

# GO RIVERWALK




FORT LAUDERDALE'S CITY MAGAZINE

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FORT LAUDERDALE HEROES



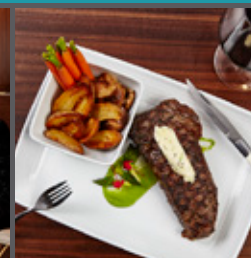
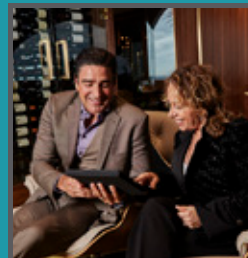


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## FEATURE

### 30 TIME TO SWITCH GEARS

by Madelaine K. Boyer, Jarod Crush and Lynn Stock

## RIVERWALK

### 4 GO RIVERWALK MAGAZINE & SOCIAL MEDIA

### 6 THE TEAM & RIVERWALK MISSION

Board of Directors, staff, and partners

### 10 FROM THE BOARD

by John Ropes

### 12 ALONG THE WALK

by Genia Duncan Ellis

### 13 MEMBERSHIP

## DEPARTMENTS

### 16 FROM THE CITY

by Mayor Dean Trantalis

### 18 DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT

by Jenni Morejon

### 20 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

by Anthony Fajardo

### 22 PARKS AND RECREATION

by Phil Thornburg

### 23 TRANSPORTATION

by Jeff Davis

### 24 CULTURALLY SPEAKING

by Phillip Dunlap

### 26 LOCAL ECONOMICS

by Dan Linblade

### 27 MARINE INDUSTRIES

by Phil Purcell & Kelly Skidmore

### 28 FROM YOUR PROPERTY APPRAISER

by Marty Kiar

## SAVOR

### 36 BITES + SIPS

by Renée Quinn, Jason Leidy,  
Penny Sanfilippo and Jonny Altobelli

## EVENTS

### 14 RIVERWALK EXCLUSIVES

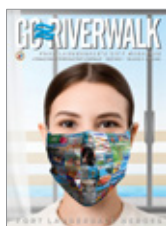
Virtual Burger Battle

### 40 SNAPPED@

Social scene photos

## ON THE COVER

Cover design by  
Nick Scalzo



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## COMING TO THE RIVERWALK

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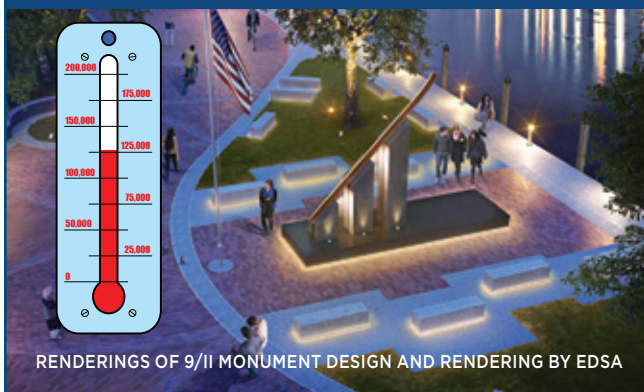
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3 BEDROOM 3.5 BATH

South east corner with outstanding views of the new river, ocean & city from every room. 2 Large expansive terraces, open living area, marble baths & more.

**ASHLEY | \$1,100,000**

3 BEDROOM 3.5 BATH

Magnificent views of the new river. Expansive open floor plan. Foyer entry, powder room, stone floors throughout, 2 large terraces, top of the line appliances.

**CHAMPAGNE | \$985,000**

2 BEDROOM 2.5 BATH

Panoramic views of river, intracoastal and ocean. Featuring marble floors throughout, gourmet granite kitchen, top of the line appliances, custom paint.

**PRICE REDUCED**

**ASHLEY - LANAI | \$949,000**

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Have it all! Rarely available, over 1,000 sq. ft. of private outdoor living spaces! River & city views, spacious interiors, expansive terrace and lanai perfect for entertaining!

**JUST LISTED**

**BRADFORD | \$875,000**

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Exceptional ocean, intracoastal & river views. Offered fully furnished w/exquisite custom pieces. The split bedroom floor plan features wood flooring in the living areas, expansive terrace & breakfast nook overlooking the river & ocean.

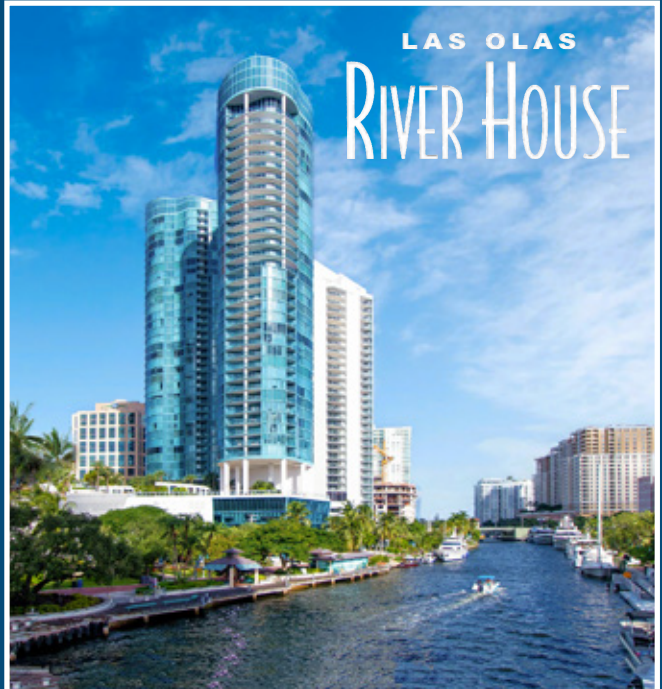
**JUST SOLD**

**BRADFORD**

2 BEDROOM 2 BATH

30th floor with outstanding ocean, river & city views from every room. Large terrace, gourmet kitchen, marble baths, large laundry room and more.

**LAS OLAS**  
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**PARK | \$1,900,000**

3 BEDROOM 3.5 BATH

Stunning contemporary waterfront with 3,239 of custom living area, plus a poolside a/c'd cabana suite, and a double private a/c'd storage room. Upgraded bathrooms, custom light fixtures, plus 4 balconies with direct river views!

**PRICE REDUCED**

**MADISON | \$1,299,000**

3 BEDROOM 3.5 BATH

Rise above it all in this luxury high floor madison model! This stunning unit offers \$500k in custom upgrades throughout. Expansive river, city, pool & park views from floor to ceiling glass windows surrounding every room. Private foyer entry, open floor plan, & much more.

**JUST SOLD**

**MADISON**

3 BEDROOM 3.5 BATH

High floor madison "tower suite" with magnificent views of the ocean, river & downtown. Perfect for entertaining; expansive wrap around terrace & open floor plan. Custom finishes throughout: \$30,000 upgraded velum ceilings, theatre/entertainment room with controlled lighting & sound responsive action through vv light controller/blue tooth, designer walls and much more.

**COLUMBUS | \$1,150,000**

3 BEDROOM 3 BATH

Fully renovated 29th unit with unobstructed river views. Pool and sunset views on the west. Custom painting, new lighting, renovated bathrooms, new cabinets & new fixtures. Updated kitchen, marble floors throughout, floor to ceiling windows, new doors and much more.

**LEXINGTON | \$849,000**

2 BEDROOM 2.5 BATH

\*Motivated seller\* 30th floor, den/bonus room, flow through design with 2 balconies, split floor plan, private elevator entry, over 1800 sq ft of living space, spacious gourmet kitchen with snaidero cabinets, breakfast room with fabulous views of the new river, gorgeous hardwood floors throughout, crystal chandeliers, & floor to ceiling windows.

**JUST SOLD**

**LEXINGTON**

2 BEDROOM 2.5 BATH

Outstanding river views, private double door foyer entry, floor to ceiling impact glass, gourmet kitchen, split floor plan, custom lighting, & much more.

**JUST SOLD**

**CHELSEA**

2 BEDROOM 2.5 BATH

27th floor with outstanding river, pool & city from this beautifully decorated. Numerous upgrades including open gourmet kitchen & much more.





