



Treyler Park adding second restaurant in St. Johns County

METRO, 1B

The Florida Times-Union

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Musk to help DeSantis' start

Governor expected to begin presidential run

Zac Anderson and David Jackson

Sarasota Herald-Tribune
USA TODAY NETWORK

SpaceX Founder Elon Musk will help launch Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis' presidential campaign into orbit Wednesday with an event on Twitter, according to four



Musk

sources with knowledge of the plans.

Musk, the CEO of Twitter, will hold a Twitter Spaces event with DeSantis at 6 p.m. Wednesday. Tech entrepreneur David Sacks will moderate.

DeSantis also is expected to formally file his presidential paperwork with the Federal Election Commission Wednesday and put out a campaign launch video. A

campaign kickoff rally would come later.

Musk is one of the most famous people in the world, having founded iconic companies such as Tesla and SpaceX. He has 140 million Twitter followers, a huge audience to hear DeSantis' opening campaign message.

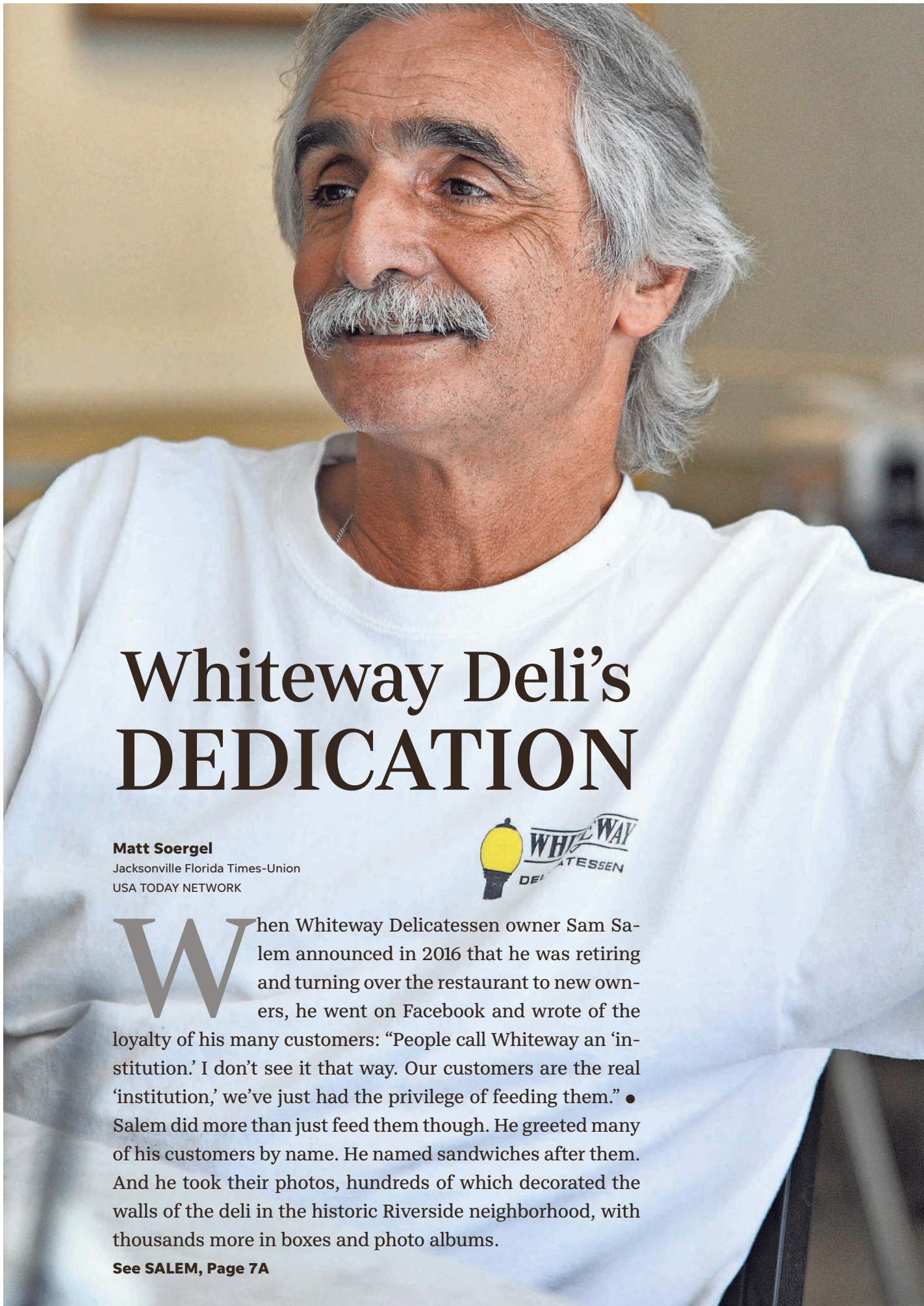
And while Musk lost the top spot on Forbes' list of the richest people in the world, he is still second with \$180 billion and could be a pivotal financial backer if he puts his money behind DeSantis.

