Pace for 34 years this August. We have two adult children that are also Life Members and both have served as Officers in Forest Chapter. I have three beautiful Grandboys. I am a Patriot, Advocate and Public Watchdog. I love Jesus, our USA - and those who defend her in our Armed Services. I believe in supporting our First Responders and pledging allegiance to our flag and defending the U.S. Constitution. I don't cower to controversy. I believe in using decorum to find positive solutions. I know we need regular communication between chapters and state and I am willing to collaborate effectively to get the State PR position done. Please extend to each Chapter Member my gratitude for their consideration for: "bridge" Bridgette Pace for ABATE of Florida, inc. State PR. Thank you, "bridge"

Lobbyist Proposal

From James D. "Doc" Reichenbach II February 10, 2022

To: Abate of Florida, Inc.

Sub: Lobbyist Proposal

I have been your lobbyist for many years and in that time have given 100% of my skill and dedication to Abate causes that no other lobbyist would have time to do. I have lobbied for Abate bills and have lobbied for and against bills that would affect you as citizens of the state of Florida. My experience in motorcycle issues and the respect of the Florida Legislature and Congress have been very valuable to Abate of Florida, Inc.

Many bills have been passed that support motorcyclists in this state during this time period. No new laws that would hurt this organization have passed during this time. I could list the bills that have passed but you know of them.

I am asking for a two-year contract paying \$36,000 a year. This takes into account the \$14,000 a year cut I took six years ago to help Abate of Florida's finances. I will pay all my expenses for the term of the contract. The contract will start on November 1, 2022 and end on October 31, 2024. Terms will be \$3000 a month starting on November 1, 2022 and ending on October 31, 2024. Hiring me as your lobbyist will mean I will lobby for or against any bills that affect Abate of Florida, Inc. I have been a registered lobbyist in the state of Florida for over 30 years and that does not include the time I have spent in Washington D.C. lobbying on Abate's behalf.

Respectfully,

James D. "Doc" Reichenbach II
Lobbyist

23 April 2022

Dear ABATE of Florida Inc, Delegates, and Chapters:

I am writing to inform you that due to an unforeseen private and personal matter, I must rescind my offer as the Lobbyist for ABATE of Florida, Inc. I respectfully apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused and appreciate the consideration you have given me.

Thank you and respectfully,

Carol Robarts
850-206-9768

6 Best East Coast Motorcycle Routes

East Coast has a bundle of incredible motorcycle routes to choose from, so if you are looking for the next adventure for you and your two-wheeled pet, this is the right place to be.

From Maine to Florida, you can explore new roads and enjoy that feeling of freedom only a motorcycle can offer. If you have no idea where to start, here is a list of ultimate routes extremely popular among East Coast bikers.

Blue Ridge Parkway If cruising down the road on your touring motorcycle and soaking in breathtaking scenery is on your to-do list, then you must check out the Blue Ridge Parkway. This 469-mile scenic road provides not only incredible views but also a plethora of hiking and cycling opportunities. Blue Ridge Highway connects the Shenandoah National Park and Great Smoky Mountains National Park, so keep in mind that you will need a couple of days to see everything this place has to offer. This route has several entrances in Asheville, so you can have your pick. Make sure you take a break at the Cold Mountain overlook and at the Looking Glass Rock overlook.

Tail of the Dragon All throughout the spring, summer, and fall, bikers from all over the world come to enjoy everything Tail of the Dragon has to offer. This road is surrounded by the Great Smoky Mountains and the Cherokee National Forest, and it is 11 miles long. Although there are no intersecting roads to spoil your adventure, don't think that you will be able to test how fast your bike can go. After all, Tail of the Dragon is famous for its 318 curves, so you will need to be as cautious as possible. Turns are tight, experience is needed, but this route will surely be the ride of your life.

Cherohala Skyway If you decide to visit the Tail of the Dragon, be sure to check out the nearby Cherohala Skyway. This highway is 60 miles long and known for its fantastic scenery. This route begins near the Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest in North Carolina. The best time to visit it is in the spring, summer, or fall. Winter is not recommended, since the road can become really dangerous, even for experienced riders. Make sure you fill up your gas tank before you hit the road since there are no facilities except a couple of restrooms. If you have completed this route, but you still have the riding bug, you can also check out the nearby Moonshiner 28, Foothills Parkway, Smoky Mountain Loop, Six Gap North Georgia, or The Snake US421.

Route A1A This route is just north of Daytona Beach and is ideal for all those bikers who are looking for a smooth ride. A fresh ocean breeze on your face, incredible coastal views, and moderate traffic are just some of the things you can expect if you go down this road. Although the road itself is not very long, there are plenty of places to visit, so be sure to reserve an entire day for this adventure. If you want to cut your trip short, you can take this route as far as St. Augustine. Although you will need to ride through several towns and reserves, you will be riding the coastline most of the time.

Coastal Route 1 in Maine If you opt for a 230-mile ride along the coast of Maine you can expect to enjoy mesmerising ocean and mountain views. You will be able to see plenty of lighthouses, enjoy fresh seafood at one of the numerous restaurants along the route and recharge your batteries. Since there are plenty of things to see, you might need a couple of days for this ride.

The Hudson River Bridge Route If you are done with nature and you are looking to enjoy some architecture, taking a ride along the Hudson River and crossing several stunning bridges along the way may be what the doctor prescribed. Start this ride in NYC with the George Washington bridge and go west. The road in the Storm King State Park is full of twists and turns you will surely enjoy, and if you wish you can visit the West Point Military Academy for a tour.

East Coast offers plenty of amazing routes for bikers, so pack your bags and hit the road, a new adventure is just around the corner.

<https://www.harlemworldmagazine.com/6-best-east-coast-motorcycle-routes/>

CAN-AM WILL RETURN TO MOTORCYCLE MARKET WITH ELECTRIC BIKES

by: Jason Weigandt

News popped up over the weekend than Can-Am, a pioneering brand during the growth of motocross in the 1970s, would return to the two-wheeled market soon with a new series of electric-powered motorcycles. Little is known about the bikes besides a PR with few details and a shadowy image showing a few bikes. However from what we can tell the new line will include street bikes and off-road recreation machines, but not a full-competition motocross-type bike.

Can-Am as a brand stopped producing motorcycles in 1987, but its parent company, BRP, is still very active in the powersports market with Can-Am ATVs, side-by-sides, Ski Doo snowmobiles, Sea Doo watercraft and more.

As a motorcycle brand, Can-Am experienced great success in the 1970s, including taking the 1974 AMA Supercross Championship with Jimmy Ellis.

The announcement of these electric motorcycles is timed to celebrate the brand's 50th anniversary. The company says the complete lineup of bikes will be available in 2024.

The press release is below:

BRP ANNOUNCES THE RETURN OF THE CAN-AM MOTORCYCLE WITH AN ALL-ELECTRIC LINEUP

Valcourt, Québec, March 25, 2022 – BRP Inc. announces today that the iconic Can-Am brand is returning to its motorcycle roots with a product line-up that will be completely electric. To mark the 50th anniversary of the beloved Can-Am brand, the Company will launch a family of electric two-wheeled motorcycles.

"With the motorcycle industry shifting to electric, we saw an opportunity to reclaim our motorcycle heritage and to re-enter the market. This new product category is extremely important to us, and we are thrilled that Can-Am motorcycles are the first EV models in BRP's electric lineup to be confirmed to consumers. Many of us have very fond memories of riding the early dirt bike models, and now we look forward to building on the rich history of the Can-Am brand to inspire and impress a new generation of motorcyclists and electric vehicle enthusiasts", said José Boisjoli, President and CEO of BRP.

The first Can-Am motorcycle was introduced in 1973 and immediately reigned over motocross and endurance racing. The instant success elevated the brand to an iconic status right from the start. Half a century later, the new products have been developed with many different riders in mind, more specifically for those who crave adventure, seek the thrill of the open road, long for a quiet ride in the country or want to liven up the city streets. Riders can expect these new state-of-the-art electric Can-Am motorcycles to be perfect for everyday commuting and, to stay true to the track & trail heritage of the brand, recreational on and off-road riding.