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**PRICE REDUCED 3 BEDROOM 2 BATH | \$534,000**

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**JUST SOLD PENTHOUSE**

First time on the market! This is the only 2 bedroom 2 bathroom river facing unit on the PH level! Elevated 11 foot ceilings, split bedroom floor plan, ocean & city views and more.

**2 BEDROOM 2 BATH | \$339,000**

20th floor with views of the ocean with an open kitchen, s/s appliances, washer & dryer in the unit and much more.

**UNDER CONTRACT 1 BEDROOM + DEN 1 BATH**

Features spectacular South side views of the port, city & ocean. Spacious rooms with walk-in closet, washer/dryer, & balcony from master & living room.



**JUST SOLD RIVIERA**  
2 BEDROOM 2 BATH

Outstanding sub penthouse with gorgeous city views from every room. Marble stone floors throughout, split bedroom floor plan, open gourmet kitchen & more.

**ROYAL PALM | \$389,000**

2 BEDROOM 2 BATH

Split bedroom floor plan with marble flooring in the living area, open gourmet kitchen, granite countertops, large master bedroom, marble flooring & more.

**JUST SOLD FIESTA**

1 BEDROOM 1 BATH

Sub penthouse with vast city views. Tile throughout, open gourmet kitchen, s/s appliances & much more.



**JUST LISTED STARDUST | \$599,000**

Open and bright! East facing 29th floor with outstanding river, ocean and city views from this 2 bedroom 2 bath split bedroom plan with extended balcony, floor to ceiling windows in every room, wood flooring built in closets.

**STARDUST | \$460,000**

East facing 2 bedroom 2 bath split bedroom plan w/ elevated 10ft ceilings, floor to ceiling windows in every room, wood & tile floors, upgraded kitchen w/ stainless appliances & granite counter tops.

**UNDER CONTRACT SKYVIEW**

Best priced 2 bedroom, 2 bath in the building. Pool, river & city views from the balcony. Open kitchen, s/s appliances & more.

**JUST SOLD SUNGARDEN**

1 Bedroom, 1 bath with city & river views. Gourmet kitchen, granite counters, ceramic tile throughout and more.



**JUST SOLD 3 BEDROOM | 3 BATH**

Large 3 bedroom 3 bath east facing condo, corner sub-penthouse unit with boat slip. 2269+ Sq ft. Plus a large sun deck.

**JUST SOLD 2BEDROOM | 2 BATH**

Great northwest corner concerto 4 in the north tower features include gourmet kitchen, s/s appliances, tile floor throughout, and more.

**2 BEDROOM | 2 BATH | \$350,000**

Turn key impeccable unit. 2 Balconies with great views, open kitchen, Italian cabinetry, s/s appliances, and much more.

**JUST SOLD 2 BEDROOM | 2 BATH**

Fabulous views of the river and downtown fort lauderdale. Split floor plan, GE appliances, dark cherry wood floors and more.

**JUST LISTED 1 BEDROOM | 1 BATH | \$315,000**

18th floor, unobstructed views of the new river & downtown, gourmet kitchen, S/S appliances, spacious balcony & more.

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## MODERN DAY HEROES

RECOGNITION OF THE UNEXPECTED EVERYDAY HEROES AMID THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

**W**hen you think of a hero the usual suspects come to mind. Police officers, Firefighters, soldiers, nurses. But the risks to those have become more challenging amid the coronavirus pandemic.

Intensive care unit nurses and physicians, for example, are used to being on the front line, but now are exposed for 12-plus consecutive hours daily to a virus that the rest of us are locking ourselves in our homes to avoid. When done with their workday, they sleep in a hotel room to avoid exposing their own families. That is what I would describe as extreme heroism and dedication.

While our usual heroes are tasked more than normal, we are also finding a different breed of hero where you would least expect them. These unsung heroes may not be in the news, but they are going out of their way to help people every day.

- Volunteers at food lines like Feeding South Florida are exposed to thousands of people to make sure they have food. Within seven weeks in March/April, they distributed 17.5 million meals to people in need – double the amount that they distributed in 2019.

- Many local restaurant owners are facing possible bankruptcy, but still preparing and delivering food to front-line workers at local hospitals, fire and police stations for free to say thanks for their dedication.
- The multitude of small business owners who are trying everything they can to keep their employees paid and their companies afloat.
- The many parents pulling double duty trying to adjust to a work-at-home schedule at the same time as a school-at-home schedule for their kids.
- The grocery store clerks who risk exposure to the virus to help hundreds of frustrated customers daily in return for a minimum wage salary.

So please don't forget to also thank your everyday heroes, and if you are one of them, give yourself recognition! Everyone is handling the changes in lifestyle, finances, career and potentially, health – all at once and on varying levels. Hopefully, we will all overcome this challenging time with just a little more courage, resiliency, and compassion than we had before.

Stay strong! 



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY FEEDING SOUTH FLORIDA





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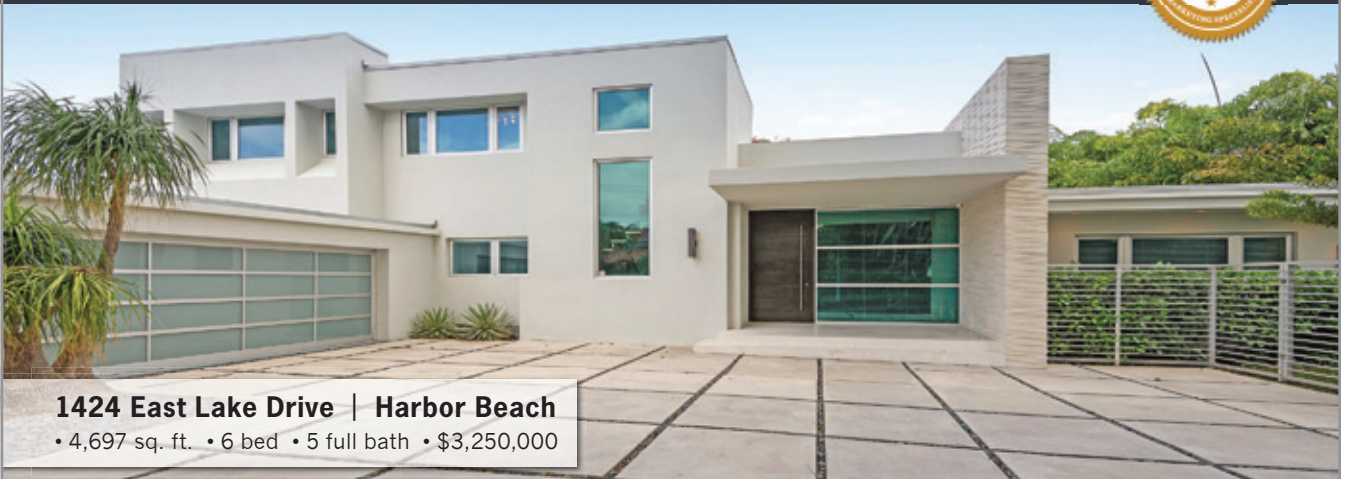
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## WORK FROM HOME

THE PROS AND CONS OF THE NEW WORKPLACE

**O**ur looking glass doesn't have all the answers; however, we believe that we have turned the corner on the pandemic challenge and the future is looking brighter. Lessons in patience, being self-sufficient, finding a new way to work and becoming closer with your spouse, children and family have been great byproducts of the stay-in-place directives over the last few months.

We have mastered working from home, Zoom meetings and dressing to suit your work environment. We have watched gas prices drop and the number of miles driven sink dramatically. Looking forward we are in control of what will change. Good decisions will be the plan for success.

In talking to several commercial real estate brokers, businesses are rethinking the amount of space they might require in the future. Consistent research has shown that remote workers log longer hours than their office-bound counterparts. While there are many pros and cons to the idea there are things to consider.

1. The average worker spends approximately 27 minutes on their daily commute. This change to work location adds available work time to the day when telecommuting. From the employee side, it reduces the cost of a daily commute via car, public transportation or other modes as well as the stress of commuter traffic.
2. Face-to-face communication is an important aspect when planning and operating a business. It strengthens relationships and rapport with other employees. Today, the ability to have that face-to-face discussion is done through other means and can be achieved through video calls and conference

call meetings as well as the longstanding emails for written confirmation. An interesting aspect of this is that many workers do their work through cell phones using business applications for making/receiving calls, attending conference calls, messaging colleagues and maintain open communication. Social media is also used as a means of communication and team building. Emails are again the cementing tool to confirming discussions in writing. Shared software and server access to company documents complete the trail to working from home with your team at other locations.