Musk said in June that he was leaning toward supporting DeSantis.

A source told NBC that Musk indicated in recent conversations with DeSantis that he doesn't believe former President Donald Trump can win reelection. Whether he formally endorses DeSantis remains to be seen, though.

DeSantis' wife, Casey DeSantis, shared a media report about Wednesday's Twitter Spaces event with her husband and Musk and wrote "Big if true."

THE LATE SAM SALEM MADE IT ABOUT THE CUSTOMERS



Whiteway Deli's DEDICATION

Matt Soergel
Jacksonville Florida Times-Union
USA TODAY NETWORK



When Whiteway Delicatessen owner Sam Salem announced in 2016 that he was retiring and turning over the restaurant to new owners, he went on Facebook and wrote of the loyalty of his many customers: "People call Whiteway an 'institution.' I don't see it that way. Our customers are the real 'institution,' we've just had the privilege of feeding them." • Salem did more than just feed them though. He greeted many of his customers by name. He named sandwiches after them. And he took their photos, hundreds of which decorated the walls of the deli in the historic Riverside neighborhood, with thousands more in boxes and photo albums.

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Sam Salem is seen here in 2016, shortly after agreeing to sell Whiteway Delicatessen, his iconic family-run restaurant in Riverside. BRUCE LIPSKY/FLORIDA TIMES-UNION

Outdoor World to come to St. Johns

New location expected to open doors in 2024

Alexandria Mansfield

Jacksonville Florida Times-Union
USA TODAY NETWORK

Bass Pro Shops recently announced plans for a new destination retail store on World Commerce Parkway in St. Johns County.

The store will offer its standard equipment and apparel for outdoor activities, including hiking, backpacking, wildlife viewing and camping. Bass Pro Shops is expected to bring about 115 jobs to the new location, which is expected to open in 2024.

Bass Pro Shops locations feature a large aquarium and water features stocked with native fish species, thousands of local antiques and artifacts, hundreds of trophy fish and wildlife mounts and murals depicting local scenes. This Outdoor World location will be the 13th Bass Pro Shops store in Florida.

"We are very excited to announce this new location and continue to strengthen our relationship with the sportsmen and women of Florida," said Bass Pro Shops founder Johnny Morris in a news release. "We love the great state of Florida and all of the world-class fishing, hunting and outdoor recreation opportunities it provides. This new store will make it easier for people and families throughout the First Coast region to spend time together in the great outdoors."

The 100,000-square-foot Bass Pro Shops location will be accessible off Interstate 95.

In addition to an assortment of fishing and outdoor gear, the store will have industry-leading boat brands, ATVs and side-by-side vehicles among inventory tailored to the needs of freshwater and saltwater fishers in the region.

Duke Steinemann, of Steinemann & Company, the developer of World Commerce Center, said in a news release that he was "thrilled" to see Bass Pro Shops come to the World Commerce Center.

"We are planning to make World Commerce Center one of the most exciting destinations for retail in the region, and Bass Pro Shops certainly helps lead that effort," Steinemann said.

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METRO

Treylor Park adding 2nd restaurant

Expects to open soon in St. Johns County

Teresa Stepzinski
Jacksonville Florida Times-Union
USA TODAY NETWORK

A Savannah-based restaurant known for its unique twist on Southern comfort fare such as PB&J chicken wings, cheesesteak egg rolls and a grilled apple pie with chicken sandwiches is just weeks away from opening its second Northeast Florida restaurant in St. Johns County.

Treylor Park expects to open “by the beginning of June” at 61 Spanish St. – between Spanish and St. George streets in

downtown St. Augustine, co-owner Rick Kunzi told the Times-Union in an email.

The new restaurant comes roughly five years after Treylor Park debuted in St. Johns County at 158 Marketside Ave., Unit 10 in Nocatee Town Center.

The St. Augustine location will be the fifth Treylor Park restaurant in Georgia and Florida. Treylor Park Restaurant Group – founded by Kunzi and co-owner Trey Wilder – also owns and operates Double Wide Diner in Savannah.

Kunzi said they selected St. Augustine because it reminded them of Savannah where they launched the home-grown fast-casual restaurant in October 2014.

“We’ve always had our eyes on St.

See TREYLOR PARK, Page 5B



Savannah-based Treylor Park restaurant is preparing to open at 61 Spanish St. in St. Augustine. PROVIDED BY TREYLOR PARK

Downtown Jacksonville facility is preparing for expected Memorial Day holiday opening crowds



A new walkway will allow visitors to access the USS Orleck from the pier at the shipyards. PHOTOS BY BOB SELF/FLORIDA TIMES-UNION

USS Orleck naval museum rebirth

Tom Szaroleta
Jacksonville Florida Times-Union
USA TODAY NETWORK

Jacksonville’s resident warship is once again ready for visitors.