Such a product category has been highly anticipated and expected from BRP's customers and dealer network. The Company is therefore looking forward to bringing this new electric product lineup to its dealers' showroom floors, further solidifying their financial strength and reach in key markets. The first models of the complete lineup are expected to be available in mid-2024.

BRP's existing dealers who are interested in carrying this new product line should contact their District Sales Managers. Those who are interested in becoming a BRP dealer for electric motorcycles are invited to submit a request on the company website.

<https://racerxonline.com/2022/03/28/can-am-will-return-to-motorcycle-market-with-electric-bikes> <https://ridermagazine.com/2022/03/29/can-am-to-launch-all-electric-motorcycles/>

Can-Am Will Debut Electric Motorcycle Lineup in 2024 - Asphalt & Rubber

DELEGATE REPORT

Last months state meeting was held in Melbourne and hosted by the Treasure Coast chapter. Some of us road up the weather was fantastic, was a great ride !

Well the legislative session is over for this year and once again our bills were not even heard. Better luck next year !

We had a guest speaker from American Income Life Insurance company, our Accidental death and dismemberment policy provider. After speaking to him and some board members I thought about how important it is to have this benefit and that paid members are recovered . You see you must have a this card on file with the state ABATE office. This card prevents going to probate to speed the payment. When you pay your membership every year on your application you fill out a form and name your beneficiary so you are on record. If you are a life member and MAY NOT have filled out this form, get one on record. IF yearly members are not sure you are covered, contact our Palm Beach chapter President or membership on page 2 of this newsletter and make sure your membership is active.

State sergeant-at-arms had a message for us and I think it is very important that I mention this fact. I am sure you all have noticed our roads are getting more and more crowded every day so please be extremely careful out there - remember they don't see us !

NCOM convention this year will be in Nashville on June 17th and 18th. Registration form is in tis newsletter.

Also at the meeting it was decided that we will go to Tallahassee next year in April. The meeting will be on April 2nd and the ride to the capital on the 3rd. If you have not done this you should it is a great ride and so a important to our cause. Next chapter meeting we will have final nominations for our board members. So if you think you are interested in a board position or a trustee position or you know someone who does come to our next meeting on May 15th at Johnny Q's, 3801 10th Ave. N. Meeting starts 12:30 pm.

Highest percent of growth for Jan. and Feb. went to Treasure Coast chapter. Most new members for Jan. went to Estero river chapter. Feb. most new members was a tie between Forest and Daytona chapters.

Ride Safe Ride Smart !!

SNOOZE

Big donated t-shirt sale at the June meeting and chance to buy products. Hotel info is available contact Slo Mo if need

STATE MEETINGS

Host Chapter & Location

2022 State Meetings

June 11 Forest Ft McCoy

Aug. 21 State Ft. McCoy

Oct. 16 Lake

Dec. 18 Gator Alley

ABATE of FL Inc. Palm Beach Chapter

GBNF

Ed "Gunner" Bassett

Frank "Pipes" Cook

Robert "Torch" Lyle

Niurka Crespo

Phil Moore

Michael Steffy

Bill Klawnsnik

Gregg Lehman

Karen Watkins

"Bones" Maurice Clark

Danny Palm

Bob "Burger" Ehrenberg

John "LB" Valiquette

PAST MEMBERS

Tom "Ramblin' Man" Botticelli

David "Shadow" Moore

Budd "Strongbow" Aubey

Donald Duke "Darkside" Ferel

RIDE IN PEACE

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.



State Meeting

Saturday, June 11, 2022

Board Meeting @ 12:00 PM

Delegates Meeting @ 2:00 PM



Held at the VFW Veterans' Village Pavilion

130005 NE 135th ST, Ft McCoy, FL 32134

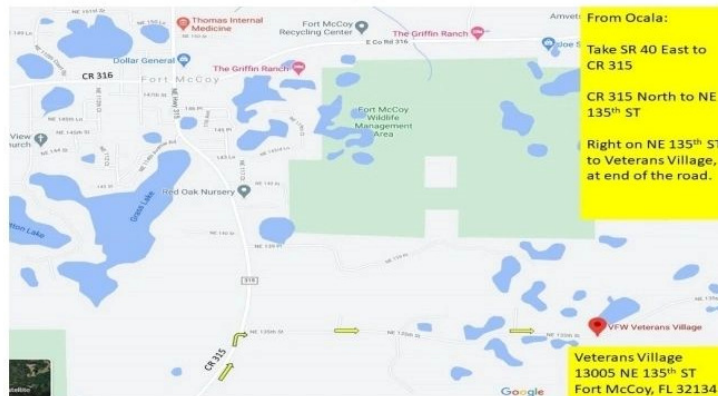
**LODGING
INFORMATION WILL
BE HANDED OUT
SEPERATELY**

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

“ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. DOES NOT CONDONE DRINKING AND RIDING. DONATIONS TO ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. ARE NOT DEDUCTIBLE FOR FEDERAL INCOME TAX PURPOSES. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

WWW.800HELPPFLA.COM 1-800-435-7352”

MEMBERSHIP/SAFETY
INFORMATION AVAILABLE



WEEKLY EVENTS

Subject to change and updates due to COVID and Govt mandates

Tues Jupiter Stadium Grill LOF Motorsports Bike Night ???

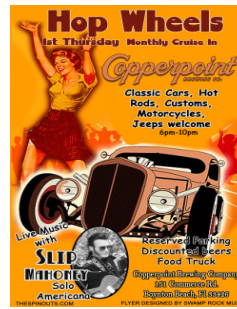
Wed Bike Night with Gorilla Motors Johnny Q's 6:30- 10 3801 19th Ave N Palm Springs FL

Thursdays Pirates Well Bike Night 9477 Alt. A1A Lake Park 7pm
2nd Thurs Handlebars US1 Tequesta 6 PM (old Judy's)
3rd Thurs Palm Beach Harley and Treasure Coast Harley Bike Nights
Last Thurs Underground Cycles Ralph's Bike Night Jupiter

1st Fri Enforcers MC Party (?)
2nd Fri Ink Link bight night
2nd Fri AOA WPB Open House
3rd Fri Black Pistons Open House
3rd Fri Outcast MC Hang Out 656 MLK Jr Blvd Riviera Bch 8PM
4th Fri Lone Legion MC Brotherhood Open House

SAT night Fly 'n Wheels Open House
Sat PBH Abacoa Concert Series 7:30 to 10 pm
SAT Palm Beach Harley Grill Days events and bikini bike washes

SUNDAY usually something at Palm Beach Harley
3rd Sunday ABATE Palm Beach meeting 12:30 Johnny Q's 3801 19th Ave N Palm Springs FL



ABATE of FL Inc. PALM BEACH CHAPTER

Chapter meetings 3rd Sunday 12:30 pm
 Johnny Q's
 3801 10th Ave. N,
 Palm Springs FL
 West of I-95
 East of Military Trail
 Open to ALL so
 come learn about us.

Meetings usually about a hour
2022

- 3rd Sunday May 15
- 3rd Sunday June 19
- 3rd Sunday July 17
- 3rd Sunday Aug. 21
- 3rd Sunday Sept. 18
- 3rd Sunday Oct. 16
- 3rd Sunday Nov. 20
- 3rd Sunday Dec. 18



Celebrate May MOTORCYCLE MONTH for Safety & Awareness

Johnny Q's 3801 10th Ave. N, Palm Springs
 \$3.00 per person / \$5.00 per couple
 Proceeds support our continued legislative efforts in Tallahassee
LIVE MUSIC, DRINK, FOOD, AND FUN
 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)

ABATE OF FLORIDA INC. PRESENTS OUR **5-STAR EVENT**
MAY 14TH, 2022
 10am - 5pm
SUN SPORTS CYCLE
 3441 Colonial Blvd, Fort Myers, FL 33966

- ★ MUSIC ★ BIKE GAMES ★ 50/50 DRAWINGS
- ★ PRIZES ★ AUCTION ★ VENDORS
- ★ FOOD/BEVERAGES AVAILABLE

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
 Call at 239-459-9135 or thesunsporcycle.com

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. Polk County Chapter's PRESENTS OUR **11TH SKILLS ON WHEELS MOTORCYCLE ROBOE**
MAY 14, 2022
 THE BOONDOCKS 8515 US Hwy 98 N. LAKELAND, FL
 55.00 Donation Covers Entrance & Participation Fee: Do Overts \$5.00

400 \$1000 RECALL \$1000 PRIZE

COME SHOW US YOUR SKILLS

- Clothesline
- Plank
- Balloon Toss
- Cone Ball
- 5 Second Ball
- Beanbag Toss
- Joust
- Slow Ride
- Wienie Bite

ALL ARE WELCOME ON TWO WHEELS

HARD TIMES PARTY!
 ALL ARE WELCOME!!!
 \$10.00 DONATION PER PERSON...
 2:00 PM TIL ???
SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2022
 WEST PALM BEACH CLUBHOUSE
 6540 BISCHOFF RD.
 MUSIC, DRINKS AND A GOOD TIME!