3. Many employers noted that while the social aspect of working in an office creates bonds, it also permits usage of company time to perform that social discussion. Productivity suffers from these social interchanges and daily schedules are impacted by the length of the social visit. Social visiting during video meetings are generally kept to short comments and plans to connect later are established.
4. Management of employees is a difficult transition for some as the convenience of walking over to an employee and asking a question or looking at work in process has become a measurement means. Selection of competent employees makes the task less difficult. Consensus shows that good employees consistently perform above the desired benchmark and the results are measurable. Employees that are not demonstrating good work ethics will quickly show up. Management training and confidence in the abilities of employees to perform independently with direction is a hallmark of good employee selection, good relations and better productivity.



While there are a large variety of reasons to work from home or to work from an office, companies are assessing what provides the greatest productivity and what the cost gains/losses would be based on office/facility sizes would be. We may be seeing a change in perspective that shared workplaces, work from home, and smaller fixed office spaces will become the normal for many of our existing business. Shared workspace has become increasingly popular and cost effective over the last several years and that along with the work-from-home approach may change the office market in the future.





# RIVERWALK MEMBERSHIP



TRUSTEE MEMBER

**HANK CLEARE**

FINANCIAL STRATEGIES GROUP

As co-owner of Financial Strategies Group, I am deeply committed to helping our clients understand and plan for a financial future aligned with their goals. First and foremost, we are planners. "A goal without a plan is only a wish." If you don't have a written plan, then how can we genuinely track our progress with our goals? Our team offers individuals, couples and business owners a comprehensive financial plan, based on our own professional and personal experiences.

In 2009, I married my wife, Kimberly DeProspero, and eventually, we merged our two practices. Since then, our two sons have joined the practice, and to our joy, Financial Strategies Group has evolved into a family practice.

We find ourselves motivated by our firm's desire to continue giving more by providing better resources to our clients through firm events and our relationships with our strategic partners. We joined Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale as a way for us to be an even bigger part of the Fort Lauderdale community. We also began raising funds and awareness for Alzheimer's research in 2014 and have since then been awarded the top fundraising team in all of Broward County for the past two years. I am proud to currently serve as a board member of the Alzheimer's Association Southeast Florida chapter and I also act as team coordinator for Integrated Financial Group National's team. Through these combined efforts, I am proud to say that we've raised over \$400,000 in the fight to end Alzheimer's.



TRUSTEE MEMBER

**DEREK STOUT**

ANCONA REAL ESTATE

Some people like to say that life is a journey and mine certainly has been. Originally from Colorado, I have lived in 10 states including my recent move to Florida and I have traveled the world living in Singapore, Thailand, Australia and Italy.

While I have studied a number of subjects at the collegiate level and have several certifications, yoga is where I found my passion. Being a certified yoga instructor provided me the opportunity to live in all of those exotic places while doing something that brought me true joy. As you might expect, I love people, which is what ultimately got me into real estate. It was probably inevitable that I would enter the industry as one of my earliest childhood memories was touring the luxury Parade of Homes with my mother.

Today, I specialize in high-end luxury residential and commercial sales. I try to bring that same sense of wonder and discovery that I had as a child to each one of my real estate clients. More importantly, I have a client-first philosophy that ensures the needs of my clients are met at every stage of the purchase and sale process.

You might think that I spend all my free time doing yoga, but I come from a family of craftspeople, so I also love to make art. Becoming a member of Riverwalk is one of those unique opportunities that brought me to Fort Lauderdale and I'm proud to be a part of an organization that makes our community thrive.

Members of Riverwalk Fort Lauderdale express their support and join us in our mission of building a vibrant community. Riverwalk supports Downtown's diverse, mixed-use community of arts and entertainment establishments along with business, residential, judicial, educational, and marine interests.

TO JOIN, VISIT

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## TRUSTEE

Howard Elfman  
*The Agency*

Timothy Hart  
*R3 Accounting LLC*

Michelle & Timothy Heiser

Eric Jackwin  
*Jackwin Legal P.A.*

Elizabeth & Gary Margolis

Donna McKeown  
*Mortgage Network, Inc.*

## INDIVIDUAL

James Farrick







## 11TH ANNUAL RIVERWALK FORT LAUDERDALE BURGER BATTLE™


The Riverwalk team was thrilled to find a way to bring you the battle for the best burger in town — with our virtual 31-day challenge during May, also known as Burger Month.

With the pandemic causing restaurants to suffer, we created a way support them through the stress of the virus by driving business to them while bringing the Burger Battle experience into your homes.

To show appreciation to our restaurant partners, we created this online event encouraging fans, friends and family

to participate by eating local and choosing one of the mouthwatering burger creations from our 16 contenders and then voting for their favorite on our online poll.

Fort Lauderdale's top chefs and grill masters were able to show off their talents and fight for the title of Fan Favorite for the 11th year.

For behind the scenes footage and to see who was awarded eternal bragging rights of having the best burger in Fort Lauderdale for 2020 go to [bit.ly/RiverwalkVirtualBurgerBattle](https://bit.ly/RiverwalkVirtualBurgerBattle). 



Alexa Lanier



Mike Quinn



Ryan Keleher



Tim Heiser



Wesley Walker



Jeff Falkanger





Kim Spellacy



Lauren Littlejohn



Michelle Skeen Heiser



Mark Budwig



Jordan Dick

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## RESTAURANTS







## NEIGHBORS SUPPORTING NEIGHBORS

WAYS TO HELP OUT: FILL OUT YOUR CENSUS FORM, KEEP YOUR DISTANCE, AND WEAR YOUR MASK

**T**his spring has been an incredibly difficult and trying time for our community because of the COVID-19 virus, but I've been so incredibly proud of how we have pulled together as neighbors and taken the necessary measures to fight the disease. The commitment exhibited to staying home and limiting social contact speaks volumes to the ties that bind us as a city.

Before I report to you about how we have fared and the future for us with the virus, I want to raise another very critical issue for our community: The U.S. Census.

The federal government is in the midst of its once-a-decade count of the nation's population and where people live. This is much more important than it seems.

If Fort Lauderdale's population is understated, we will lose federal funding to other communities. This includes money for schools, hospitals, emergency services and roads. Our representation in Congress and the state Legislature will be affected because districts are drawn based on population. Local governments use the data to plan transit routes as well as to set the level of community services and where to locate them. Businesses choose locations and create expansion plans based on the data.

So, it's important that the Census count be accurate. And, this isn't just your standard plea to fill out your Census form and send it in.

We have a serious problem in our Census count. U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross has cautioned me that the response rate from Fort Lauderdale is well below the national average.

While 57 percent of the nation has responded to the Census already, only 46 percent of Fort Lauderdale has submitted their information. In the coming months, Census workers will go door-to-door in the next phase of work. They will be in a very difficult position because of the poor response to this point.

Please go to [my2020census.gov](https://my2020census.gov) or call 844-330-2020 and do your part today!

### NOW, LET'S TALK ABOUT COVID-19.

By early May, our community was beginning to see very strong trends that the virus was dissipating locally.

The emergency rooms at our hospitals began to see fewer and fewer cases of flu-like symptoms and COVID-like symptoms. Also, the number of positive test results compared to the total tests administered was declining over a period of several weeks. Hospitals could once again treat all patients without crisis care.

We began slowly reopening our community. We started

first by allowing passive recreation in our parks, opening golf courses and pools in multifamily associations, and expanding the operation of boat ramps and marinas.

As long as we do not see a rebound in new infections, we will continue moving through the phased reopening laid out by the Centers for Disease Control and the White House. Our economy has been hurting with businesses shut down and unemployment rising.

We must adapt to a new normal of going about our daily lives until a cure for this virus is found. Face masks will be standard. Social distancing will be required at public places. And, crowd sizes will be limited. No one wants to see another major wave of infection that causes more death and suffering.

The prudent steps that Fort Lauderdale took early on helped ensure the virus' impact this spring was not as widespread as initially feared.

We issued our first emergency order on March 13 — shutting down large gatherings — when there were only 11 COVID-19 cases locally. Concern about the growing number of spring break students on our beach prompted further action just two days later.

