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Here's Sue. 31 years old, home schooling her kids for the last 5 days. Great job Sue. Keep it up.



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snarkybreeders

You're doing great! Great job, Sue! 🙌🙌🙌



GOING VIRAL

5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

1. Possible treatment on the horizon?

Some good news for you as we head into the weekend: 125 coronavirus patients (113 with severe symptoms) taking part in a Gilead Science's clinical trial are recovering quickly from fever and respiratory symptoms as a result of the drug Remdesivir. The patients, in the care of University of Chicago Medicine, are undergoing treatment using the antiviral medication originally developed in the hopes of treating Ebola patients. While its efficacy with Ebola was disappointing, multiple studies showed it could be effective in the treatment of coronaviruses such as SARS and MERS. Many of the patients participating in the study were discharged from the hospital within days. According to a report from the healthcare publication STAT News, Gilead's antiviral drug was one of the first medicines identified as having the potential to impact the novel coronavirus that causes Covid-19, and if it's proven to be safe and effective on a wider scale it could become the first FDA-approved treatment against the disease. Clinical trials are being run at dozens of other institutions, and Gilead expects those results by the end of the month. Gilead's stock

soared overnight amid hopes that a treatment to fight coronavirus might be right around the corner. Shares were up more than 10% when the markets opened Friday.

2. Tea Party

2.0.

Unrest is spreading across the country as people take to the streets to voice their discontent with local and state mandates limiting their day-to-day movements and activities. In Michigan, Ohio and Texas this week, Americans demanded their lives back claiming the restrictions enacted by government officials have done enough and it's time to reopen the nation. Rallies and parades in state capitals call back to the early days of the Tea Party movement, all this even though current public health guidelines advise against or outright prohibit congregating in the streets en masse. Participants are calling for their state and local governments to ease the restrictions currently in place while public health officials caution any lifting of stay-at-home orders must be staged carefully. It appears patience is wearing thin in the face of the current economic fall-out and state and local leaders will face increasing pressure in the days ahead.

3. Record death spike

Yesterday the confirmed Covid-19 deaths in the US spiked to a daily record of 4,591, almost double the previous daily record. This brings the total confirmed

in US, but are cases still being under-reported?

American dead to more than 34,000. But, are even these shocking numbers telling the full story? It appears that across the world, including this country, Covid-19 deaths may be dramatically underreported. Typically, the CDC and state health departments are only reporting deaths where the coronavirus has been confirmed by lab tests. People dying at home or in a nursing home are usually not tested. Compounding the problem is the ongoing scarcity of testing. In New York, for example, more than 200 people per day are dying in nursing homes and at home, but they were never tested. But, on Tuesday New York began counting untested people who died displaying Covid symptoms, and instantly the number of dead jumped more than 30%. Both Italy and the UK have followed a counting methodology like our own. Yesterday, the Chinese government increased their estimate of the number of dead in Wuhan by 50%. Bottom line: the official numbers you hear these days may sound awful, but the real numbers are probably far worse.

4. New numbers for Florida unemployment.

On the heels of national unemployment reporting yesterday, we've got an update on Florida's landscape today. According to the latest numbers, more than 647,000 Floridians have applied for assistance since late March, eclipsing the number for reemployment claims in all last year (307,700+). Governor DeSantis' newly named reemployment czar, Secretary Jonathan Satter spent the better half of his press debut yesterday outlining exactly

how big of a challenge the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) has before it and just what they're doing to turn the tide. The administration has cleared some federal and state bureaucratic hurdles in the hopes of shortening the process to receive benefits. According to DeSantis, the agency has processed more than 30,000 claims that came in since mid-March and hopes to clear another 80,000 in the coming days, which would be a processing rate of about 19 percent. While this may not sound like a lot, it is a big upgrade, given the department's intake a month ago was only about 100 applications per week, which took, on average, about two weeks to process. Florida DEO also released its March employment figures, which reflect some of the early effects of the coronavirus and efforts to contain it. The state's unemployment rate ticked up 1.5 percent from the previous month to 4.3 percent, but it is still lower than this time last year. These numbers put Florida just shy of the national unemployment rate of 4.4 percent for March, according to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics. Given that layoffs in response to Covid-19 truly began in earnest in late March, we expect next month's numbers to tell a fuller picture. Let's all hope DEO has addressed the issues with its system, and it can handle the load in the coming weeks.