My-In-Wheels
 West Palm Beach
 "WE DO OUR OWN THING"
 NO BULLSHIT, NO ATTITUDES, NO ASSHOLES, NO PROBLEMS!

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. LET THOSE WHO RIDE DECIDE

The Southeast Chapter Presents **42nd Memorial Day MOTORCYCLE EVENT!!!**
May 29, 2022
 Noon - 5pm
American Legion Post 36
 1620 West SR 84, Ft. Laud. 954-763-9288

Vendors 50/50 Come Out & Support Your Motorcyclists Rights Organization

ABATE LIVE MUSIC

Safety & Membership Booths

REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

www.abatefl.com 800-455-7332

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. DOES NOT CONDONE DRINKING AND RIDING

DONATIONS TO ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC. ARE NOT DEDUCTIBLE FOR FEDERAL INCOME TAX PURPOSES.

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

www.dor.state.fl.us 800-455-7332

FREEDOM is Not Free! We have to FIGHT to keep it. Stand Up for YOUR Rights... Support ABATE!!
 For additional information call 954-868-4390
 Johnny Rose, Pres@ABATEFL.US

SOAKED & SORE ASS RIDE 2022
 June 11th 2022

Registration starts at 8am
 10am-12pm: Rain or Shine
 12pm-2pm: Lunch & Raffle
 2pm-4pm: 7 Card Poker Run
 4pm-6pm: 300+ Miles One Way
 BRING YOUR RAIN GEAR & HELMET!!!

25th Annual

Rudson To Panama City Beach

Book Your Hotel Rooms Online In Or Around Panama City Beach

STARTS AT: KICKIN' WINGZ 8728 SR 52 Hudson FL 34467

ENDS AT: CADILLAC JACKS 5401 E Hwy 98 Parker FL

Pre-registration is happening now online at <https://full-throttle-multi-media-inc.square.site/>

Hands are \$40/person or \$80/Couple (Couples get 2 of each item)
 Single Riders (50) - 3 Poker Hands, T-Shirt & Patch at End Stage
 Double Riders/Couples - (50) - 3 Poker Hands EACH, (2) T-Shirts, & (2) Patches at End Stage

CALL FULL THROTTLE FOR MORE INFO 727-935-4875

PROGRESSIVE MOTORCYCLE WEEK
LACONIA
 THE WORLD'S OLDEST MOTORCYCLE RALLY
 JUNE 11-19, 2022

The National Coalition of Motorcyclists
2022 Convention
JUNE 17-19
NASHVILLE, TN

31ST ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL MOTORCYCLE & SCOOTER **RIDE TO WORK DAY**
MONDAY 06•20•2022
WWW.RIDETOWORK.ORG

May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Thunder Beach Spring Rally	2	3	4 Bike Night Gorilla Motors at Johnny Q's	5 Bike Night Hop Wheels Boynton	6	7 PBHD Customer Appreciation Bike Wash Fly In Wheels Open House
8 PBHD Customer Appreciation	9	10	11 Bike Night Gorilla Motors at Johnny Q's	12 Handlebars Bike Night Tequesta	13 AOA Open House Ink Link Bike Night / PBHD Friday the 13th Tattoo Marathon	14 PBHD Nacho Average Party Fly In Wheels Open House ABATE 5 Star Event
15 PB ABATE Chapter Meeting Johnny Q's	16	17	18 Bike Night Gorilla Motors at Johnny Q's	19 PBHD Stars & Stripes Bikini Competition Bike Givea- way	20 Black Pistons Open House	21 PBHD Spring Open House Bike Wash Fly In Wheels Open House Abacoa Santana
22 PB ABATE Motorcycle Month Event	23	24	25 Bike Night Gorilla Motors at Johnny Q's	26 Ralph's Bike Night	27 Lone Legion Open House	28 PBHD Memorial Day BBQ Fly In Wheels Open House
29 ABATE Southeast Memorial Day Event Am. Leg 36	30 PBHD CLOSED	31 PBHD Backstage Party				

June 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Bike Night Gorilla Motors at Johnny Q's	2 Bike Night Hop Wheels Boynton	3	4 PBHD Customer Appreciation Bike Wash Fly In Wheels Open House
5 PBHD Customer Appreciation	6	7	8 Bike Night Gorilla Motors at Johnny Q's	9 Handlebars Bike Night Tequesta	10 AOA Open House Ink Link Bike Night	11 PBHD Performance Workshop Fly In Wheels Open House ABATE FL St Meeting Sore ass Ride LACONIA
12 LACONIA	13 LACONIA	14 LACONIA	15 LACONIA Bike Night Gorilla Motors at Johnny Q's	16 LACONIA	17 LACONIA Black Pistons Open House NCOM Convention Nashville	18 PBHD Luau Open House Fly In Wheels Hard Times Party/ Abacoa ELO Tribute NCOM
19 PB ABATE Chapter Meeting Johnny Q's PBHD Luau Open House NCOM Convention Nashville	20 RIDE TO WORK DAY	21	22 Bike Night Gorilla Motors at Johnny Q's	23	24 Lone Legion Open House	25 PBHD Biker Breakfast Fly In Wheels Open House
26	27	28	29 Bike Night Gorilla Motors at Johnny Q's	30 PBHD Backstage Party Ralph's Bike Night		

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 County 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

News Service of Florida

DeSantis Sets May Session on Property Insurance By Jim Turner

TALLAHASSEE --- Florida lawmakers will return to the Capitol the week of May 23 to address problems in the property-insurance system that have led to homeowners losing coverage and facing soaring premiums.

Gov. Ron DeSantis on Tuesday called a special session from May 23 to May 27 and listed general topics such as reinsurance, the Office of Insurance Regulation and changes to the Florida Building Code to improve the affordability of property insurance.

In the proclamation, DeSantis said insurers in the state have experienced “two straight years of net underwriting losses exceeding \$1 billion each year,” while pointing to issues such as large numbers of lawsuits over claims.

House Speaker Chris Sprowls, R-Palm Harbor, has favored waiting to make additional changes until a 2021 property-insurance law has more time to take hold. He issued a statement Tuesday saying the House will see if more can be done.

“The Legislature made great strides on meaningful property insurance reforms in 2021, and we are already seeing the positive impacts of that work,” Sprowls said in the statement. “We look forward to working with our partners to evaluate whether there is more we can do to address the availability and affordability of property insurance. The Florida House will remain

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
Bch

FEDERAL U.S. FL Senators

Marco Rubio

Rick Scott

U.S. FL HOUSE

District 18
Brian Mast (R)

District 20
OPEN

District 21
Lois Frankel

District 22
Ted Deutch

primarily focused on addressing the needs of the policyholders of Florida.”

In 2021, lawmakers approved changes that included a new formula to limit fees of attorneys who represent homeowners in lawsuits against insurers and a reduction from three years to two years in the time to file claims. They also passed a proposal aimed at preventing roofing contractors from advertising to spur homeowners to file insurance claims, though a federal court has blocked that part of the law on free-speech grounds.

The law also allowed larger rate increases for customers of the state-backed Citizens Property Insurance Corp., which is often able to charge less than private carriers.