We also led the difficult task of bringing all 31 cities in Broward County together to issue a stay-at-home order and close non-essential businesses. Our decision to require face coverings was among the first locally.

Just as Fort Lauderdale led the way at the beginning, we have been leading the way out.

We created a blue-ribbon working group of business executives, medical professionals and neighborhood leaders to draft a report on how best to reopen safely. Our city worked with Gov. DeSantis to set up a testing site in Holiday Park so residents could more easily learn if they were infected. And, when homelessness grew during the crisis, our staff came up with a plan to humanely address the situation.


To all residents, please continue to be cautious in your social interaction. With everyone's help, we will get through this quickly and be back to enjoying all that makes our community a wonderful place to live. 



PHOTO BY JASON LEIDY



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## PRE-COVID STATE OF THE MARKET

THE SUCCESS OF DOWNTOWNFTL CANNOT BE LOST AS WE MOVE INTO THE 'NEXT NORMAL'

**W**e recognize that the COVID-19 pandemic has created unprecedented challenges to our way of life and that there is an understandable uncertainty for how we will move forward. One thing is for certain: we will move forward and work together to build a vibrant downtown environment for businesses, employees, residents and visitors.


As the trends in our 2020 State of the Market report indicate, Downtown Fort Lauderdale is a booming metropolitan community that has benefitted from decades of thoughtful planning and waves of positive development and growth. As the economic center of the County, more than 64,000 employees, 5,100 businesses and 17,650 residents have chosen to be in greater DowntownFTL. Over the past two decades, close to 7.5 million square feet of office, retail, multifamily and hotel space has been built in Downtown Fort Lauderdale. Today, another 6 million square feet is under construction.

These stats are no coincidence. Decades of thoughtful planning, and significant investment by the private sector, has allowed DowntownFTL to become a burgeoning metropolitan community. Now more than ever, it is our shared responsibility to keep this momentum from stopping. Downtown's recent success should be celebrated, and leveraged, as we work to recover from the impacts of this global crisis.

For the rest of this year, the DDA will focus on efforts to improve livability and economic prosperity in DowntownFTL. We will seek funding

opportunities to build safer and more enjoyable streets and sidewalks. We will collaborate with public and private sector partners to improve parks and open spaces, including Huizenga Plaza. We will continue to facilitate progress on important civic investments like the Joint City/County Governmental Campus and the new Federal Courthouse.

If you want to learn more about the efforts of the DDA or how you can get involved, please send us an email at [dda@ddaftl.org](mailto:dda@ddaftl.org), visit us online at [www.ddaftl.org](http://www.ddaftl.org), or follow us on social media at [@ddaftl](https://www.instagram.com/ddaftl). The 2020 State of the Market report is available at [www.ddaftl.org/annualreport](http://www.ddaftl.org/annualreport).

We thank you for choosing DowntownFTL and we look forward to working with you to build a city poised for the next generation. 



IMAGES PROVIDED BY @VISITLAUDERDALE





We understand the power of parks and recreation more than anyone. During this time of social distancing, we will be providing virtual recreation opportunities for you and your families.

We encourage you to visit our Virtual Recreation Center at [www.fortlauderdale.gov/recreation](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/recreation). There you will find free, fun, and educational activities and resources for all ages. Visit often as you like or follow us on our social media channels for a variety of free instructor-led classes, at-home activities, updates, and ideas to keep you and your loved ones healthy, entertained, and informed.

[www.fortlauderdale.gov/recreation](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/recreation)



@playlauderdale





## IN SEARCH OF A SILVER LINING

THE SIMPLE PLEASURES — WHICH INCLUDE BIKE RIDING

**A**s I work on this piece, I'm going to be writing in past tense with fingers crossed we're out of this by the time this is published.

If you've read my articles in the past, you'll know that I have too many grammatical and punctuation errors for anyone to call me professional (and we hope the editors have caught). But I do like that it gives me a platform to say things I think are important and break me out of the mundane stuff I usually write. And, with the exception of a cat reference I once made, the editor has yet to tell me to stop.

While this pandemic has caused a lot of worry for all of us and has hit many people in ways that will be felt for a long time, there is already enough bad news out there and I don't want to add to it. So, my focus is going to be about some of the positive things I've seen and done.

Early on I realized the 19 after Covid was starting to represent the pounds I was gaining and not the year the virus was discovered. I was eating everything. And my husband is a great cook, so he was no help at all.


So, like a lot of others, we decided to get some exercise. Walking at first. Then stretching before walking. We added in jumping jacks (out of shape middle aged men doing jumping jacks should have its own YouTube channel) to the stretching routine and then walking. Then I bought a bike and we rode out to the beach. Then I pulled out my old rollerblades and took them for a spin (it didn't go well). And while we were out, we noticed people of all ages and body types exercising. We saw a group of people on bikes pedaling around one day just having a typical conversation

you would overhear at a bar or restaurant. They were staying apart from each other, getting fresh air and getting exercise.

We started walking to the grocery store, too. And back in the day, you know ... February 2020 ... if someone walked across the street to get away from you, you'd likely get a little offended. But today (more than six weeks later), you're grateful they're thinking about our current situation. People are saying hello, smiling at each other from behind face covers, and showing generosity to each other.

It's been a wonderful part of an overall troublesome experience, and it proves that when times are tough, we can come together and help each other.

Maybe the world is forever changed by this ... and maybe it should be. But if we can take those positive things and keep them going that change can result in some wonderful things. Whether at home or outside.

And, if we're still in this same situation when this piece gets published just know that a smile and middle-aged jumping jacks can make your day a little better. We were/are all in this together. 



PHOTOS BY JASON LEIDY

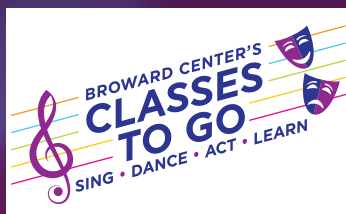


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## RECREATION, THE VIRTUAL WAY... AND A LITTLE BIT OUTDOORS

TIME TO PLAY, INDOORS OR OUT, WITH SOME VARIATIONS

### Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Launches Virtual Recreation Center

The City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Department understands the power of parks more than anyone. During this time of social distancing, the Parks and Recreation Department is providing virtual recreation opportunities for you and your families.

Our Virtual Recreation Center offers free, fun and educational activities and resources for all ages. In addition, our weekly schedule includes several virtual wellness classes held by our very own instructors. Enjoy line dancing, yoga, Zumba, and more! Visit this page often or follow us on our social media channels (@playlauderdale) for a variety of free instructor-led classes, at-home activities, updates, and ideas to keep you and your loved ones healthy, entertained, and informed. For details, visit [www.fortlauderdale.gov/recreation](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/recreation).

### Limited City Parks and Amenities are Now Open

The City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Department has reopened certain parks to help promote physical and mental health in the community.

To help neighbors navigate which parks and amenities are open, the City has created a new, easy-to-use map that can be accessed online at [www.fortlauderdale.gov/cityparks](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/cityparks). The clickable, interactive map shows the name, address and location of each park along with a list of available activities. As a reminder, the parks are open daily from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Passive recreation is permissible including bicycling, boating, running and walking (paths will be marked as one-way), singles-only pickleball and tennis games, and launching of single-rider canoes, kayaks and paddleboards.




Park users are required to follow CDC Guidelines for social distancing and personal hygiene which include using a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol; avoiding touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands; avoiding close contact with people who are sick; maintaining six feet of distance between yourself and others; wearing a facial covering over mouth and nose if social distancing cannot be maintained; and staying home if you are sick.

### Select Boat Ramps are Now Open

The City of Fort Lauderdale has reopened boat ramps located at:

- Cooley's Landing, 450 S.W. Seventh Ave.
- George English Park, 1101 Bayview Drive
- Riverland Woods Park, 3950 Riverland Road

These locations will operate from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. In addition, the boat ramps at Cox's Landing, located at 1784 S.E. 15th St., has expanded hours daily from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

For more information, check us out on Facebook (@playfortlauderdale) or on Instagram and Twitter (@playlauderdale), or visit [www.fortlauderdale.gov/parks](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/parks). 