The U.S.S. Orleck, which earned the nickname “The Grey Ghost of the Vietnam Coast” by firing more rounds in support of ground troops than any ship in the Navy, will officially open for visitors on Friday in its permanent berth in the St. Johns River, just off Bay Street across from the Duval County Jail. A “soft opening” is planned for Wednesday and Thursday.

The Orleck, a Gearing Class destroyer that was built in Texas and launched in May 1945, arrived in Jacksonville more than a year ago but spent most of that time in a temporary berth in front of the Hyatt

See USS ORLECK, Page 5B



The USS Orleck tied up to the pier in the shipyards with the gangplank from the stern of the ship to the new ramp for visitors on shore May 19,.

Groups file suit over DeSantis property restrictions

Land ownership law called ‘draconian’

Douglas Soule
Tallahassee Democrat
USA TODAY NETWORK – FLORIDA

TALLAHASSEE – A group of Chinese Floridians and a real estate brokerage firm are suing the state in federal court over a recently signed Gov. Ron DeSantis policy they say puts “draconian restrictions” on people from China.

“The legislation unfairly restricts most Chinese citizens – and most citizens of Cuba, Venezuela, Syria, Iran, Russia, and North Korea – from purchasing homes in the state,” they said in a press release posted by the American Civil Liberties Union, one of their legal representatives.

“My concern has always been with the lack of definitions with some of the critical terms used in the bill.”

Fentrice Driskell of Tampa
House Democratic Leader

Gov. Ron DeSantis, whose presidential campaign announcement is expected to be imminent, signed Senate Bill 264 into law with fanfare a couple weeks back, despite the discrimination concerns raised by some Democrats and Chinese Floridians.

“Today is one example of Florida really leading the nation in terms of what we’re doing to stop the influence of the Chinese Communist party,” said DeSantis, who called for the law months before the legislative session began in March.

It’s something the governor’s certain to continue to tout as he campaigns for the nation’s highest office.

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Treylor Park

Continued from Page 1B

Augustine because of the similarities to Savannah, where we originated our concept and have seen so much success. It’s a great destination for tourism with good foot traffic and historical pride Kunzi said.

In a highly competitive business, Treylor Park stands out due to its “unique flavor profiles and approachable concept,” he said.

“We feel this is the perfect fit for our brand. It’s been tried and tested over the last nine years. You just don’t get these flavor combinations anywhere else in St. Augustine, and the restaurant itself is very comfortable for families, newcomers and regulars alike,” Kunzi said.

On the menu at Treylor Park

Treylor Park focuses on a family-friendly menu featuring “an elevated vision of Southern comfort food that feels

distinctly off the beaten path,” Wilder and Kunzi said in a news release announcing the upcoming opening of the St. Augustine restaurant.

The goal “is to create a culinary journey full of adventurous dishes that diners can’t experience anywhere else.”

To that end, the restaurant features unique, freshly made-to-order fare as well as a variety of craft cocktails, beer and wine.

“It’s all about keeping people interested and excited. That’s how we’ve built and maintained such a following,” Kunzi said in the news release.

“Take our PB&J chicken wings. The initial thought makes people go cross-eyed until they find out we use an Asian peanut flavor, paired with our homemade peach jam as a dipping sauce. They’re not your mom’s PB&J with the crust cut off. They’ve got their own intellectual flavors,” he said.

Signature dishes and customer favorites include:

- Grilled Apple Pie Sandwich with Chicken (\$16): Fried chicken and bacon with Cheddar cheese and cinnamon

- roasted apples on brioche
- PB&J Chicken Wings (\$12): Crispy fried chicken wings tossed in a pecan/peanut butter sauce with a peach jam dipping sauce
- Cheesesteak Egg Rolls (\$14): Marinated rib-eye, cheddar cheese, bell peppers and caramelized onions served with beer cheese dipping sauce
- Treylor Park Pot Pie (\$18): Home-style chicken pot pie featuring peas, carrots, corn, celery and onions in a creamy herb sauce wrapped in a flour tortilla then deep fried until crispy and topped with fresh pico de gallo
- Ribs & Mac (\$22): Ribs with a spicy pineapple barbecue sauce and mac & cheese (limited availability)
- Hot Chicken & Waffles (\$18): Fried chicken, sweet waffles, hot sauce, bourbon pecan maple syrup and blueberry compote
- Miyagi Beef Tacos (\$16): Ribeye marinated in soy and ginger glaze and chili aioli with mixed greens tossed in a carrot and ginger dressing, pickled cauliflower and sesame seeds
- Treylor Park Smash for brunch

(\$16): Toasted sourdough bread with two eggs, smashed avocado, applewood-smoked bacon, sliced red and yellow tomatoes, Feta cheese, onion marmalade and Sriracha creme fraiche

Another specialty is the Treylor Park TV Dinner (\$18): A rotating special based on the iconic TV dinners.