While DeSantis’ proclamation did not provide detailed proposals, one potential issue could be to help insurers address problems with costs and availability of reinsurance, which is essentially backup coverage that plays a critical role in the Florida market. The special session will be held shortly before the renewal of reinsurance contracts in June.

During a meeting last week of the Florida Insurance Guaranty Association, Tim Meenan, the agency’s general counsel, said one possibility could involve temporarily making additional reinsurance coverage available through the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund, which provides relatively low-cost reinsurance. The Florida Insurance Guaranty Association is closely watching the market problems because it pays claims if insurers become insolvent.

DeSantis on April 18 announced his intention to call a special session on property insurance. That came a day before lawmakers began a three-day special session that included passing a congressional redistricting plan and two bills targeted at Walt Disney Co.

During an appearance at UF Health Jacksonville on April 18, DeSantis said the insurance session would try to “bring some sanity and stabilize and have a functioning market.”

The House and Senate were unable to reach agreement on an insurance bill during this year’s regular legislative session, which ended March 14, with the Senate wanting to take more-aggressive steps to bolster private insurers.

As an example, the Senate proposed allowing new deductibles of up to 2 percent on roof-damage claims --- an outgrowth of complaints by insurers that questionable, if not fraudulent, roof claims are driving up costs. But the House rejected the idea, which would have led to increased out-of-pocket costs for homeowners who need to replace damaged roofs.

While Sprowls stressed patience, troubles have continued in the insurance market, with companies shedding policies and seeking hefty rate increases because of what industry officials say are large financial losses.

St. Johns Property Insurance Co. and Avatar Property & Casualty Insurance Co. have recently been placed into receivership after being declared insolvent. Also this month, Tampa-based Lighthouse Property Insurance Corp., with about 27,000 customers in Florida, was placed into receivership in Louisiana. Part of the fallout from the private-market problems has led to thousands of homeowners a week obtaining coverage from Citizens Property Insurance Corp., which was created as an insurer of last resort. State leaders have long sought to shift policies out of Citizens into the private market, at least in part because of concerns about financial risks if the state is hammered by a major hurricane or multiple hurricanes.

Citizens saw its numbers jump from 817,926 policies on March 31 to 842,298 as of the end of last week and is expected to top 1 million by the end of the year.

During his April 18 comments, DeSantis said other unfinished issues from the regular session could be added to the insurance session.

Another of the biggest unfinished issues involved proposals to put additional requirements on condominium buildings after the deadly collapse last year of the Champlain Towers South building in Surf-

side. DeSantis' proclamation Tuesday did not specifically mention condo requirements, though issues can be added to the special session.

— News Service Executive Editor Jim Saunders contributed to this report.

Advances: Week of April 25, 2022

TALLAHASSEE — After Twitter and Facebook blocked former President Donald Trump from their platforms following the Jan. 6, 2021, storming of the U.S. Capitol by Trump supporters, Gov. Ron DeSantis made a priority of cracking down on social-media companies.

DeSantis and the Republican-dominated Legislature passed a law that, in part, sought to prevent large social-media platforms from banning political candidates from their sites. It also required companies to publish --- and apply consistently --- standards about issues such as banning users or blocking their content.

But the tech industry went to court, arguing that the law violated First Amendment rights. And before the law could take effect, U.S. District Judge Robert Hinkle issued a preliminary injunction against the measure, which he described as “riddled with imprecision and ambiguity.”

“The legislation now at issue was an effort to rein in social-media providers deemed too large and too liberal. Balancing the exchange of ideas among private speakers is not a legitimate government interest,” Hinkle wrote in his June 2021 decision.

The state appealed Hinkle's ruling, and a panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals will consider the case Thursday during a hearing in Montgomery, Ala.

Weekly Roundup: Mighty Mouse Melee By Ryan Dailey Apr 22, 2022

TALLAHASSEE --- The week in Florida politics kicked off with the expectation of a special legislative session focused solely on Gov. Ron DeSantis' congressional redistricting plan but ended with the governor landing a punch on the state's most celebrated mouse.

DeSantis' authorship of the proposed congressional maps was an unusual move, as it is uncommon for a governor to take the lead on the once-a-decade reapportionment process.

The Florida House nevertheless gave final approval Thursday to DeSantis' map (SB 2-C), which is expected to help Republicans and reduce the number of Black Democrats representing the state.

But the final House votes were cast amid loud objections from Democrats, who temporarily interrupted proceedings by holding an historic sit-in on the House floor.

Black Democrats initiated the hour-long sit-in --- highlighted by chants of “Stop the Black attack” and the singing of “We Shall Overcome” --- as the Republican-dominated House neared the end of debate on the map offered by DeSantis.

The protest prompted House leaders to temporarily suspend floor action. When the session resumed, a visibly irritated House Speaker Chris Sprowls took up the redistricting proposal. The House quickly passed the measure as Democrats continued to loudly voice their grievances from the rear of the chamber.

DeSantis signed the congressional map on Friday and voting-rights groups quickly filed a lawsuit challenging the plan, arguing that it fails to comply with state redistricting laws.

The House on Thursday also took up and passed, without discussion or debate, two measures aimed at punishing Walt Disney Co. Disney, one of the state's largest employers, ran afoul of DeSantis over a controversial education measure that restricts education about gender identity and sexual orientation in schools.

After Thursday's floor session bringing the legislative special session to a close, Sprowls issued a statement accusing Democrats of attempting to “drown out the voices of the other elected representatives and the 22 million Floridians they represent.”

“Today a group of representatives decided to hijack the legislative process, violating House

rules and interfering with the rights of their fellow elected colleagues to debate important legislation before the body,” Sprowls, R-Palm Harbor, said.

But Democratic lawmakers defended their actions.

“Yesterday’s vote was an extreme executive overreach by the governor, usurping the Legislature’s constitutional duty to draw fair districts. And the GOP acquiesced,” Rep. Dotie Joseph, D-North Miami, told reporters Friday. “It sacrifices Black representation on the altar of the governor’s political ambition.”

TALLAHASSEE MOUSETRAP Hours before legislative proceedings began on Tuesday, DeSantis announced he was expanding the session to include two measures aimed at punishing Disney. Bad blood between the governor and Disney began brewing when Walt Disney Co. CEO Bob Chapek issued a statement opposing Florida’s “Parental Rights in Education” law, known to critics as the “don’t say gay” bill.

DeSantis’ feud with the entertainment company sparked two proposals quickly passed by state lawmakers this week and signed by the governor on Friday.

One of the measures (SB 4-C) seeks to dissolve the Reedy Creek Improvement District and another (SB 6-C) would strip Disney of an exemption from a 2021 law aimed at cracking down on social-media companies.

The Senate signed off on the measures Wednesday and, amid chaos over the redistricting protest on Thursday, the House gave final approval to the bills without any discussion.

The social-media bill removes an exemption for theme parks that was tucked into a 2021 law that targeted social media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook. The 2021 law seeks to punish tech companies that strip users from platforms or flag users’ posts.

DeSantis’ grudge match with Disney escalated after the governor signed the education bill and the entertainment company pledged to fight for its repeal.

During a bill-signing ceremony Friday, DeSantis boasted about the effort to dismantle the Reedy Creek district, which encompasses 38.5 miles in Osceola and Orange counties. The district has authority over such issues as land use and traditional functions of government including fire protection and wastewater services.

“We signed the bill, and then incredibly they (Disney officials) say we are going to work to repeal parents’ rights in Florida, and I’m just thinking to myself, you’re a corporation based in Burbank, Calif., and you’re going to marshal your economic might to attack the parents of my state? We view that as a provocation and we’re going to fight back against that,” the governor said at Friday’s campaign-style event.

WAKE UP DeSantis on Friday also signed a bill that limits the way race-related issues can be taught in schools and in workplace training exercises.

An outgrowth of the governor’s fight against critical race theory, DeSantis dubbed the legislation (HB 7) the “Stop Wrongs Against Our Kids and Employees Act,” or Stop WOKE Act.

Various race-related concepts enumerated in the law would constitute discrimination under the measure if taught in a classroom or while training employees.