PHOTOS BY JASON LEIDY





## BEYOND PARKING METERS AND CITATIONS

MEET THE FIRST RESPONDERS OF THE PARKING SERVICES DIVISION

**T**he past few months have been challenging and life changing for everyone. What was once considered our normal way of life has changed. The way we go about our daily routine has changed. Thank you to our first responders for their countless sacrifices made every day, a return to some sense of normal is on the horizon.

As the City of Fort Lauderdale continues to be an advocate for the health and safety of residents, employees and visitors, the Parking Services Division is also working with other departments and community organizations by supporting efforts to ensure safety, education, and supplying equipment wherever this is a need in the City.

When first responders are mentioned we automatically mention the obvious life safety (police, fire, EMS) components. But during this pandemic, we have learned that there are many others that are also first responders. First responders are defined as “Someone designated or trained to respond to an emergency.” During this crisis, our obvious first responders have and continue to perform at an extremely high level under an enormous amount of pressure.

The City of Fort Lauderdale called on our Parking Services team of “first responders” to step up and assist with assignments that will allow our law enforcement and medical agencies to focus on protecting and preserving the quality of life for all. The Parking Services Division “first responder” team is comprised of parking enforcement, meter technicians, facility maintenance and security staff.

During this crisis our team has continued working around the clock to assist with implementing stay at home guidelines to support the police department with non-life threatening assignments and task to reduce the


effects of COVID-19 to the community.

- Parking services patrolled the beach community to educate and monitor emergency order to close access.
- Continually provided cleaning and sanitizing of facilities, meters, and equipment throughout the City.
- Supported the Parks and Recreation Department by closing and monitoring access to city parks and boat ramps.
- Took the lead and provided traffic control help for community sponsored food and mask distribution programs.
- Respond to neighbor request of information and services.

As we have seen how this crisis has affected everyone, there are many components to a first responder team. The team is an enormous network consisting of varying skill sets.

During emergency situations we cease normal parking operations and turn our focus on operations to address the situation at hand. We lend a hand where needed as essential emergency personnel.

This is why I would like to pay special tribute to our Parking Division staff for always stepping up and being first responders in whatever emergency is facing the city. They work nobly in the background, most often without public recognition to keep us safe whenever needed.

Thanks to our team of first responders for realizing the importance of their position and going above and beyond their normal duties and family sacrifices to respond to situations such as this. Your ability to respond to the call will allow Parking Services to continue to be a contributing factor to support emergency operations. 



Members of the Parking Services Division “first responder” team.





## THE GUIDING LIGHT

FORT LAUDERDALE'S ARTS LEADERS PAVE THE PATH THROUGH PIVOTAL TIMES

**D**uring difficult times, true leaders stand out. Strong leaders must make difficult decisions, take risks, think creatively and be able to withstand any potential criticism that sometimes comes with the territory. As we now enter month four of dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic, our arts and cultural leaders have stood up to the test.

The folks at the helm at Fort Lauderdale-area nonprofit arts and culture organizations are working tirelessly with their teams to continue to offer meaningful content and experiences during a time where venues are closed, and the very social nature of experiencing the arts has dramatically changed.

From education programming and panel discussions to virtual tours, here are a few of the standout organizations and their leaders that call Fort Lauderdale home.

### Museum of Discovery and Science

**Joseph Cox, Executive Director**

What began as a couple of virtual science lessons for Broward County Public Schools has morphed into a full-blown curriculum with four weeks of lessons and another four weeks in development. At press time, their lessons have been viewed more than 25,000 times with more than 7,000 downloads.

### Stranahan House

**April Kirk, Executive Director**

The oldest and most historically important home in Broward, the Stranahan House began offering virtual programming on its Facebook page every day at 11 a.m. The virtual tours and storytimes provide a way to bring

the historic house directly to residents while the doors remain closed.

### Art Prevails Project

**Darius Daughtry, Founder and Artistic Director**

Already doing a lot in the virtual space, Art Prevails highlights how artists respond to crises. If you are interested in seeing how powerfully our artists bring current events into their work, tune into @artprevailsproject every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. on Instagram Live. You won't be disappointed.

### Black Violin

**Kevin Marcus and Wilner Baptiste, Founding Musicians**

While not based in a local venue, the brains behind the hip-hop duo Black Violin are the product of Fort Lauderdale's famed Dillard Center for the Arts. Normally, they perform for sell-out crowds, but for the time being, every Tuesday and Friday at 2 p.m., Black Violin hosts a live master class, available on their YouTube and Twitter channels.

While this is just a small sampling of what is happening, these organizations and their leaders demonstrate how the arts are able to be responsive to the needs of our communities. Our organizations could have closed their doors and waited for things to return to "normal," but instead, they are pushing forward in the face of uncertainty while continuing to fulfill their missions. In times like these, the arts shine the brightest and we have a lot to be proud of in Fort Lauderdale.

To access these virtual offerings and many more, visit [ArtsCalendar.com/covid](https://ArtsCalendar.com/covid). 





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## PULLING TOGETHER

FORT LAUDERDALE'S BUSINESS COMMUNITY HAS ITS SHARE OF 'HEROES,' TOO

**S**afer-at-home emergency orders, social distancing, sheltering in place, PPP, bridge loans and, of course, #quarantine fatigue – if nothing else, COVID-19 has forced us all to adapt to a new normal that has produced leaders who have risen to the challenge and in the process helped make our community a better place to live.

The virus' impact has been devastating in South Florida. The number of cases in our area and deaths have been staggering. Businesses – particularly those in the hospitality, tourism and travel sector – either have been closed completely or are barely getting by with limited staff, clients and customers. These are indeed trying times.

Since the novel coronavirus outbreak began, the business community has shown flexibility and innovation while adjusting to this “new normal.” The Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce has its share of “heroes” who have stepped up to either maintain their operations or reach out to serve the larger community.


We don't have to look very far in our chamber for examples. In the first two weeks of the outbreak, Bill Feinberg, who chairs our chamber's Board of Directors and is president of Allied Kitchen & Bath, was forced to lay off 35 employees. Feinberg, however, was fortunate. Remodeling work remained steady, and he recently received a federal Payroll Protection Program loan, which helped him rehire most of his employees. In the interim, Feinberg continued to pay health insurance for all his employees and lent money to those who fell ill to the virus. “We have to support the people who work for us,” Feinberg said. “They are our lifeline.”

Heiko Dobrikow, executive vice president and general manager of The Riverside Hotel on Las Olas, is another example of a business community member answering the call. Under Dobrikow's leadership, the hotel joined other community organizations to distribute more than 200 food baskets to emergency room workers at Broward Health and Holy Cross Hospital. He also is quick to volunteer to help students interested in the hospitality industry, including one stint as lecturer on finance for a Florida Atlantic University webinar that was seen by 77,000 viewers. “It's not my favorite subject, but apparently I did pretty well, according to the reviews,” he said.

Perhaps no member epitomizes making the larger community their “lifeline” than the Las Olas Chabad Jewish Center. Initially, the Chabad started The Friendship Café on Las Olas, a coffee shop that employs adults with special needs and continues to send food to local hospitals and first responders. In time, that effort expanded into a massive community food drive that saw 20 pallets of food distributed among 1,500 vehicles. Next came a drive to collect masks, which resulted in giving out 50,000 masks for its first distribution, which attracted a crowd of motorists that included many caregivers, doctors and nurses. Word of the mask drive spread beyond South Florida as requests began pouring in from as far away as New Hampshire, Belgium and Sweden. The Chabad is continuing its outreach with a smaller program that provides I-Pads to seniors and families with special needs.

“I think there's so much we can learn in a positive way from COVID-19,” said Rabbi Slavaticki, the Chabad's

director. “We have a note in each package of masks: ‘Also highly contagious, kindness, patience, love and a positive attitude. Don't wait to catch it from others, be a carrier!’”

These are indeed challenging times. It'll take time, but I'm convinced that with community role models in general and in the business community in particular, we'll come out of this pandemic all the more stronger. 



The kids and staff at Kids in Distress, Women in Distress, Covenant House, Children's Harbor and ChildNet were treated to lunch courtesy of the Broward Center for the Performing Arts.





