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Dow tops 30,000 points for 1st time

Investors get boost from vaccine hopes, as well as Biden transition

By Alex Veiga and Damian J. Troise
Associated Press

The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed above 30,000 points for the first time Tuesday as progress in the development of coronavirus vaccines and news

that the transition of power in the U.S. to President-elect Joe Biden will finally begin kept investors in a buying mood.

Traders were also encouraged to see that Biden had selected Janet Yellen, a respected former Federal Reserve chair, as treasury

secretary. The Dow rose more than 450 points, or 1.5%, to cross the milestone. The S&P 500 index, which has a far greater impact on 401(k) accounts than the Dow, rose 1.6%, climbing to its own all-time high.

The gains extend a monthlong market rally driven by growing optimism that development of coronavirus vaccines and treatments will loosen the

pandemic's stranglehold on the economy. They also mark a rapid climb for the Dow from its March 23 low of just under 18,600 during the worst of its early pandemic nosedive.

"We are one step closer to moving past the election uncertainty," said Lindsey Bell, chief investment strategist at Ally Invest. "People are still optimistic about what 2021 has to bring, from

an economic perspective and an earnings perspective."

The S&P 500 rose 57.82 points to 3,635.41. The Dow gained 454.97 points to 30,046.24. Both indexes eclipsed record highs set early last week. The technology-heavy Nasdaq composite picked up 156.15 points, or 1.3%, to 12,036.79.

Traders continued to favor stocks that stand to

gain the most from a gradual reopening of the economy, such as banks and industrial companies. Technology and communication stocks, which have been investor favorites through the pandemic, also helped lift the market.

In another signal that investors were feeling confident, the Russell 2000 index

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CARLINE JEAN/SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL

Get into the holiday spirit

Our guide to Christmas entertainment, events and things to do

By Rod Stafford Hagwood
South Florida Sun Sentinel

It's always a little tricky getting into the Christmas spirit here in the sunny subtropics. And this year, thanks to a global pandemic, hitting that holiday high seems almost impossible.

Think about it, if anyone is likely to wedge himself into that coronavirus category of risk factors, wouldn't it be Santa?

Yeah, that went dark fast. It's the times; they are truly dire.

But think of us as Santa's helpers. We've rounded up yuletide-themed events and activities that just might put a little fest in your festive season.

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Above: "Drive 'N Drag Saves Christmas," starring Bianca Del Rio as Scrooge Del Rio, will play the Westfield Broward mall Dec. 1-2. VOSS EVENTS/COURTESY

Top: People take in the view of the 47 foot iTree, animated Christmas tree at Mizner Park in Boca Raton on Monday. The tree is equipped with 32,000 PVC branches and 25,000 LED lights.

CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

Officials: Schools see little spread among students

By Scott Travis
South Florida Sun Sentinel

South Florida schools may be winning a major battle against COVID-19.

While the virus has upended many students' education, due to quarantines and an erratic mix of in-person and remote learning, it's not creating as many health concerns as feared, district officials say.

There have been more than 2,000 cases of the new coronavirus since South Florida schools reopened this fall, but most of those happened off-campus and haven't spread on campus, health and school officials said.

They said efforts such as contact tracing, social distancing and manda-

tory for face coverings for students and employees have been effective.

"There is nothing to suggest that our schools are sources for secondary transmission," Superintendent Robert Runcie said this week, after meeting with Broward health officials. "We're a very disciplined organization in terms of all the protocols we put in place."

The same is true in Palm Beach County schools, said Dr. Alina Alonso, Palm Beach County's health department director.

"There are no secondary cases. That means people that are positive are becoming positive outside of school," she told the School

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What are virus rules at your favorite bar?

By Ben Crandell
South Florida Sun Sentinel

This Wednesday, the day before Thanksgiving, is better known to some as Drinksgiving, when tradition holds that returning college students and other visiting family members hit the town for the biggest drinking night of the year.

Confused about whether to go, where to go and what the mask situation will be? You are not alone. It's not what the bar says, it's what they Instagram.

Take, for example, the saga of the Wharf

Fort Lauderdale, which reopened last weekend and promptly closed two days later when crowds of unmasked guests packed the downtown bar.

The open-air venue had been remodeled to promote social distancing and a mask requirement was in place. But no one seemed to be aware — except county code-enforcement officers who cited the Wharf three times on Saturday, prompting its closure.

Wharf co-owner Emi Guerra was surprised his

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YOUR NATION, YOUR WORLD

Biden signals shift from Trump era

The president-elect introduced his national security team showing how he'll shift from "America First" policies. **Page 3**

Census takers urged to falsify data

Supervisors prized speed over accuracy as President Trump pushed for an early end to the 2020 count. **Page 4**

Ethiopian diplomacy efforts in doubt

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's ultimatum for the defiant Tigray region leaders to surrender ends Wednesday. **Page 8**

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Holiday

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Through Dec. 31: Gulfstream Park Village will once again host its annual "Symphony in Lights" holiday spectacle with a more than a quarter million lights choreographed to the music of the Trans-Siberian Orchestra and other holiday tunes. The 15-minute light show, which is free, starts at the top of every hour from 6-11 p.m. at the open-air entertainment center. 901 S. Federal Highway, Hallandale Beach. Info: GulfstreamPark.com.

Through Dec. 31: Michael Walters and Joseph Zimmer are South Florida actors and professional Santas — with over 70 years of combined experience working as Kris Kringle, mostly at theme parks — who are doing virtual video visits as St. Nick. You can personalize your family's conversation with add-ons including a cameo visit from Mrs. Claus (\$35), a virtual Christmas card video clip (\$25), a letter from the North Pole, a reading of "Twas the Night Before Christmas" (\$15) and a video copy of your experience (\$15). Prices are \$50 and \$75 (for premium dates on Dec. 24, 25 and 31). Info: email info.LiveSantaCalls@gmail.com or go to LiveSantaCalls.com.

Through Jan. 1: Mizner Park in Boca Raton will have a 47 foot iTree, an animated Christmas tree with 32,000 PVC branches, red and gold bows, ornaments and 25,000 clear and multi-colored LED lights. The iTree will be on the South end of Mizner Park near Yard House and not at the Mizner Park Amphitheater as in years past). There will be free nightly light and music shows every hour between 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Nov. 27-Dec. 31: Aventura Mall will have several holiday happenings. The **Grinch's Grotto** will allow you to pose with the Grinch (in his cave, no less). General admission is \$50 and VIP admission is \$200. To order tickets, go to GrinchGrotto.com. There will be a 6,300 square-foot **Selfie Station** space with 20 backdrops. Tickets are \$25 and \$30 for adults and \$20 for children ages 3-12. To order, go to SelfieStationAventura.com. There will also be a **Deck The Halls Shoppe by the Christmas Palace** pop-up in a glass atrium and an 18-by-30-foot model train display at **Aventura Station**.

Nov. 28-29: The Gay Men's Chorus of South Florida will present a drive-in movie experience titled "Come Back for the Holidays" at **Dania Pointe** shopping center. The concert is recorded performances of the chorus singing holiday songs as well as past performances with celebrity guests **Alan Cummings** and **Linda Eder**. There will be high-quality sound from FM transmitters to your cars' audio systems. You are encouraged to decorate your car for the holiday, join in singalongs and order food from **Dania Pointe's** restaurants. 139 S. Compass Way, Dania Beach. Showtime is 7 p.m. for both dates. Tickets are \$50 and \$100 per car. Info: GMCSF.org.

Nov. 28-Dec. 23: "Santa's Spectacular, A Drive-Thru Musical" in Miami allows you to sing along with Christmas carols from your car. In the evenings there will also be a holiday light showcase. For those willing to leave their cars, there will also be an open-air holiday market with artisan crafts for sale, a cocktail lodge, a do-it-yourself wreath bar. At Tamiami Park, 11201 SW 24th St., Miami (use the entrance on Coral Way and 114th Ave.). Hours are 11 a.m.-10 p.m. (5-10 p.m. Dec. 14-18). Tickets are \$45 and \$55. To order, go to SantaSpectacular.com or Eventbrite.com.