A part of the bill dealing with schools would label instruction discriminatory if it led a person to believe that they bear “responsibility for, or should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment because of, actions committed in the past” by people of the same race or sex.

Similarly, the measure targets workplace training exercises that would “compel” a person to believe that their “moral character or status as either privileged or oppressed is necessarily determined by his or her race, color, sex, or national origin.”

But the measure immediately drew a legal challenge, which has not been uncommon for the

governor's legislative priorities in recent years.

The lawsuit, filed Friday in the federal Northern District of Florida on behalf of five plaintiffs, argued that the law violates First Amendment rights. It seeks to block the new law and a rule approved last year by the State Board of Education that targeted instruction on critical race theory.

STORY OF THE WEEK: Over the chants of Democratic lawmakers who staged a protest in the chamber, the Florida House on Thursday gave final approval to a congressional redistricting plan that is expected to help Republicans and reduce the number of Black Democrats representing the state.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "Any Republican who claims this wasn't about punishing Disney is a damn liar." — Rep. Carlos Guillermo Smith, D-Orlando, referring to Walt Disney Co.-related measures signed by Gov. Ron DeSantis this week.

Advances: Week of April 18, 2022

TALLAHASSEE — After vetoing a congressional redistricting plan that lawmakers passed last month, Gov. Ron DeSantis called a special legislative session that will start Tuesday.

But don't expect a lot of suspense.

House and Senate leaders said they would allow DeSantis to propose a redistricting plan. And, unless something unexpected happens, a map that DeSantis' office released Wednesday will get approval from the Republican-dominated Legislature.

"After thoroughly reviewing the governor's submission and a discussion with our legal counsel, I have determined that the governor's map reflects standards the Senate can support," Senate Reapportionment Chairman Ray Rodrigues, R-Estero, wrote in a memo to senators Wednesday.

The DeSantis plan could increase the number of Republicans in Florida's congressional delegation from 16 to 20. Perhaps the most-controversial part of the plan is that it would reduce the number of districts likely to elect Black Democrats.

"It is appalling, but not surprising, that the Republican Legislature has abdicated its constitutional duty to draft and pass congressional maps to the governor," Florida Democratic Party Chairman Manny Diaz said Wednesday. "As proven by the proposed map released today, Gov. DeSantis is hell-bent on eliminating congressional seats where Florida's minority communities have the ability to elect representatives of their choice and he is imposing his own partisan political preferences on Florida's congressional map."

But as with most things in Tallahassee, Democrats don't have enough lawmakers to prevent Republicans from passing the plan. And that leaves a court fight as their only hope.

Weekly Roundup: Abortion, Redistricting Fights Refueled By Ryan Dailey

TALLAHASSEE — "Putting families first" — that's how Gov. Ron DeSantis describes three bills he signed this week, including one that will bar doctors from performing abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy.

"We are here today to protect life. We are here today to defend those who can't defend themselves," DeSantis said Thursday during an event at a Kissimmee church to sign the abortion bill (HB 5). As has been common with some of the governor's highest-profile legislative priorities, abortion-rights supporters quickly pledged to launch legal challenges against the measure.

The bill, slated to take effect July 1, will prevent most abortions past the 15-week mark, with an exception for instances of a "fatal fetal abnormality." Such abnormalities are defined in the law as terminal conditions that are incompatible with life outside the womb, regardless of medical treatment. The legislation closely resembles a Mississippi law that is under review by the U.S. Supreme Court. Justices heard arguments in December about the Mississippi law, a case that could determine whether the landmark Roe v. Wade abortion decision is scaled back or overturned.

Among the who's who of Republican lawmakers joining DeSantis for the bill-signing event

were two of the bill's sponsors, both of whom took aim at the 1973 decision.

"The reality of the Roe decision is that men on the Supreme Court proclaimed that women, in order to achieve equality with men, must be able to kill their own children. As a woman, I refuse to accept such a perverse version of equality," House sponsor Erin Grall, R-Vero Beach, said.

The bill does not include an exception to the 15-week restriction for victims of rape or incest. Critics slammed the bill's supporters for rejecting proposals to add such an exception.

"This abortion ban has total disregard for victims of rape, incest and human trafficking who may need more time to physically and psychologically heal, arrive at a decision and receive care," Senate Minority Leader Lauren Book, D-Plantation, said in a statement.

Other opponents of the measure said it is unconstitutional. Planned Parenthood released a statement calling the bill the "strictest abortion ban in state history," while vowing to pursue any means of stopping it.

The American Civil Liberties Union also sent a direct message.

"We'll see Florida in court," a tweet from the organization said, in part.

The other bills signed by DeSantis didn't get nearly as much attention during this year's regular legislative session, but the governor touted their potential impacts during a pair of signing events. One of the measures (HB 7065) is designed to address what state leaders call a "fatherhood crisis." It will provide about \$70 million to bolster programs aimed at equipping dads with parenting resources and helping foster youth.

Another new law (SB 7034) aimed at helping foster children will provide more than \$44 million to increase payments for caregivers and provide foster parents with money for child-care programs.

COME ON BACK, NOW Little more than a month after lawmakers left Tallahassee, they'll be back Tuesday for a special session to pass a congressional redistricting plan.

DeSantis vetoed a congressional map approved during the regular session that ended March 14, triggering the need for a special session as part of the once-a-decade reapportionment process.

DeSantis' office on Wednesday released a proposed map that likely would increase the number of Republicans in the state's congressional delegation. Legislative leaders earlier in the week had announced that DeSantis would propose the map. It is highly unusual for the governor to take the lead on proposing maps.

DeSantis' proposed changes to North Florida's Congressional District 5 have drawn the most controversy. The district, which currently stretches from Jacksonville to west of Tallahassee, was drawn in the past to help elect a Black candidate. It is held by U.S. Rep. Al Lawson, a Black Democrat. DeSantis on Tuesday said the district would be redrawn in a "race-neutral manner" and has proposed placing it in the Jacksonville area.

Democrats cried foul. "As proven by the proposed map released today, Gov. DeSantis is hell-bent on eliminating congressional seats where Florida's minority communities have the ability to elect representatives of their choice and he is imposing his own partisan political preferences on Florida's congressional map," Florida Democratic Party Chairman Manny Diaz said in a statement Wednesday. But the governor's plan received key backing in the Senate.

Senate Reapportionment Chairman Ray Rodrigues, R-Estero, endorsed the map.

"After thoroughly reviewing the governor's submission and a discussion with our legal counsel, I have determined that the governor's map reflects standards the Senate can support," Rodrigues wrote in a memo to senators.

SPECIAL DELIVERY? State lawmakers have until noon Monday to respond to a poll in Sen. Jeff Brandes' push to hold another special session about property insurance, the Florida Department of State announced Thursday.

For a special session to be held, Brandes, R-St. Petersburg, would need to get support from three-fifths of the members of both legislative chambers — 24 senators and 72 House members. Many private insurers in recent months have pursued rate increases and dropped customers to reduce financial risks, leading to thousands of homeowners a week turning to the state-backed Citizens Property Insurance Corp. for coverage.

But House leaders have been hesitant to make additional changes in the troubled property-insurance system, saying changes approved in 2021 need more time to take hold.

STORY OF THE WEEK: Florida doctors soon will be barred from performing abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy, as Gov. Ron DeSantis on Thursday signed a measure that closely resembles a Mississippi law under review by the U.S. Supreme Court.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: “If this map is enacted, Florida will be sued.” — Marc Elias, a prominent Democratic elections lawyer, on a congressional map proposed by DeSantis’ office

Backroom Briefing: Democrats Try to Bring it Home By Jim Turner

TALLAHASSEE --- Democratic gubernatorial candidates latched on to rising housing costs this week to draw a contrast with Gov. Ron DeSantis, who they say has focused on blaming President Joe Biden for inflation while taking a more laissez-faire approach to the state’s housing problems.

Democrat Nikki Fried embarked on a two-week tour about the housing issue, saying the next governor needs to work on lowering the cost of living.