## ESSENTIAL WORKERS TO SIDEWALK CHALK ARTISTS

ONE THING WE'VE LEARNED: HOW TO DISCOVER THE HEROES IN US

**H**e-ro /hirō/ — *a person who is admired or idealized for courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities*

The definition of hero in the human lexicon has taken on new meaning during this pandemic. While many of us have traditionally viewed law enforcement and firefighters in that light, today's examples include doctors, nurses, assistants, scientists, teachers, landlords, business owners, entrepreneurs, janitorial staff, grocery clerks, delivery drivers, graduates, co-workers, volunteers and family members.

It is moving to see people on the frontline receiving the respect and recognition they so rightly deserve. The big city 7 p.m. nightly clamoring and clanging in appreciation of the healthcare professionals who literally hold life in their hands is so fitting. The speed and level of dedication at which scientists are experimenting to find a vaccine, a treatment, a cure to COVID-19 are indeed inspirational. The commitment and bravery of EMTs who clock-in for 12 or 24 hour shifts to transport the sick and injured and the courage of the multiple police, military, and federal agencies that protect us at all costs is humbling and comforting. The personal can-do attitude of our teachers and educational professionals to quickly and creatively pivot to online teaching and develop new ways to deliver appropriate curriculum to students at all levels is remarkable and admirable.

Then there are the many other essential workers, all the employees who continue to work at the grocery stores, pharmacies, gas stations; the chefs and servers who are still cooking and delivering food curbside or door-to-door; the salespeople, commercial fishers, dock workers, shipyard mechanics and plumbers and welders, all facing the danger of infection head-on and serving their communities responsibly.

Adaptability is an impressive trait that certainly can apply to most living organisms, not just humans. But it is particularly enlightening to see the many ways people are conforming to a new and changing set of rules that include transformations to social norms encouraged or often required by various local, state and federal leaders.

Adapting, whether physically or behaviorally, is challenging, but, by and large, we humans have indeed adapted to the current environment in which we find ourselves. We are wearing masks and gloves in public settings, we are practicing physical distancing and increased hygiene, we are learning to work remotely and meet virtually, we understand the handshake is temporarily replaceable.

Isolating while adapting adds another layer of difficulty, yet we are witnessing interesting changes every day. Prevented from socializing, some people have chosen to stop shaving, some are growing their hair long, some wear pajamas all day, some have learned to bake bread, some have learned how to teach sixth grade math, some have cleaned out closets and cupboards, many have accepted that they won't have a graduation ceremony, "COVID kids" have created virtual proms, teenagers have built online support groups, and all of them have likely positively inspired someone else.


Sure, they are a handful of naysayers, but I say there is a hero in all of us. Those who entertain us by posting videos of dogs talking and cats looking aloof, those who wait in a drive through pickup line for hours to support local farmers, those who take classes online and those who offer them for free, those who exercise with improvised equipment on hand, and those who protect their elderly parents by delivering homemade dinners to the front porch and waving from the driveway. Heroes all. Every one of them. 



PHOTO BY JASON LEIDY





# CALL US! EMAIL US! EVEN SEND SNAIL MAIL!

COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE OFFICE ARE STILL OPEN

**E**ven though our office remains closed to the public, we are continuing to assist residents and property owners quickly and efficiently as all communication with our office can be handled via email, fax, phone or by USPS mail.

Property owners can apply for any 2020 exemption online at <https://web.bcpa.net>.

Residents may also email any supporting documentation directly to our Customer Service Department at [CSEmgmt@bcpa.net](mailto:CSEmgmt@bcpa.net) or fax to (954) 357-6188.

If you prefer to mail your exemption documents, our mailing address is:

Broward County Property Appraiser, Attn:  
Customer Service, 115 S. Andrews Ave., Room # 111,  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301.

You may also call our office at (954) 357-5579 and we can help fill out your exemption application with you on the phone and then mail the application to you with a self-addressed return envelope for you to complete and sign the application and mail it back to us for processing.

Once it is safe to do so, our office will return to our regular schedule of visiting communities to assist with filing for exemptions and answering any questions residents may have. In the meantime, we are always here to help. Please do not hesitate to contact our office directly at (954) 357-6830 or email me at [martykiar@bcpa.net](mailto:martykiar@bcpa.net)

### Coronavirus Advice for Consumers

During these times, it is important to be aware of false COVID-19 offers and solicitations requesting personal information. The federal agency responsible for protecting consumers, Federal Trade Commission, has provided some helpful reminders on their website at [www.ftc.gov/coronavirus/scams-consumer-advice](http://www.ftc.gov/coronavirus/scams-consumer-advice)

Please be aware of emails claiming to be from the CDC or WHO. For the latest information, visit [coronavirus.gov](http://coronavirus.gov) or [usa.gov/coronavirus](http://usa.gov/coronavirus) and do not click on links from sources you do not know.

Here are some additional links that may be helpful to you:

- Centers for Disease Control: [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov)
- World Health Organization: [www.who.int/](http://www.who.int/)

### Broward County Updates


Please visit their website at [www.broward.org/CoronaVirus/](http://www.broward.org/CoronaVirus/) 



PHOTO BY @ZENODOGRAPH



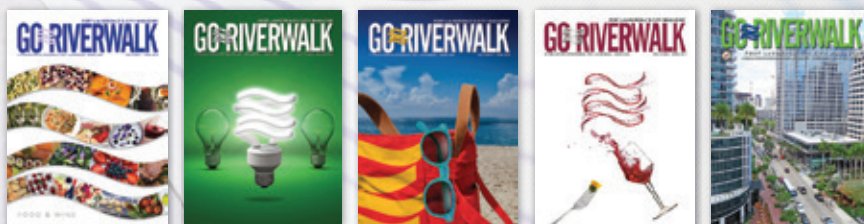


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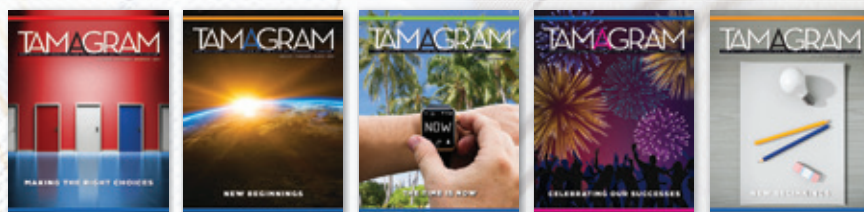
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# TIME TO SWITCH GEARS

BUSINESSES FIND WAYS TO PIVOT IN THE AGE OF CORONAVIRUS

**N**ecessity is the mother of invention. Or, in entrepreneurial language, “pivot” — innovate a business model to adapt to a new market.

Fort Lauderdale’s longtime executives and their businesses have not survived over the years by sheer luck. Their leaders have learned from mistakes, hired good employees and found ways to innovate.

And, boy, has the coronavirus pandemic delivered businesses a new reality and new markets. Here’s a look at four local businesses who have adapted and thrived in the past few months.

## STRESS-FREE CLEANUP

**WRITER** MADELAINE K. BOYER

**Business:** **Dry Tech 24/70**

**What it does:** Restoration and sanitization service provider

**Owner:** Maxine Gomez

**Address:** 1314 E. Las Olas Blvd., #408

**Telephone:** (954) 519-4429

[www.drytech247.com](http://www.drytech247.com)

*Dry Tech 24/7 is one of those many businesses deemed essential to remain operational and due to the nature of their business they are without a doubt in need now more than ever.*

Dry Tech 24/7 is a remediation, restoration and sanitization service provider as well as a licensed distributor for Clorox cleaning products. Their services include water, fire, mold and biological cleanup as well as indoor air quality assessments for both residential and commercial properties. Aside from their repair and cleanup services, they are also licensed in the state to provide instruction and training for trade skills workers.

“I like to think that we bring a women’s touch to the industry and that shows in how we care about our employees and our clients,” said owner Maxine Gomez. “We bring care with a smile.”

Before opening Dry Tech 24/7, however, Gomez previously worked in the neuroscience industry but after following advice from a friend, she decided to open her business in 2015.

“About five years ago a friend who is a public adjuster told me, ‘Maxine, you know how to run a business and if you build a reliable team, you would never have to advertise,’ and he was right,” said Gomez. Now, five years later, Dry Tech 24/7 continues to garner success by offering a variety of reliable services to its consumers at a fair price. However, due to the nature of our current climate, many of the services offered by Dry Tech 24/7 have been put on hold and the way they run their business has had to change as well.

Prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, the company’s sanitization solutions — which can be used to eliminate bacteria, germs and allergens on contact — were one of many services offered to clients. Now, this service is in higher demand than ever.

“We’ve been working pretty much around the clock to sanitize buildings like the sheriff’s office, the fire department, schools and assisted living facilities to make sure people are safe,” said Gomez.

Yet, not only are they determined to help sanitize businesses and community buildings in a time when we need it most but in doing so they also hope to ease people’s worries during such a stressful time.

“People are scared, so we go into a job we’re there to sanitize but I always tell my team how important it is to help people feel comfortable and to let them know that we’re going to get through this together,” she said.

Apart from the work Dry Tech 24/7 is currently doing to help the community during this difficult time, their dedication to giving back doesn’t stop there. Gomez and her team have also partnered with two nonprofits including [stopcoronavirustoday.com](http://stopcoronavirustoday.com) which is collaborating with The Florida Health Coalition to provide mental health support to those in need during this time as well as SER-Jobs in Progress, whose mission is to help children leaving programs like Boys & Girls Club, YMCA or Kids in Distress to get into the work force.

“By partnering with us, our goal is to teach kids about the work we do and show them this is a reputable career they can go into. College isn’t for everyone and we want to be able to provide these kids with another option and a sense of purpose.”



PHOTO PROVIDED BY DRY TECH 24/7



## ESSENTIAL CHARACTER

WRITER JAROD CRUSH

**Business:** Harbor Nails & Hair

**What it makes:** Face masks

**Owner:** Kim Nyugen

**Address:** 1501 SE 17th Street Causeway, Fort Lauderdale  
(not open at presstime)

**Telephone:** (954) 767-1006

[www.harbornails17thst.com/](http://www.harbornails17thst.com/)

*Kim Nyugen, the proprietor of Harbor Nails & Hair on Southeast 17th Street, used forethought and gumption to provide an essential service to her friends, clients and neighbors during Fort Lauderdale's shutdown.*

Everyone knows Nyugen for her cheerful and can-do attitude. Running a successful service business is no easy task and requires a specific type of person who is well equipped to face adversity. Following Governor Ron Desantis' closure of all non-essential businesses, Nyugen found it hard to stay idle.

"I'm a busy body," she said. "There's no way I can sit still. So, I just started to find something to do."

Nyugen's definition of "something to do" translated into sewing and distributing face masks.

"I had the sewing machine in my garage that belonged to a friend of a friend of a friend. Somehow it got in my garage for the last six months, and that's when I had decided I was going to do something with

it. I took it out, and I started practicing."

She bought fabric and carbon filters and taught herself how to sew double-sided masks with filters to give to her friends who were nurses.

Then word started to spread, she said.

"I think I probably sewed probably 200 to 300. I didn't really keep count because I gave a lot away already before it became where people were like, 'Oh, I'll buy one from you.'"

Nyugen's mask-making operation grew rapidly through word of mouth. However, her business was not just to keep busy or make a profit — she became a helping force in her local community.

Her hair and nail salon had a network of clients, many of whom were trying to find masks. Nyugen was able and happy to be able to help. Friends, families of friends and friends of families, all benefited from Nyugen's "quarantine activity."

"It's just being in the neighborhood for 12 years," she said. "I have a good relationship with a lot of my clients, and I feel like I know them personally ... people that I know, like a single mom who's struggling or is not working because their job is closed, and then I didn't mind giving it away at all."

Even though non-essential businesses were closed for the greater good, Nyugen chose not to dwell on the negative impact on her business. She converted her free time to address a critical need in her community.



PHOTOS BY JASON LEIDY





## LIMITED EXPOSURE

EDITOR LYNN STOCK

**Business:** **Expose Yourself USA**

**What it makes:** Desk dividers and plexiglass protection

**Owner:** Marco Tiapago

**Address:** 5967 N.W. 31st Ave., Fort Lauderdale

**Telephone:** (954) 935-5990

[www.exposeyourselfusa.com](http://www.exposeyourselfusa.com)

*Expose Yourself USA has been in Fort Lauderdale for 14 years, and before the coronavirus pandemic, offered vehicle wraps, neon signs, signage and murals. Marco Tiapago answered a few questions for Go Riverwalk Magazine about how his business quickly added manufacturing new products to meet social-distancing demands.*

**Tell us about your business ... How has your business changed effective March of this year?**

We changed all of our sign production to become

a manufacturer of products for social distancing, face shields, desk and counter shields, floor graphics and more.

We were fortunate to be able to utilize existing materials in a whole new way, which also expanded our offerings to the local community. We are happy to be able to help people in the community and other small business owners protect their staff and customers

**How is your work and your company adapting to this new reality?**

We are working hard to fit in this completely new line of products during the pandemic and into the future along with our standard offerings.

**What have you learned that might be helpful to others?**

Business and life can change in a heartbeat. You must stay smart and curious and be able to reinvent your business to adapt for an unpreventable event.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY EXPOSE YOURSELF USA



## NEW REALITY

EDITOR LYNN STOCK

### Business: **Minuteman Press**

**What it does:** Face masks, single-use menus, face masks

**Owner:** Maria Medina

**Address:** 1416 N.E. 4th Ave., Fort Lauderdale

**Telephone:** (954) 731-5300

[www.ftlauderdale.minutemanpress.com](http://www.ftlauderdale.minutemanpress.com)

*Maria Medina has owned a Minuteman Press franchise in Fort Lauderdale since 2014. The shop offers graphic design services and prints signs, promotional products and apparel. But like many businesses, Medina found herself switching gears in their offerings. She shares her experience in her own words.*

As soon as March hit, I knew I would have to adapt to a new reality. The first thing I did was have the staff who could, work from home. The shop stayed open and continues to do so but is run according to new CDC health and safety standards. We continue to offer free delivery and have introduced curbside pickup.

I immediately looked into producing branded face masks as well as budget banners and single-use menus in order to fit the needs of our community. We've also recently started filling bottles of sanitizer and labelling them by hand — something we would normally not do. This has allowed us to give customers much lower minimums than before.

I have always been very supportive of the community

and am grateful I have been able to continue to give back. We've donated over 5,000 menus to local restaurants and over 100 face masks to local nonprofits.

I am staying informed of the crisis and keep communications open in order to run my business effectively. I am proud of how well my staff has adapted and know that however things change, we will adapt and be able to continue to support and provide for our community.


This life-changing period has helped me see my own strengths and weaknesses. I realize the importance of my schedule and continuing to have one, even when working from home. I believe in getting dressed, showered and eating at set times. This may sound unimportant or silly, but it helps me set the tone for my day and helps me to feel professional and my best self. Just as importantly, when my day runs away from me or I lose control, I take a deep breath, step away and know that it's going to be OK. 



PHOTO PROVIDED BY MARIA MEDINA



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- Earn community service hours for your school, nonprofit, or philanthropic organization.

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# DINING IN AND IN AND IN

## THINKING OUTSIDE THE WAFFLE MAKER

**WRITERS** PENNY SANFILIPPO & JONNY ALTOBELL — THE UGLY SISTERS

**P**robably all of us have had that moment where we wish we could just lay in bed and not go to work. Or to watch TV until far into the night.

Sick of it yet? For those who are actually working from home there's no hassle with daily commute but there's not much variety either. Don't you miss those great lunches with foods you don't make at home because: 1) It's too complicated or 2) Why bother when you can go out?

So, here are a couple of ideas that just might give you a mental break – but for sure they will give you a gustatory treat. (Sorry for the fancy word, but we've been bored, too).

The waffle iron you had tucked away and just rediscovered when you decided finally to clean that closet can be put to good use, and it's not just for breakfast anymore.

Falafel waffles are as fun to make and eat as the words

are to say. You'll need a package of falafel mix – made according to directions. Just be sure to let the mixture set 15 to 30 minutes to be sure it is hydrated. Heat your waffle iron to its lowest setting. When hot, spray each side with non-stick spray then put a scoop of falafel on each quarter (leave some room for expansion). Close the lid and cook for 5 minutes or so before opening lid to check them. They are done when cooked through and browned evenly. Repeat until mixture is gone.