Treylor Park also offers flatbreads, salads, tacos, soup of the day and desserts.

The restaurant’s brunch menu includes Treylor Park Brunch nachos, a Chicken and Pancake Taco and a Bacon, Egg and Cheese flatbread – all \$16.

More Treylor Parks on the horizon

St, Augustine and Nocatee are just the beginning for Treylor Park in North-east Florida.

“We are in talks with a few expansion projects. Jacksonville really lends itself to our brand and our growth. We’re very excited for the opportunities to come,” said Kunzi, who didn’t detail the potential locations or timetable.

Treylor Park St. Augustine will be open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily, Kunzi said.

USS Orleck

Continued from Page 1B

Regency Jacksonville Riverfront. It moved downriver in April to its long-term home, alongside city-owned Pier One.

A temporary building that houses air-conditioned restrooms and a ticket office now stands behind the historic Catherine Street Fire Station building that was moved in March from Metropolitan Park. The city has plans to build a park that will incorporate the Orleck and a new visitor’s center, the fire station and a relocated Museum of Science and History.

The ship sits alongside a large concrete pier, but the pier is not publicly accessible. A wooden ramp now winds its way from the ground to an aluminum gangway leading to the stern of the ship, where visitors are confronted by a pair of the ship’s big guns that once took 14 men to operate. The ramp is wheelchair-accessible, but parts of the ship are not.

The ship is the centerpiece of the new Jacksonville Naval Museum. It will be open for public tours from 9 a.m. to 3

p.m. Wednesdays through Fridays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays. For the opening weekend – which combines Memorial Day with huge crowds that will be downtown for the Jacksonville Jazz Festival – the Orleck will be open Monday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

“It’s Memorial Day, so it’s a huge military holiday,” said Jim Webb, executive director of the Jacksonville Naval Museum.

Plans call for a live band on board, plus food trucks parked near the new ticket office.

Webb said tens of thousands of people have toured the ship since it arrived in Jacksonville, but exact numbers aren’t available because the museum couldn’t charge admission. While berthed near the Hyatt, the ship sat over state-owned land, which meant the museum could only accept donations. The new site is city-owned, so tickets will now be sold.

“I’ve learned all about submerged land leases,” Webb said.

Admission to the Orleck is \$15 for adults, \$13 for veterans and seniors, \$10 for ages 10-17 and \$5 for ages 6-11. Active duty military in uniform are admitted

free; admission for active duty military out of uniform is \$7.50.

The ship is being transformed into a museum of the U.S. Navy’s role in the Cold War, and Vietnam in particular. Webb said the Orleck was once armed with tactical nuclear depth charges that would have blown a mile-wide hole in the water but were never deployed. A tiny drone anti-submarine helicopter sits on a deck near the ship’s stern, but Webb said plans call for it to be moved to an interior hangar that, at some point, was converted to a mess hall.

Most of the compartments on the main deck – “officers’ country” – are accessible to the public while work continues on others. The ship’s store, which once sold cigarettes and essentials to the crew, is now a gift shop selling memorabilia and T-shirts. Visitors can also visit the ship’s mess, pharmacy and bridge.

Crews are working on the enlisted berthing areas, where the crew once slept. The spaces have low ceilings and bunks that hang by chains. They will eventually be used for overnight trips by Scouts and other youth groups.

The Orleck has already hosted at least three weddings and a marriage-vow renewal ceremony, plus a steady stream of

military retirement ceremonies and Chamber of Commerce mixers. “We’ve probably had private events every day since moving here in April,” Webb said.

The 2,350-ton Gearing Class destroyer was launched in May 1945 and operated as part of the 7th Fleet during the Korean War, then underwent extensive renovations under the Navy’s Fleet Rehabilitation and Maintenance program in 1962.

The ship earned 18 Battle Stars, four during the Korean conflict and 14 during the fighting in Vietnam.

It later served as a training ship and appeared in the TV miniseries “Winds of War.” In 1982 it was transferred to the Turkish Navy, where it was renamed the TCG Yucetepe, serving until 2000. The Turkish Navy donated the ship to the Southeast Texas War Memorial and Heritage Foundation and it was kept on the Calcasieu River in Lake Charles, La., where it was damaged by Hurricane Laura in 2020. The Jacksonville group acquired the ship in 2021 and had it towed to a dry dock in Port Arthur, Texas, where it was inspected before being towed across the Gulf of Mexico, around the tip of Florida and into the St. Johns River.

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