"Inflation is 8.5 percent. We are seeing increases of rent at 35, 55, 60 percent in places of our state," Fried, the state agriculture commissioner, said Wednesday while outside the Florida Sun Estates mobile-home community in Tallahassee.

"That is not inflation. That is price gouging," Fried continued. "And that is people taking advantage of a situation. And anything less than that is, once again, this governor trying to shift the burden of his responsibilities."

Fried said her platform will include a pledge to veto any legislation that would divert money from what are known as state “Sadowski” funds for housing programs. She also would create a task force to address affordable housing and ask the attorney general to target “predatory landlords” that increase rents above the rate of inflation.

Not to be outdone, Democratic candidate Charlie Crist, a congressman from Pinellas County, told the Palm Beach Post editorial board on Tuesday he would reach out to his Washington, D.C. connections, particularly within the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

“I’ve had the opportunity to meet some very good people, and a lot of them are serving this administration, who could be helpful to Florida --- now,” Crist said, according to the Palm Beach Post. “But this current governor is attacking this (Biden) administration. That’s not how you help Floridians.” Crist in January released an “affordable Florida for All” plan that includes appointing a “housing czar” and directing the Public Service Commission to set ambitious energy conservation goals.

Meanwhile, the third prominent Democrat in the gubernatorial race, Sen. Annette Taddeo of Miami, took a shot Tuesday at DeSantis for the Office of Insurance Regulation allowing VYRD Insurance to enter the property insurance market at the end of 2021.

VYRD is a joint venture between the insurance firm Bolt and SiriusPoint Ltd., a specialty insurer and reinsurer. Taddeo took issue with SiriusPoint, as it’s backed by Shanghai-based China Minsheng Investment Group, saying in a news release that DeSantis “has consistently labeled ‘communist China’ as a country we don’t want to ‘be entangled with.’”

“Ironically, in Ron DeSantis’ ‘freest state in the country,’ the only new insurance company approved in Florida in years is funded by communist China,” Taddeo said, also referring to state investments linked to Russia. “When he’s not investing \$300 million of our money in Putin, DeSantis is serving up millions

in massive rate hikes paid by Floridians to communist China. If he thinks that's what 'freedom' looks like, there's some prime coastal real estate in Venezuela I'm sure Maduro would like to sell him."

SURFSIDE SPECIAL? DeSantis backs lawmakers putting additional requirements on condominium buildings after the collapse last year of the Champlain Towers South building in Surfside that killed 98 people. But as with revamping the troubled property-insurance system, the push for changes won't come from DeSantis' office.

Appearing at Miami Dade College on Tuesday, DeSantis reiterated he would support what lawmakers could work out on condos and insurance in potential future special sessions.

"If they can do it, then they can do it. Absolutely. But you know, they have to agree on something,"

DeSantis said when asked about condominium proposals that did not pass during this year's regular session.

Lawmakers considered issues such as required inspections and financial reserves to make repairs, but the House and Senate could not agree on a final version of a bill. The House wanted to go further than the Senate on issues such as reserve requirements for condominium associations.

DeSantis didn't include insurance or condos when he called a special session on congressional redistricting that will be held next week.

"We want to do insurance, I think we're going to be able to get there," DeSantis said. "But they didn't get the insurance done (during the regular session). And so, we've got to get a product, and then you get it across the finish line. And so, the minute they tell me that that is something that they have the ability to get across, we could add it, absolutely."

On Monday, congressional Democrats asked DeSantis to put condominium issues on the agenda alongside redistricting.

"Lives are at stake," the congressional Democrats wrote. "We urge you make condominium reform a priority and add it to the call for the special legislative session beginning on April 19th. Just last week a five-story, 60 unit building in North Miami Beach, Florida, was ordered to evacuate following an evaluation by an engineering firm that found the building to be structurally unsound. You cannot wait to act any longer."

GOOD EATS Never shy about his gastronomical proficiency, DeSantis over the past week announced via social media he had "stopped by RevCafe in Monticello for some great southern food" and that "Mama's Burgers serves some great food just off of I-75 in Jasper in Hamilton County."

On Wednesday, it was, "Enjoyed a fresh grouper Reuben sandwich at Half Shell Dockside in Apalachicola."

TWEET OF THE WEEK: "If this map is enacted, Florida will be sued." --- Marc Elias, a Democratic elections lawyer (@marceelias), after DeSantis' office released a congressional redistricting plan for next week's special session.

Advances: Week of April 11, 2022

TALLAHASSEE — State Rep. Joe Harding, R-Williston, drew national attention during this year's legislative session as he sponsored a bill that restricts schools from teaching about sexual orientation and gender identity.

Opponents blasted the measure, dubbing it the "don't say gay" bill.

But Harding and other Republican lawmakers said the bill is about parents' rights. And, according to Harding's re-election campaign, supporters have responded, with Harding raising more than \$70,000 in March.

"The outpouring of support from ordinary citizens all across America is one of the most encouraging things that's happened during my time in office," Harding, who was first elected in 2020, said in a statement.

Details about fundraising by Harding, other state candidates, political committees and parties will be revealed in the coming days as they face a Monday deadline for filing finance reports.

Lawmakers were barred from raising money during the two-month legislative session, which ended March 14. But the new reports will show if campaign cash started rolling in after they left Tallahassee. STORY OF THE WEEK: Gov. Ron DeSantis on Wednesday signed 42 bills, including a heavily debated measure that will change staffing standards in nursing homes.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: “Florida’s private property insurance market has collapsed, and it is evident we must call a special session to address this dire situation.” --- State Sen. Jeff Brandes, R-St. Petersburg, on his push to poll lawmakers about holding a special legislative session on insurance.

Backroom Briefing: Mapping Out Endorsements By Jim Turner

TALLAHASSEE --- With a special legislative session approaching to finish congressional redistricting work, Gov. Ron DeSantis is holding off on making an endorsement in the Republican primary for state agriculture commissioner.

After Winter Park Republican Chuck Nadd filed paperwork to run for agriculture commissioner, DeSantis declined to pick favorites when asked Tuesday about the primary that also includes Senate President Wilton Simpson, a Trilby Republican who has received backing from former President Donald Trump. DeSantis, who recently waded into a state Senate contest to endorse Rep. Blaise Ingoglia, R-Spring Hill, said he “will absolutely” get involved in more Republican primaries. However, DeSantis said “we’re not going to do anything today.”

The governor called the special session for April 19 to April 22 after he vetoed a congressional redistricting plan passed by lawmakers. The Senate passed an initial congressional map that included key differences from a DeSantis proposal. The Senate and House then passed a plan to try to address DeSantis’ concerns, but the governor rejected it — and has continued touting his proposal.

Simpson recently drew endorsements from Attorney General Ashley Moody and state Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis.

DeSantis said Simpson has “helped us in a number of different things.” But, DeSantis added, “we’ve got some more to do. We’re gonna have some more work to do this year. But hopefully, we’ll be able to get a lot of great stuff across the finish line.”

DEAR ELON Patronis continues churning out letters.

Two years after inviting billionaire entrepreneur Elon Musk to bring his Tesla company to Florida, Patronis is now calling for Musk to consider making Florida home to Twitter and to potentially reverse some company policies, such as reinstating Trump’s Twitter privileges.

“As you are well aware, little by little Twitter has drifted away from its mission of providing a forum for the free flow of ideas, and I’m hopeful that with your influence this platform can unwind some of its garbage-adjacent censorship policies,” Patronis wrote.

Musk, who is also CEO of SpaceX, has acquired a 9.2 percent stake in Twitter, according to a U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission filing. On Tuesday, it was announced Musk would join Twitter’s board of directors.

Patronis’ letter came as a lawsuit continues to tie up a 2021 Florida law targeting social-media behemoths such as Twitter and Facebook. Florida Republicans passed the law after Twitter and Facebook blocked Trump from their platforms after his supporters rampaged at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021.

“In Florida, under Gov. Ron DeSantis’ leadership, we value free speech and honest debate,” Patronis wrote. Musk recently posted a poll on Twitter asking, “Do you believe Twitter rigorously adheres to this (freedom of speech) principle?”