Serve with EZ Tzatziki sauce (recipe follows) and a salad of cherry tomatoes and thin red onion slices, topped with a vinaigrette. If you have some hummus, it would make a perfect platter!



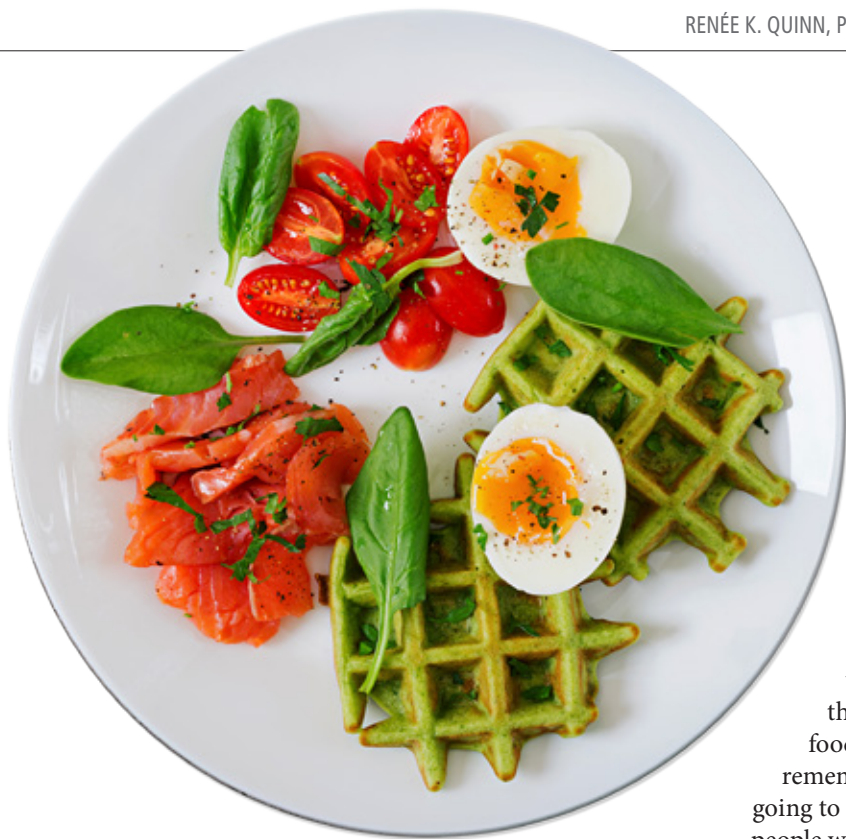
### EZ TZATZIKI

- 1 cup Greek yogurt
- ½ cup chopped or grated cucumber (English or Persian)
- Pinch of salt
- Pinch of dried dill weed or 1 tablespoon fresh parsley (minced)
- Very small clove of fresh garlic, grated or finely chopped
- Mix it all together. Any leftovers are great as a dip later.

And before you put the waffle iron away, you might try waffling a ham and cheese sandwich (thicker or hearty bread is prettier, but any sliced bread will work — just check every minute or so on thin slices). If you have access to a bakery, a loaf of







Cuban bread can be cut to fit the waffle iron and you can make a killer Cuban sandwich with a whole new look.

If all you discovered in your closet cleaning were a couple of old cut-glass bowls Granny left you, how about making a one-dish salad? Part of the charm of good restaurant food is in the presentation. Or if you discovered that batch of wide mouthed pint mason jars you bought for a Christmas project years ago, you can assemble a fun salad by making a vinaigrette (basically 2:1 oil to vinegar plus a thwap of Dijon mustard and a pinch of salt and pepper\*) in the bottom of each of two jars. Shake (lid on, please), then layer ½ cup or so of any of the following:

- Chickpeas (rinsed and drained)
- Sliced peppers
- Diced red onion
- Cherry tomatoes (halved)
- Sliced artichoke hearts or hearts of palm
- Fresh corn kernels
- Cooked rice or quinoa
- Finish with fresh spinach leaves, spring mix or small pieces of romaine.
- Top with crumbled cheese if desired.

Put lids on jars and refrigerate for up to one day. Before serving, shake the jar to distribute vinaigrette. Eat from the jar – or pour into one aforementioned bowls.

\* You can use prepared dressing as well

And if none of this appeals to you– eat what you like, but drag out a piece or two of your GOOD china – you know the stuff you got for your wedding and used once? And those linen napkins? Sometimes even familiar foods taste better when gussied up a bit. And please remember when you CAN go out to dine again – it's going to be a brand-new experience for you and the people who serve you. Be patient – at least you won't have to cook. ☺







# SUMMER OF RUM

WRITER RENÉE K. QUINN

This month, we feature summer cocktails made with Papa's Pilar Rum. *Jean-Pierre Belonni*, one of my go-to bartenders, joins me as we create home bartending adventures. JP is also my go-to rum guy.

We've created a plethora of cocktails over the past year and we look forward to showing our readers how to shake and stir at home.





## THE BARTENDER SERIES INTERVIEW WITH SPIRITED SOUTH FLORIDA

# JEAN-PIERRE BELONNI

### Favorite Cocktail

*Ponche or the Old Fashioned. These cocktails let me play in so many ways: the spirits, the sweetener, the fruits, the bitters, the ice.*

### Essential Bar Tool

*A jigger. It helps with the consistency of the drink. Once the cocktail menu is ready and recipes are done, the jigger is the only thing that will help all the bartenders to make the same cocktail all the time.*

### What's Trending

*My favorite trend is sustainability. People in the industry are trying to find ways to take the most from a product and prevent food waste. It's awesome to see how much you can do with a fruit and how much it helps the business in cost and how you are different from the other bars.*

### Known For

*I have been known for my personality — always a smile and very passionate about*

*what I do. When I have a conversation with my guests, they can feel how much I love what I do. The same passion is in my service and makes my guests trust me with their cocktails, even if they have a recipe from their home.*

### Must-have Ingredient

*Oranges. They have the perfect acidity and flavor for any cocktail that you can drink all day. You eat it for breakfast, mix in a drink, use it as a garnish, etc. There are so many ways to use it, that for me is the perfect ingredient.*

### This Time Next Year

*I will be sipping some of my own blended rum. I created a recipe and next year will be two years that's in the barrel. It's getting better with time, so I'm pretty hyped for it.*

### Featured Cocktail

*Papa's Pilar Old Fashioned*

*Recipe will be on [SpiritedSouthFlorida.com](http://SpiritedSouthFlorida.com).*



PHOTOS BY RKOUNIN



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## BLUE ANGELS FLYOVER AT BROWARD HEALTH

The U.S. Navy's Blue Angels made a special visit to South Florida on May 8. The aerobatic flight demonstration team flew over hospitals in Fort Lauderdale including Holy Cross Hospital, Broward Health Medical Center and Kindred Hospital.



BROWARD HEALTH CAREGIVERS CELEBRATE SEEING THE BLUE ANGELS FLY OVER FORT LAUDERDALE

PHOTOS BY MARCOS LOPEZ, BROWARD HEALTH

## BOXED LUNCHES TO LOCAL HOSPITALS

BBX Capital and Hoffman's Chocolates delivered 100 boxed lunches to local hospitals throughout the Broward County area in April. The healthy lunches were distributed to ten different local hospitals including Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital, Memorial Regional Hospital and Broward Health.



MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL AT JOE DIMAGGIO CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

MEDICAL STAFF IN THE ICU AT MEMORIAL REGIONAL HOSPITAL

HOFFMAN'S CHOCOLATES STAFF WITH LOTSY DOTSY AT JOE DIMAGGIO CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

PHOTOS BY DOWNTOWN PHOTO AND KARA STARZYK

## FACE MASK AND TOY DRIVE

Jazwares, consumer company, and The Zebersky Family Charitable Fund donated toys and surgical masks at the Las Olas Chabad Jewish Center in Fort Lauderdale.



VOLUNTEER PASSES OUT TOYS AND MASKS

VOLUNTEERS INCLUDING A DRESSED-UP BLIPPI HAND OUT AT THE CHABAD LAS OLAS

SURGICAL MASKS WERE DONATED BY THE ZEBERSKY FAMILY CHARITABLE FUND

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY JAZWARES AND THE LAS OLAS CHABAD



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- William, 65 years old, hip replacement patient



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