

# News For Thought



**PENNSYLVANIA CONSIDERS BAN ON "SELF SERVE" GAS** The Keystone State is considering legislation that would prohibit self-service gas stations. House Bill No. 73, dubbed the Gasoline Station Dispensing Safety Act, which states in part: "The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:

Because of the fire hazards directly associated with dispensing fuel at a fuel dispensing facility, it is in the public interest that gasoline station operators have the control needed over that activity to ensure compliance with appropriate safety procedures, including turning off vehicle engines and refraining from smoking while fuel is dispensed."

"...When customers, rather than attendants, are permitted to dispense fuel, it is far more difficult to enforce compliance with safety procedures."

"...Exposure to toxic gasoline fumes represents a health hazard when customers dispense their own gasoline, particularly in the case of pregnant women."

"...The significantly higher prices usually charged for full-service gasoline in states where self-service is permitted results in discrimination against low-income individuals, who are under greater economic pressure to undergo the inconvenience and hazards of dispensing their own gasoline."

The bill goes on to prescribe penalties for "non-authorized users" and stations that do not comply, and describes training and certification of attendants to qualify them to pump your gas.

"In my opinion, this bill is an answer to a question nobody asked!," said John Mullendore, Legislative Coordinator for ABATE of Pennsylvania and a member of the board of directors of NCOM. "Let your representatives know that this is not a good idea especially with motorcycles. I will fill my own tank you."

Currently only the state of New Jersey prohibits "self-serve" gas pumps. Oregon bikers won exemption from such a law in 2001, winning their right to pump their own gas thanks to the legislative efforts of BikePAC, ABATE of Oregon and Oregon Aid to Injured Motorcyclists (AIM) Attorney Sam Hochberg who helped draw statewide attention to the problem.

**NORTH CAROLINA MAY BAN CHILDREN ON MOTORCYCLES** Representative Nelson Cole introduced a bill in the North Carolina legislature, HB-39, which would make it illegal for anyone under the age of 10 to ride as a passenger on a motorcycle.

"This has nothing to do with helmets - they just can't ride at all," said Sam Nobles, State Legislative Officer for CBA/ABATE of NC and Lobbyist for NC BikePac. "If you have been complacent about getting involved in bikers' rights, this one ought to wake you up! How would you like to explain to your child or grandchild that you can no longer take them for a ride, because your government doesn't think you are responsible enough to make decisions for your own family?"

So far there is only one sponsor to the bill, and CBA/ABATE of NC is asking help from bikers across America to help shut this bill down now. "Our goal is to generate enough e-mails and phone calls to Rep Cole to shut this down before he has time to get cosponsors," said Cotton Tedder, President of CBA/ABATE of NC and member of the board of the National Coalition of Motorcyclists (NCOM).

You can contact Representative Nelson Cole at Nelson@ncleg.net or phone (919) 733-5779. Remember to be polite and considerate, but let him know your views about kids being able to go riding with their parents.

## Changing Gears

When Fox Cable Networks Group re-launched Speed Channel in February 2002, executives thought that devoting two-thirds of their scheduling to fast-moving cars and a few motorcycle races were all the network needed to draw viewers. Now the head honchos are changing gears.

The network has gained more than 20 million subscribers, and now reaches 63.3 million homes, but ratings gains have not equaled the expectation that a growing nationwide interest in Nascar would deliver a big audience boost.

This February, Speed Channel hopes to do better by pushing past its car racing roots to, among other things, launch a new reality series for those who like to watch a good bike build. Only this time it's not Jesse James or OCC wrenching on a fabulous putt, it's just Joe Average.

"Build or Bust" is billed by Speed Channel as being a little different than typical reality shows. The customization occurs on motorcycles, and regular joes rather than specialists do the work. The series, which premieres February 23, gives motorcycle enthusiasts all the tools to build the bike of their dreams in 30 days. If the task is completed, the builder keeps the bike. If not, they get nothing.

**THIS OLD BIKE**  
 N2003 BIG HILL RD. PEPPIN, WI 54759  
 1-866-EARLY-HD (327-5943) TOLL-FREE  
 WWW.THISOLDBIKE.US

(715)442-2228 Bus. Ph. Antique Motorcycle Club of America Member #10311  
 (715)442-2053 Bus. Fax

Parts Finder, Buy, Sell, Trade, Service, Consignments, eBay Sales For ALL Harley Davidson Motorcycles

Dave Dykema, Proprietor - Email: Dave@ThisOldBike.us

**Hilmerson RV Center**  
 The Fun Begins Here!

**Chuck Thatcher**  
 General Manager

320-632-4065  
 800-856-4065  
 320-632-9302

www.hilmersonrv.com

14884 115th St. Little Falls, Mn 56345

*3rd Annual*  
**FCP THUNDER VALLEY BIKER RALLY**  
*June 10-12*

**Kick out the Jams at Crandon Raceway**

**BIG NAME ENTERTAINERS LIVE IN CONCERT!**

Big \$\$\$ Poker Run, Games, Exhibits, Camping & Hot Showers  
 — all on 400 private acres! Crandon Street Dance June 9th.  
 www.crandonoffroad.com or toll-free at 1-888-611-6092.

**Thinking about riding in New Mexico? Think Again**  
 Riding motorcycles on the roads of Taos County New Mexico may be hazardous or fatal. Motorcyclists should be aware that several incidents have been reported of Taos County New Mexico drivers intentionally crossing roadway centerlines and encroaching on the lane of oncoming vehicles, usually motorcycles. Witness accounts suggest the "accident" which occurred during the 2004 Red River Run and claimed the lives of Leslie Walker and Tim Serles and maimed two others was the result of just such an act by an under-aged and inexperienced driver who failed to negotiate the maneuver. Since Taos County New Mexico authorities saw no reason to revoke the driving privileges of the individual who caused this death and destruction, he's still on the road. It is the decision of ABATE of Colorado to boycott Red River New Mexico until justice is served. We are asking your support!!

The Bigger the Hawk, The Louder the Squeal  
 1-90 to Exit 12 West Salem, WI  
 www.hawgpasturecycles.com email: hawgpast@comcast.com

**HAWG PASTURE CYCLES** Specializing in Early & Late Model Harley Davidsons

Phone: (608) 786-3050  
 Fax: (608) 786-3070  
 507 E. Jefferson St. West Salem, WI 54669 Restoration, Repair, and Service