Like U.S. Sen. Rick Scott, a former governor who appointed Patronis as CFO in 2017, Patronis has made releasing such letters part of his persona.

Patronis called on the International Olympic Committee to relocate the 2021 Olympics from Tokyo to Florida because of COVID-19 safety restrictions and last October suggested California-based In-N-Out Burger expand to Florida because of company leaders' dissatisfaction with vaccination requirements. Patronis also sought to bring Tesla to Florida after Musk in May 2020 expressed frustration with COVID-19 shutdown orders in California, an issue Patronis revisited in his recent letter. Tesla moved its headquarters to Texas.

"You recently moved Tesla out of California due to their state government's obvious disdain for your businesses and others like them," Patronis wrote. "While Texas is an upgrade over California --- a low bar --- you should seriously consider moving Twitter further east. In Florida, you won't have an unreliable electric grid --- problems you've already experienced in the Lone Star State."

THE DISNEY HITS Rep. Anna Eskamani, D-Orlando, might not agree with DeSantis and other Republicans as they criticize Walt Disney Co. about the entertainment giant's opposition to a new law that restricts teaching about gender identity and sexual orientation in schools. But as some Republicans openly debate revisiting decades-old perks that Disney has received in Florida, Eskamani outlined other places they could hit the company.

"I welcome legitimate conversations to stop corporate giveaways and treat everyone the same," Eskamani wrote. "But what I don't have time for is performative rhetoric designed to silence stakeholders from expressing opposition to bills that hurt their workers."

Amid the uproar about the new law that critics call the "don't say gay" bill, DeSantis and Republican lawmakers have drawn scrutiny about a carve-out for Disney that was included in the 2021 law to crack down on big-tech companies. But Eskamani also said lawmakers should reconsider a series of tax breaks that have benefited the company.

Advances: Week of March 28, 2022

TALLAHASSEE --- In the past, the governor and Florida Cabinet regularly met to discuss issues ranging from land conservation to the state's investments. Not anymore.

Gov. Ron DeSantis and the Cabinet — Attorney General Ashley Moody, Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried and Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis — will meet Tuesday, the first time they have had a full meeting since September.

Among the issues will be nearly \$40 million in land deals that would help keep more than 17,000 acres from future development.

Fried, the only Democrat on the Cabinet, has complained about issues such as a lack of meetings and a move last year by DeSantis to appoint the Department of Environmental Protection secretary without Cabinet approval.

But the clashes have come as Fried runs for governor, and DeSantis has received backing from Moody and Patronis. The next scheduled Cabinet meeting is June 28.

Weekly Roundup: 'Throw the Bums Out' By Ryan Dailey Mar 25, 2022

TALLAHASSEE --- Gov. Ron DeSantis appears to harbor some raw feelings about school boards that defied his efforts last year to bar districts from requiring students to wear masks during the COVID-19 pandemic.

DeSantis on Friday signed a bill (HB 1467) that, in part, will cap school board members' terms at 12 years. But the governor said elections also work just fine for removing "bums" from school boards. "I'm a big believer in term limits. But you don't always even have to wait for that," DeSantis said during a bill-signing event in Daytona Beach. "You can throw the bums out in the election. If they mistreated your kids, or they didn't follow the law, or they did anything many of them will be up for re-election." Education Commissioner Richard Corcoran, who is preparing to step down from his job next month, characterized term limits as a way for parents to hold board members accountable.

“There’s no greater accountability than telling a politician, your career ends, dead-certain, at this point in time,” Corcoran, a former state House speaker, said. “Having term limits for school board members is long overdue.”

Perhaps more controversial than the term limits, the bill also will increase scrutiny of school library books and instructional materials.

For instance, school boards will be required to adopt procedures that, in part, provide for the “regular removal or discontinuance” of books from media centers based on factors such as alignment to state academic standards.

Also under the bill, elementary schools will be required to publish online lists of all materials maintained in school libraries or that are part of school reading lists.

But while DeSantis touted the measure as a way to provide “curriculum transparency,” some Democrats and other critics have compared the bill to “book-burning” practices of authoritarian governments.

The Florida Freedom to Read Project, an Orange County-based group formed this year to oppose efforts to step up scrutiny of school books, decried the bill’s signing.

“HB 1467 is now signed into law. This law will allow the most conservative communities the opportunity to censor school libraries throughout the state. FL is a diverse state with large, progressive and inclusive communities. This law is unconstitutional,” the group said in a Twitter post Friday.

TOP COP STEPPING DOWN While it remains unclear who will replace Corcoran, the state also will have another top job to fill. Florida Department of Law Enforcement Commissioner Rick Swearingen advised members of the agency on Friday that he will step down on Sept. 1, after 38 years.

A new law (SB 1658) signed by DeSantis this month will change the process for replacing Swearingen. The law changed the appointment of the FDLE commissioner from needing the approval of all three Cabinet members to a majority vote of the governor and the Cabinet, with the governor on the prevailing side. The appointment will still need Senate approval.

The law was crafted after a clash last year between DeSantis and Agriculture Commissioner Nikki Fried over DeSantis’ decision to appoint a new secretary of the Department of Environmental Protection without Cabinet approval.**DOLLARS AND SENSE** DeSantis and Corcoran have been traveling the state in what the governor is calling a “sunset tour” for the education commissioner.

As part of that, the pair appeared Tuesday in Wesley Chapel for DeSantis to put a Sharpie to paper on a bill that would make sure students get a better grasp of personal finances.

The measure (SB 1054) will require students who enter high school in the 2023-2024 school year to take a financial literacy course as a condition of graduation.

The half-credit course will be required to include instruction on concepts such as the different types of bank accounts and how to open accounts, credit and credit scores, types of savings and investments and completing loan applications.

“We think that it will help improve students’ ability in financial management, for when they end up in the real world. But also, using these skills as pathways to high-demand fields, which there are very high-demand fields in this regard,” DeSantis said.

STORY OF THE WEEK: Calling it a move toward “curriculum transparency,” Gov. Ron DeSantis on Friday signed a bill that will intensify scrutiny of school library books and instructional materials and impose 12-year term limits on school board members.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: “If they can get an agreement, they should do it.” — DeSantis on the possibility of lawmakers returning to Tallahassee for a special legislative session to address issues such as the troubled property-insurance market

SUPPORT MEMBERS' BUSINESSES



IGUANA MASTERS
IGUANA CONTROL SERVICE
Serving Palm Beach and Broward County
TOAD REMOVAL TOO!

Protect Your Property
Protect Your Family
Protect Native Wildlife

- * Residential
- * Commercial
- * Agricultural

ED LATTARI
Iguana Specialist



JR POTTS
PRESIDENT & FOUNDER
(561) 567-1760
CHVLLINCORP@GMAIL.COM

FB: FB.ME/CHVLLINCORP
CHVLLINCORP





Scan to Shop us on Etsy!

ALL NATURAL HANDMADE BAMBOO PEACE PIPES
772.237.1644 || TNTBAMBOOCREATIONS@GMAIL.COM



IGUANA MASTERS.COM
561-309-5412

New & Used Motorcycle PARTS, ACCESSORIES

GORILLA MOTORS, INC.
www.gorillamotors.com
gorillamotors@yahoo.com

All Makes & Models Mail Order • Export
Retail • Wholesale

1547 N. Florida Mango Rd. (561) 684-3953
Bldg. 19 Cell: 236-0035
West Palm Beach, FL 33409 Fax: 687-1581



William Hojnacki
Motorcycle Rep.
palmbeachcar@gmail.com

Palm Beach Car & Truck Brokers Inc.

715-4 Whitney Avenue • Lantana, FL 33462
www.palmbeachcarandtruck.com
561-502-4898

Harold Walters
Realtor®

Better Homes and Gardens REAL ESTATE FLORIDA

561.948.3412
Cell/Text: 561.877.6023

250 W Indiantown Rd, Suite 103
Jupiter, FL 33458

Harold.Walters@iMLS.com
www.PalmBeachFlorida.com

(561)235-8396 (561)631-3784



RAINGUTTER CONNECTION
Joe Montano

Ground drains, Seamless Raingutters, Copper Specialist, Supergutter cleanout/repair

336 w coral Trace circle Delray Beach Fla. 33445 raingutterconnection7@gmail.com
NO JOB TOO SMALL SUPER GUTTER CLEAN OUT

MEMBER CLASSIFIEDS
These ads are free to members so send in items for sale or things you are looking for.