5. Batter up?

For many Americans, especially those who don't rabidly follow politics, the gravity of the Covid-19 crisis became instantly heavier when major sports leagues across the

country announced tournament cancelations, season suspensions and other market-shaking moves aimed at protecting athletes and the millions of fans who watch them compete. First was the NBA which [suspended its season on March 12](#). Hours later, the NCAA followed by [canceling March Madness](#). Soon the question changed from “Which league just canceled its events?” to “Is anyone still playing?” Now that public officials and private sector leaders are eyeing targeted re-openings of the economy, the question in many sports fans’ minds is “When will my team be back in action?” This week, Florida took its shot at gaining the pole position, with Governor Ron DeSantis issuing a memo [declaring all professional sports leagues as essential businesses](#) that could resume operation provided their events are “closed to the general public.” The basic idea is, at least initially, to allow the immensely popular (and profitable) world of professional sports to deliver their on-the-field product to viewers at home even in the absence of fans in the stands. President Trump, as well as a bipartisan mix of governors, have also publicly hinted this week at finding ways to resume professional sports. But it’s not as simple as lifting government-imposed restrictions on commercial activity. The sports leagues themselves are also wrestling with when and how to resume responsible play, with the PGA Tour [evaluating the challenges associated with global travel for players](#) and the NFL reportedly [looking at certain measures](#) such as shortening the upcoming season and planning for games to be held in partially or completely empty stadiums. Much like other areas of

our daily lives, there are no easy answers for getting sports back to normal. But with [heavy discussions and planning efforts underway](#), there's reason to believe we'll see our share of touchdowns, goals and home runs in 2020. Let's just hope they're for the home team.



24,753

FL Case Count

6% GROWTH SINCE 4/16

726 DEATHS

as reported by FL DOH



692,169

US Case Count

5.2% GROWTH SINCE 4/16

36,721 DEATHS

as reported by Johns Hopkins



2,224,426

Global Case Count

4% GROWTH SINCE 4/16

153,177 DEATHS

as reported by Johns Hopkins

POSITIVE IMPACTS LOCALLY

The Southern Group client, Fidelity Investments, is looking to hire 2,000 new positions. The positions will be spread across the US, but hundreds of them will be based in Jacksonville. The hiring effort is an attempt to keep pace with the higher level of client engagement and growth in new accounts Fidelity has experienced since the Covid-19 pandemic began.



FLORIDA HEADLINES



[FLORIDA POLITICS](#): Ron DeSantis Threatens Budget Cuts Amid Coronavirus Economy

[ASSOCIATED PRESS](#): Florida's Jobless Rate Shoots To 4.3%, Highest In 2 Years

[NBC MIAMI](#): Beaches In North Florida Among 1st To Reopen Since Pandemic Closures

[FLORIDA POLITICS](#): Gov. DeSantis: Need To Reapply For Unemployment Every Two Weeks Eliminated

[ORLANDO SENTINEL](#): Florida's First Walk-Up Site Opens For Coronavirus Tests. DeSantis Says It'll Close 'Some Of The Gaps' For Testing

[FLORIDA TODAY](#): Coronavirus Florida: 1 In 5 Deaths Associated With COVID-19 Were Residents Or Staff In Elder Care Facilities

[LOCAL 10](#): South Florida's Reopening May Be Slower Than The Rest Of The State

NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE



[USA TODAY](#): America Has Been Battered by Job Losses During the Coronavirus Pandemic, with Some of the Worst

[FOX NEWS](#): Rallies to Reopen Economy Spread Across Country as Officials Urge Caution to Prevent Coronavirus

Occurring in Key Swing States.

[POLITICO](#): Phone Tag and Snubs: Bitter Leadership Feuds Undermine Pandemic Relief

[NPR](#): Boeing to Reopen Some Production Plants with New Worker Safety Protocols

Resurgence

[CNN](#): Heartland Hotspots: A Sudden Rise in Coronavirus Cases is Hitting Rural States Without Stay-At-Home Orders

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE



[THE WALL STREET JOURNAL](#): Senior Mexican Health Official Questions How Deadly Coronavirus Really Is

[THE NEW YORK TIMES](#): France Weighs Its Love Of Liberty In Fight Against Coronavirus

[BBC NEWS](#): Coronavirus: China Outbreak City Wuhan Raises Death Toll By 50%

[CNN](#): Denmark's Return To School Gives Glimpse Of What Classrooms Will Look Like Post-Lockdown

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE