

SunSentinel LOCAL

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Man caught carrying Pelosi's lectern arrested

Video showed Parrish resident with item during Capitol riot

By Jessica De Leon
Bradenton Herald

Parrish resident Adam Christian Johnson, the man captured in a viral photo carrying Speaker Nancy Pelosi's lectern during the riot at the Capitol on Wednesday,

has been arrested.

Johnson, 36, was arrested by federal marshals and booked into the Pinellas County jail shortly after 9 p.m. Friday.

He has been charged with one count of knowingly entering or remaining in any restricted building or grounds without lawful authority; one count of theft of government property; and one count of violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds,

according to a federal complaint. A warrant was issued on Friday and Johnson was charged in federal court in Washington, D.C., on Saturday.

Pelosi's lectern had been stored in her suite, under a staircase to the third floor on the House side of the Capitol building, before the Capitol was breached, her staff told FBI agents.

The lectern — valued at more than \$1,000 according to the

House curator — was found by Senate staff on Thursday in the Red corridor of the Senate wing off the Rotunda in the Capitol.

Johnson was among three men who were charged on Saturday morning for their alleged roles in the insurrection at the Capitol.

Johnson will make his first appearance in court on Monday afternoon in The Sam M. Gibbons United States Courthouse in Tampa.

The FBI had been searching for Johnson, who was quickly identified on social media by local residents as the man seen in the photo carrying the lectern during the riot.

Johnson is a stay-at-home-dad who lives with his wife, a local physician, and their five children in their Parrish home.

Before being deleted or taken down, Johnson's social media

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Florida-based jewelry designer Anna Zuckerman will open her brand's flagship store in Mizner Park this Spring. LEONARD ALBANESE

A glimpse of what's to come

Multiple new tenants opening their doors this year at Mizner Park

By Rod Stafford Hagwood
South Florida Sun Sentinel

Mizner Park — the de facto downtown of Boca Raton — has a slew of new tenants coming to the open-air shopping and dining mecca this year.

Two eateries, two stores, a bowling alley and a yoga studio are slated to open starting this spring. The list of new businesses comes just as the plaza — built on four Rs: retail, restaurants, recreation and residential — turns 30 years old on Jan. 11, with little fanfare thanks to the coronavirus pandemic.

Here's what's coming to the Mizner Park in 2021:

- Calaveras Cantina (Mexican restaurant) — Spring
- EGG New York (apparel) — Spring
- Anna Zuckerman Luxury (jewelry/accessories) — Spring
- Strike 10 Bowling and Sports



People have lunch at Max's Grille at Mizner Park in Boca Raton on Thursday. Mizner Park will mark its 30th anniversary Monday. CARLINE JEAN / SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL

- Lounge — Summer
 - Hotworx (fitness studio) — Fall
 - American Social (gastropub/restaurant) — Winter
- Named after the early 20th

century architect Addison Mizner and located on the site that was once the Boca Mall, Mizner Park was built by South Florida developer Tom Crocker in 1991. At the

time, it was one of the first in the nation to mix office space, housing, shopping, dining/drinking and entertainment.

Wendy Larsen and her late business partner Charlie Siemon were brought in as consultants. Their law firm specialized in land-use planning/development and they were the first to open an office at Mizner Park and the first residents.

"I remember when we were talking about Mizner Park," recalls Larsen. "Tom Crocker didn't want to do residential because he didn't think anyone would rent. For many years after Mizner Park was built many projects around the country were called 'Mizner Park-like' projects...because in most cities they segregated uses, so it was innovative. It was always designed, in our minds, to be the

Turn to Mizner, Page 4

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Hospitals under fire for shot favoritism

Supporters receive vaccines while seniors wait for appointments

By Wells Dusenbury
South Florida Sun Sentinel

Another South Florida hospital is coming under scrutiny for offering COVID-19 vaccines to its supporters while seniors keep struggling to book appointments through broken phone systems and crashed websites.

Baptist Health, whose list of hospitals includes three in Boca Raton and Boynton Beach, appears to be among a string of South Florida hospitals who've reached out to people to offer the vaccine. Baptist Health has directly reached out to numerous people, including "established Baptist Health supporters" who are 65 or over, to set up appointments, according to a statement from the hospital.

Amid the slow vaccine rollout, questions have been raised about hospitals giving preferential treatment to supporters, allowing them to bypass getting appointments through backlogged systems.

In response, Baptist Health said the first priority has been providing vaccinations for front-line medical workers. Simultaneously, it is reaching out to numerous other groups, including family members who live with front-line medical workers and hospital volunteers, as long as they're 65 or older. BocaNewsNow.com reported that the offer was made to hospital donors.

Baptist Health said it expected to provide 12,000 first-dose vaccinations on Friday, focused on front-line workers. Additionally, 13,000 "community members" registered to receive vaccinations at Hilton Miami Dadeland.

Baptist Health's hospitals in

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Florida couple takes 'aphrodisiac' snack bar to 'Shark Tank'

By Chris Perkins
South Florida Sun Sentinel

As lifestyle enhancement products go, this one raises the bar. The snack bar, that is.

It's a product developed by a Boynton Beach couple who promote it as an aphrodisiac that doesn't require a doctor's visit, medical insurance, or unmarked packaging. And it's loaded with chocolate and almonds.

Jennifer and Michael Gallagher

took their His & Her Bar to ABC's "Shark Tank" Friday, hoping to walk away with a deal that brings their unique snack-bar-with-a-twist to the masses.

Unfortunately, none of the sharks bit so no deal was made.

The Gallaghers, who introduced themselves and their product with a self-created rap song, were seeking \$50,000 in exchange for 10% equity in their company. During their presentation Michael tearfully revealed he'd been diag-

nosed with a brain aneurysm years earlier.

The Gallaghers developed the His & Her Bar in 2019 out of a passion to launch a business around a product that had brought consumer appeal and improved people's lives.

They pitched their invention to the successful panel of TV "sharks," financiers who have helped dozens of entrepreneurs like the Gallaghers to launch popular products such as the Squatty

Potty, Scrub Daddy and others.

According to their website, the His & Her Bar is made of dates, cashews, chocolate, almonds, vanilla, cayenne pepper and maca root. It has "a creamy consistency with an earthy & nutty flavor from a mixture of almonds, cashews and maca. The chocolate, dates and vanilla gives it the perfect combination of just enough sweetness and you will taste a hint of cayenne at the back end of consuming the bar giving it a little spice."

But the Gallaghers hope its the key ingredient that excites the sharks. It's called maca root, which some consider to be an aphrodisiac. It's a "Peruvian natural Viagra," as Jennifer Gallagher said.

"When we found that, we were like maca is not really found in bars on the market," Jennifer said, "and nor is cayenne, and cayenne helps boost blood flow so we put a hint of cayenne at the end, which is really

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Maternity Program

Mizner

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heart of downtown.”

Larsen and Siemon were instrumental in building the Mizner Park Amphitheater, which anchors the north end of the plaza. On the south end is the Mizner Park Cultural Center with its black box theater. The Amphitheater is home to the annual Festival of the Arts Boca, which they started in 2007 and Larsen still chairs.

“I remember the opening of the amphitheater in 2002,” she says. “That was an event. It was the last time the Florida Philharmonic performed. That was an incredible night. Incredible.”

While there have been new brands snapping up vacancies that never recovered from the Great Recession or were done in by online shopping, the retail anchor venue that was recently a Lord & Taylor remains empty after the tony store filed for bankruptcy and closed in August. The two-story 80,000 square foot space has previously been a Jacobson’s department store and then a Robb & Stucky furniture store.

Also, sushi restaurant Blue Fish suddenly closed earlier this week after an 11-month run, having moved to Mizner Park after trying its luck on Delray Beach’s Atlantic Avenue before closing there in 2013. The restaurant opened in February in the spot formerly occupied by Rack’s Downtown Eatery and Tavern.

Here’s a breakdown of what’s scheduled to open in Mizner Park this year.

Calaveras Cantina

CalaverasCantina.com.

Already a hit in Jupiter, this Mexican restaurant is opening a long-anticipated second location in Mizner Park sometime in the spring, taking over the space



The main fountain stands at Mizner Park in Boca Raton on Thursday. Mizner Park will mark its 30th anniversary Monday. **CARLINE JEAN/SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL**

vacated by Junior’s Restaurant and Cheesecake. The future Boca Raton space has a larger kitchen, which may allow for a more ambitious menu than is possible in the Jupiter location in Harbourside Place.

Owner Curtis Peery, a Miami native raised in Palm Beach Gardens, says, “We studied Mizner pretty heavily. The clientele and people in Mizner are pretty much the same as we see in Jupiter — some snow birds from the North, but also some locals. We’re a place that you can have families in for dinner and then at a certain time it turns into a bar party atmosphere.”

EGG New York

EggNewYork.com.

This children’s fashion brand and retailer bills itself as being designed for “the stylish mom that identifies with a suburban lifestyle having a family that travels coast to coast.”

Why egg? When the brand was

first “hatched” in 2003 by designer Susan Lazar, the company explains on its website that she settled on “Egg” inspired by “each child’s great potential — all eggs might look the same on the outside, but inside lays infinite possibilities.” The store should open in the spring.

Anna Zuckerman Luxury

AnnaZuckerman.com.

Jewelry designer Anna Zuckerman’s mission for her eponymous brand’s flagship store opening this spring is to make luxury more accessible. The wide array of merchandise, everything from tiaras to tennis bracelets, has an average selling price of \$199.

Zuckerman, who emigrated from the former Soviet Union where she was born to a family of goldsmiths and fine jewelers, grew up watching her father design and craft jewelry.

The store’s interior will be designed by Boca Raton’s Albanese Development and will feature turquoise acrylic and malachite panels meant to mimic the hues Zuckerman uses in her designs.

Strike 10 Bowling and Sports Lounge

Strike10Bowling.com.

This summer the upscale bowling alley is looking to add a second South Florida location to its Hallandale Beach property in the Village at Gulfstream Park.

If the Strike 10 in Mizner Park is anything like that one, expect large HD televisions, a long sleek bar in the lounge area, a sushi bar, pool tables, an arcade, DJs, live entertainment and, of course, professional bowling lanes.

Hotworx

Hotworx.net.

This fitness studio combines

infrared heat with either yoga, isometric workouts or High Intensity Interval Training.

Hotworx will open in Mizner Park this fall. There are other locations in Fort Lauderdale, Pembroke Pines, Boynton Beach, Wellington, Palm Beach Gardens and Miami.

American Social

AmericanSocialBar.com.

This sports bar and music-centric restaurant has successfully fit into Fort Lauderdale, Miami, Tampa, Orlando and — by next winter — Boca Raton by deftly blending a little local flavor with a familiar franchise: all-American food, handcrafted cocktails and all the big games on big screens.

“All our [restaurants] have a little local in them,” explains co-founder and managing partner Paul Greenberg. “We give them the opportunity to have...different local beers. We want them to be as constant as possible but we also give our team the chance...to give their own little touch.”

For example, he explains, “The entertainment might be a little different up there. Maybe try live music first. In Orlando we found out that live music fits better than a deejay. That’s something we might look at in Mizner Park.”

Greenberg and his business partner and co-founder Rick Mijares (“Who is taking the reins of the design of American Social?”) think it is too early to say exactly how the Mizner Park location will look or reflect the local vibe. But they are eager to enter the market.

“Mizner Park is the epicenter of Boca,” he says. “We love the direction they are heading in. There’s so much to do in that area. I think they are really trying to step up their game.”

American Social is taking over the 8,000 square foot space that used to house Truluck’s.

Hospitals

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Palm Beach County are Boca Raton Regional Hospital, as well as Bethesda Hospital East and Bethesda Hospital West in Boynton Beach.

Throughout South Florida, wealthy donors have received preferential treatment at numerous hospitals. The Miami Herald reported that donors were able

to get prioritized access at Jackson Health, Mount Sinai Medical Center as well as Baptist Health. Some hospitals have reached out to wealthy donors who met the state’s criteria and offered them the vaccine, the Herald found.

Whether the vaccine distribution has been fair and equitable across Florida has been a rising concern.

MorseLife Health System, a senior living center in West Palm Beach, made vaccines available to wealthy board members, even

though the vaccines had been intended for residents and staff, according to an article in the Washington Post.

Gov. Ron DeSantis raised concerns of the inequity of wealthy donors jumping the line at MorseLife during a news conference Thursday, saying the state started an investigation “as soon as we found out about it.”

“The Governor has been very clear that vaccine should only be administered to Florida’s seniors

65 and older, frontline health care workers, and long-term care facility residents and staff,” a state spokeswoman said Friday.

Sen. Rick Scott also raised issue with Morselife, calling for a congressional investigation into the health care system. “It is absolutely disgusting and immoral that anyone would take vaccines intended for nursing homes to distribute them to their friends,” Scott tweeted.

These issues come amid a sluggish start to vaccine distribu-

tion across the state. Seniors have struggled to book appointments, due in part to limited supply and communication failures, including the phone booking system for the state health department in Palm Beach County, which “absolutely died.” As a result, the health department is only accepting vaccination requests via email and those who request appointments may not hear back for “weeks to months,” a health department official said.

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