ULTIMATE Fabrication AND WELDING SERVICES INC.

Mobile Welding - Certified Welders
All Types of Metal

Ph: 561-844-2377
3560 Investment Lane
Suite 103 B
West Palm Beach FL 33404

MEMBER ABATE

Licensed & Insured
With over 20 Years Experience
www.UltimateFabandWeld.com
sales@ultimateFabandWeld.com



ABATE of FL Inc. Palm Beach Chapter Minutes

4-17-2022 19 members in attendance Start at 12:30 Johnny Q's

President: Dan Henderson. Thanked all for coming on Easter Sunday, I had small chocolate eggs by the sign in sheet. Lead the Pledge of Alliance and moment of silence. Asked to keep LB in your thoughts and prayers. March 24, 2022 Life Member "LB" was hit on his motorcycle by a hit and run driver. He has been in ICU since, in an induced coma for most of it. Snooze has been in contact with his sister and son. He was hit by a young man driving restlessly. Good that witnesses were able to help get him tracked down. Like so many in past, he had no insurance, license and likely an illegal. The ABATE of FL attorney is working on the case. **POST MEETING UPDATE** Tuesday I heard from Debbie that his condition has gotten worse. John "LB" Valiquette, ABATE Life Member, passed away 11:11 am 4-27-2022. RIP he will be missed. Snooze send me the news that the driver has been arrested and faces a charge of vehicular homicide .

Ron (Bobby Walgreen) wasn't at meeting but I did thank him for setting up the Poker Event. While it did not bring in the crowd I believe he thought, it was a success for the members. At least a dozen played in and out. We learned not to bet against Snooze cause you loose! But he did. The winner was Daryl who just sat quietly and out lasted us all. He donated his winnings to the chapter so we did well. Good to see about six more members were there supporting Connolly's. All had a good time learning how to play and there was interest in doing it again. Membership continues to be a big push, making sure everyone is active so ADD is in effect. Also need to have everyone beneficiary info in to speed up claims. So will be contacting Life members to get it done and let them know where, when we now meet.

VP: Ron Rossi Attendance had been down at Council Open houses so we need to continue our support there.

Secretary: The minutes from last meeting as in newsletter were accepted

Treasurer: Jeff Adkins. Our bank account is doing well. The donations from the Poker Tournament was more that we expected so worth doing it again.

Membership Jeff Adkins. Membership is down, not much past few months. Scuffy renewed at April meeting. In May we have seven renewals coming up, including Slo Mo, Uncle Ron and Ron. Hope we get them done. At the State meeting the rep from our ADD insurance spoke. So we need to get more beneficiary cards in for renewals and Life members. Seeing LB's accident makes us aware how important this can be.

Sgt at Arms: Quiet Dan Shawback. Will not be able to be at our May 22 event. So we need security

Safety: Dan Henderson. I set up the table at Connelly's during the Poker Tournament. Did get a little attention and \$10 in tips. Will try to get to more events to promote our May 22 event

Delegate Report: Ken and Dan. Our reports are on page 14. Beside the ADD insurance, State board elections will be at the June State meeting, so we need to decide who the chapter will vote for. The standing board are all running but there are a couple of races with multiple candidates. President has

three candidates. Doc is going for his final 2 year term. See page 8 for the words from the candidates some chapter can vote for the delegates to do vote.

Legislative: Ken Gerecke. The regular session is over but few bills were passed

Public Relations: Dan Henderson. Working on posting our event on Facebook with all the biker groups. Need your help sharing the posts. Was told some were not seeing posts on Facebook but I think issue likely not refreshing the pages. Will look more into it. Getting our website fixed since finally got the new login working (but is more time consuming).

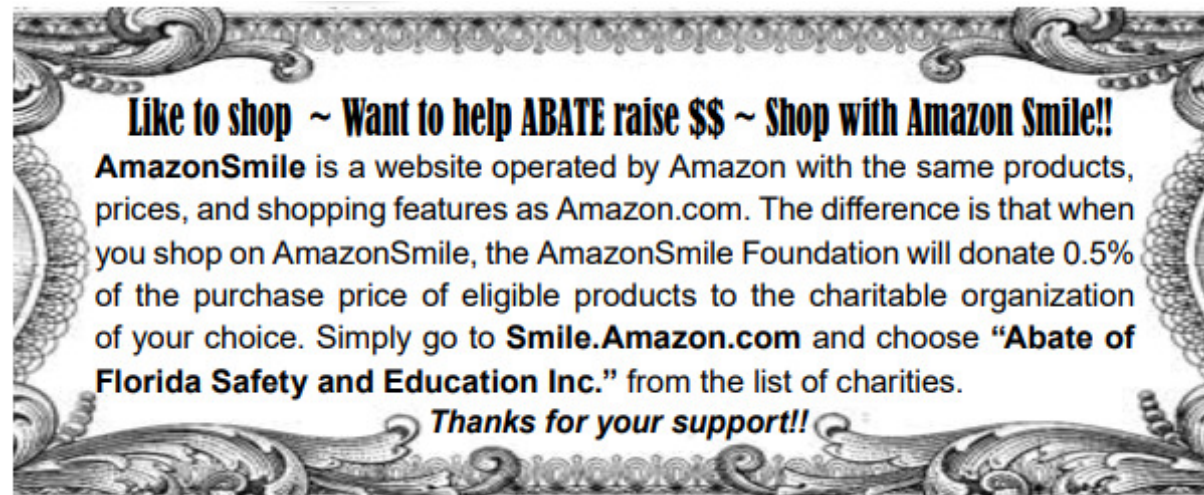
Products We need to get more patches and see about color t-shirts.

Old Business : WE need to finalize our May 22 event as only one week after next chapter meeting. We do have a band, Angels of War. They did a good job for us before and have a good following. CHAPTER ELECTIONS Second round of nominations **PRESIDENT** Slo Motion accepted **VP** Snooze and Uncle Ron declined. Harold Walter accepted. William “Hooker”Hojniacki threw his hat **SECRETARY** open and needed for quorum to have meetings. Harold was interested. **TRES** and **MEMBERSHIP** Jeff Aikens accepted. **SGT ARMS** Quiet Dan accepted. Slo Motion nominated for **SAFETY**, and **PUBLIC RELATIONS** but hoping others will step up. **DELEGATE**—Snooze and Slo Mo but others can be back up and just attend State meetings **LEGISLATIVE** Snooze. **PRODUCTS**—open.
Next meeting more nominations will be open for the June elections

New Business : At the May meeting we will have to vote on who the chapter wants the delegates to vote for on the state elections. See page 8 for the messages from the candidates to help our members decide

Good of the Order: April 24 J&S Fish Camp Benefit for Larry Fresolone. May 22 chapter May is Motorcycle Month event. May 29 Southeast ABATE Memorial Day Event American Legion Post 36

Meeting adjourned: 1:40



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 ride 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, now fill out on membership form. 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!

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. Renew early so there is no lapse in coverage. The insurance company no longer sends out the form. You **MUST** name someone on your membership form to get the money in case of death to prevent taxes and being in probate court. Contact ABATE of FL. main office and

NEW STATE OFFICE: ABATE OF Florida, Inc. PO Box 614, Cantonment FL, 32533-0614

Phone: (386) 943-9610 Fax: 850-361-1118 Email: flabatestateoffice@gmail.com

Get your card at chapter meeting or our table at events.

Keep your membership up to date for the insurance, check with us if any question as many have expired during the last few years. President or membership can check your status.

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: _____

Next Palm Beach Chapter Meeting
3rd Sunday May 15 , 2022 12:30 pm

Johnny Q's

3801 10th Ave. N, Palm Springs FL

Chapter meetings 3rd Sunday Open to ALL so come learn about us.

Meetings usually about an hour. Board meeting at 12:00



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.