Nov. 28-Jan. 1: The Shops at Midtown Miami will have "Candy Cane Lane," with a fantasy tunnel of Christmas lights and candy canes as well as holiday-themed scenes with



A family takes in the view of the 47 foot iTree, animated Christmas tree at Mizner Park in Boca Raton on Monday. The tree is equipped with 32,000 PVC branches, ornaments and 25,000 LED lights. **CARLINE JEAN/SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL**



The Gay Men's Chorus of South Florida will present a drive-in movie experience titled "Come Back for the Holidays" at Dania Pointe Nov. 28-29. **GINNY DIXON/COURTESY**

gingerbread, elves and presents. Via video, Santa and Mrs. Clause will read some Christmas stories (with Spanish subtitles). Three families can win the opportunity for a five-minute Zoom call with Santa. To enter the drawing, go to ZoomToTheNorthPole.ShopMidtownMiami.com between Dec. 1-14. The Shops is at 3401 North Miami Ave., Miami. For more information, go to ShopMidtownMiami.com.

Dec. 1-2: Bianca Del Rio, the winner of season 6 of "RuPaul's Drag Race" in 2014, will perform in "Drive 'N Drag Saves Christmas" in the parking lot of Westfield Broward mall. The faux femme and standup comedian will appear as Scrooge Del Rio, who hates Christmas and intends to destroy it. But to the rescue come other contestants from RuPaul's female impersonator reality TV competition. The outdoor concert (there will be Jumbotron LED screens) will also feature **Aquaria**, **Asia O'Hara**, **Kameron Michaels**, **Naomi Smalls**, **Plastique** and **Violet Chachki**. Food trucks will be open. There will be two shows nightly, at 7 and 9:30 p.m. Parking begins 45 minutes prior to showtime. Tickets are \$69 per car with two people. Additional passengers are \$25 each. There will be VIP spots closest to the stage for \$150 each. To order, go to VossEvents.com. Westfield Broward mall is at 8000 W. Broward Blvd., Plantation.

Dec. 2-13: "The Judy and Barbra Show, Holiday Special" features **Judy Garland** and **Barbra Streisand** impersonators **Summer Orlando** and **Barbra Joan Streetsand** at **Empire Stage**. The live vocal show isn't just a tribute performance, but replicates the costumes and comedy bits made famous by the two superstars. The narrative follows Streisand, who is having a holiday party and discovers ruby slippers in a wrapped present, which allow the performer to bring Garland back to life for a one-night-only reunion concert. Empire Stage is at 1140 N. Flagler Drive, Fort Lauderdale. Showtimes are 8 p.m. Wednesdays-Saturdays; 4 and 7

p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$35. To order, call 954-678-1396 or go to EmpireStage.com.

Dec. 3-20: Lake Worth Playhouse will stage "Annie The Musical," a musical-comedy set during Christmas-time in the middle of the Great Depression and centered around a plucky orphan based on the famous comic strip by Harold Gray. The Playhouse is at 713 Lake Ave., Lake Worth. Showtimes are 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays and 2 p.m. matinees Saturdays and Sundays. Tickets are \$35. To order, call 561-586-6410 or go to LakeWorthPlayhouse.org.

Dec. 3-23: Santa's Drive-Thru Village will be a winter wonderland experience you enjoy from inside your car as you take in live presentations. There will be six villages you can drive through, including Singing Carolers Town, Winter Wonderland Paradise, Mrs. Claus' Village and the North Pole Village, Merry and Bright Lights, the Elves' Toy Factory and Santa's Magical Cabin. Santa's Drive-Thru Village will be at Miramar Regional Park, 16801 Miramar Parkway, Miramar. Hours are 6-10 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 5:30-10 p.m. Fridays-Sundays. Admission is \$48.99, \$58.99 and \$68.99 per car with no more than seven people per vehicle. To order tickets, go to SantasDriveThruVillage.com.

Dec. 4-30: The Water Taxi is once again launching its Holiday Light Cruises, 90-minute trips on Fort Lauderdale's Intra-coastal Waterway with views of holiday lights on waterfront mansions. There will also be \$8 holiday-themed cocktails, including the Peppermint Patty, Boozy Cider and Knotty Coffee as well as non-alcoholic beverages. The pickup site for the double-decker boat is at the dock behind the Riverside Hotel and the Historic Stranahan House. Cruises begin at 6:30 p.m. (select dates have an added 8:30 p.m. departure). Tickets are \$35 for adults and \$15 for children ages 2-11. To order, call 954-467-6677 or go to WaterTaxi.com/

tickets.

Dec. 5, 6, 12, 13: "Tis the Season at the ArshT" is actually two events and they are both free. First up is a holiday photo op with Robot Santa, Mrs. Claus and Mensch in the **Adrienne ArshT Center for the Performing Art's** lobby, and you can listen to holiday music and enjoy hot chocolate with the characters Elsa and Olaf from "Frozen" on the plaza. Bring an unwrapped toy to donate to Toys for Tots. This event is from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. on Dec. 5. RSVP at ArshTCenter.org. Also on Dec. 5, 6, 12 and 13 there will be a touchless photo booth in the lobby. Your photos will be delivered to you digitally (the dog-friendly day is Dec. 13). The ArshT Center is at 1300 Biscayne Blvd. Miami. For more information, call 305-949-6722 or go to ArshTCenter.org.

Dec. 5 and 12: Old School Square has two live holiday concerts planned. First up is "Christmas with the Nelsons" with **Matthew and Gunnar Nelson** — twin sons of Ricky Nelson — at 8 p.m. on Dec. 5. And swing and jazz band **Big Bad Voodoo Daddy** will perform "Wild and Swingin' Holiday Party" at 8 p.m. on Dec. 11. Ticket prices for each concert are \$100-\$400 and both will be held at the Pavilion At Old School Square, 51 N. Swinton Ave., Delray Beach. Seating is in pods, which can contain four seats. To order tickets, go to OldSchoolSquare.org or Eventbrite.com.

Dec. 5, 12, 19, 20: "Madeline's Christmas" will be performed by the **Actors' Playhouse Musical Theatre for Young Audiences**. This musical is based on the children's books penned and illustrated by Ludwig Bemelmans and set in a Catholic boarding school in Paris. In this show everyone, except the title character Madeline, gets the flu and may not be able to go home for the holidays. The Actors' Playhouse is at the Miracle Mile, Coral Gables. Showtimes are 2 p.m. Saturdays on Dec. 5, 12, 19 and at 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 20. Tickets are \$25. To order,

call 305-444-9293 or go to ActorsPlayhouse.org/childrens-theatre.

Dec. 5-31: Sandi — a 35 foot tall, 700 ton holiday tree made of sand — will return to **Sandi Land** on the West Palm Beach waterfront. There will be nightly music and light shows from 6-10 p.m. right up until midnight on New Year's Eve. Also check out the choreographed water dance at the Centennial Square Fountain, which is in the final stages of a \$1.8 million renovation. There will be free activities such as a visit with Santa, who will be inside a snow globe, open-air art lessons and sing-along/storytime sessions. For a schedule, go to WPB.org/events. Sandi and Sandi Land will be located on the Great Lawn at 100 N. Clematis St., West Palm Beach (at the east end of Clematis Street, just west of Flagler Drive).

Dec. 6: Lips, the drag entertainment supper club, will host a "Drag-allycious Gospel Brunch" for its annual **Holiday Toy Drive**, which will benefit the Children's Diagnostic and Treatment Center in Broward County. You are encouraged to bring an unwrapped children's toy (you get a free frozen cosmo cocktail coupon redeemable at a future visit). The all-inclusive Sunday brunch includes bottomless Bloody Marys, mimosas and Champagne. Lips is at 1421 E. Oakland Park Blvd., Oakland Park. There are two show seatings at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Brunch is \$24.95 per person. Also a \$10 cover charge will be donated to the center. Info: 954-567-0987 or go to LipsUSA.com.

Dec. 10-18: "Island City Stage's Holiday Spectacular" will be a virtual variety show — a sort of throwback to Christmas musical-comedy variety shows of the '50s to '70s by Bob Hope, Cher, Perry Como and Andy Williams. Hosted by playwright **Michael McKeever**, the show will feature songs of the season sung by South Florida performers from some of the Wilton Manors-based theater company's most popular productions. Tickets are \$38. Info: IslandCityStage.org.

Dec. 12: The Master Chorale of South Florida will perform "Home For the Holidays," a virtual concert with the 120-voice chorale. There will also be an online silent auction that begins on Dec. 1. Showtime is 7 p.m. Tickets are \$25. There is a VIP ticket for \$100 for two people where you get a delivery in advance of a food basket with hors d'oeuvres, savory and sweet snacks, dessert and wine. To order, go to MasterChoraleOfSouthFlorida.org.

Dec. 12-13: Boca Ballet Theatre will have a video streaming production of "The Nutcracker" with stars from the **American Ballet Theater**, **Remy Young** and **Joseph Markey**. You must reserve your virtual "seats" for your choice of performance dates and then you have the option to donate to BBT to support this production. Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 12, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13. To reserve a spot, go to BocaBallet.org. Info: email Nicole Winter at nwinter@bocaballet.org or call 561-995-0709.

Dec. 13: "The Fort Lauderdale Gay Men's Chorus Present Holidays Under the Stars" is an all-fresco Christmas concert of live holiday tunes at **All Saints Episcopal Church**. The special guest will be Israeli singer **Ricky Pen**. All Saints is located at 333 Tarpon Dr., Fort Lauderdale. Showtime is 7 p.m. Lawn seating spaces and car park spaces range from \$50-\$150. To order, call 954-832-0069 or go to FTLGMC.org.

Dec. 19: "Deborah Cox: I'll Be Home for Christmas - A Special Holiday Concert" will feature South Florida's own pop diva doing a mix of her multi-platinum hits and Christmas classics at the **Adrienne ArshT Center** for the Performing Arts. The Parkland resident will also perform show tunes from her turns on the stage in musicals such as "Aida," "Waitress," "Jekyll & Hyde," "The Wiz" and "The Bodyguard." The show has been directed by Richard Jay-Alexander, known as the Diva Whisperer for working with Barbra Streisand, Bette Midler, Julie Andrews, Kristin Chenoweth and Bernadette Peters. The staging will be cabaret-style with tables placed six feet apart. The ArshT Center is at 1300 Biscayne Blvd. Miami. Showtime is 8 p.m. Tickets are \$60 per person. To order, call 305-949-6722 or go to ArshTCenter.org.

Dec. 19: Jazz, pop and soul singer Nicole Henry will perform her eighth annual winter concert titled "I Sing Because I'm Happy" in a virtual performance this year. The Miami resident plans on an HD production with six cameras and an eight-piece band at the show staged live from Pinecrest Gardens. The emcee will be former WPLG news anchor **Laurie Jennings**. As in the past, a portion of the proceeds will benefit the Miami Music Project. Showtime is 8 p.m. General admission tickets are \$35 and VIP tickets are \$75 through Nov. 30 and \$85 afterward (includes a pre-concert virtual backstage experience, a VIP-only encore songs performance, post-concert virtual meet and greet and — solely for the U.S. — an official "8th Annual Winter Concert" beach bag). To order, go to NicoleHenry.com.

Dec. 22: Popular Las Vegas impersonators and twins **Anthony and Eddie Edwards** bring to South Florida their act re-creating Sonny and Cher, Stevie Wonder, Neil Diamond, Johnny Mathis, Rod Stewart, Bette Midler, Elton John, Celine Dion, Lionel Richie, Barbra Streisand, Lady Gaga, Ray Charles, Andrea Bocelli, Tom Jones and Dolly Parton. Showtime for "The Edwards Twins Live: Holiday With The Stars" is at 8 p.m. at Lake Park Black Box, 700 Park Ave., Lake Park. Tickets are \$46.35 and \$61.80. To order, call 561-328-7481 and LakeParkBlackBox.com.