

METRO

DeSantis hints at defamation law

Attacks media ahead of possible presidential bid

Douglas Soule
Tallahassee Democrat
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

TALLAHASSEE – Before an expected presidential primary run, Gov. Ron DeSantis is ratcheting up a strategy frequently used by former President Donald Trump, his main competitor: Attacking the media.

At a Tuesday morning roundtable



Gov. Ron DeSantis hosted a roundtable discussion on defamation on Tuesday. SCREENSHOT

that has alarmed some First Amendment advocates and appeared aimed at a national audience, DeSantis said he wants to make it easier to sue media outlets that he claimed were society's "leading purveyor of disinformation."

Trump has called for similar changes for multiple years.

"There needs to be an ability for people to defend themselves not through government regulation or restriction, but through being able to seek private right of action," he said.

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Breakfast, lunch chain debuts first Florida restaurant in Jacksonville



A Scramblers customer favorite: Uncle Moose's Manhandler Skillet with bacon, ham, sausage, onions and a blend of monterey jack and cheddar cheeses on a bed of skin-on potato chunks then topped with two eggs any style. SCRAMBLERS BRANDS/WITH PERMISSION

'Flippin' eggs'

Teresa Stepzinski
Jacksonville Florida Times-Union
USA TODAY NETWORK

Uncle Moose's Manhandler has arrived in Jacksonville.

The hearty breakfast skillet and other signature fare are now being served at Scramblers' first Florida restaurant at 9940 Old Baymeadows Road in the Publix-anchored Deerwood Village Mall. The restaurant is the first of five breakfast and lunch restaurants planned in Jacksonville.

"We're happy to say we're flippin' eggs now," Shain Buerk, president and co-founder of Scramblers, told the Times-Union. "At 6:30 [Monday] morning we turned the sign on and opened the doors."

A second Scramblers is planned for 1500 University Blvd. W. at San Jose Blvd. at Lakewood South retail center, anchored by Winn-Dixie, where demolition is completed and interior buildout is set to begin. The restaurant's sign is already on the building.

"We're hopeful and excited and are looking at opening the second location in May or June," he said.

Jacksonville is the key gateway unlocking Scramblers' expansion into Florida and the South, Buerk previously told the Times-Union.

Buerk reaffirmed Scramblers is committed to opening three more restaurants in Jacksonville. The search for the right locations is underway, he said. All five of the Jacksonville stores will be corporate-owned.

Scramblers is a family-owned and operated restaurant chain dating back to 1989 in Toledo, Ohio, where its headquarters remains. Until now, its 30 restaurants have been confined to Ohio and Michigan.

Buerk opened the original mom-and-pop diner with his parents, Phil and Deby Marie Buerk. Originally named Cafe Marie after his mom, the restaurant features his dad's recipes and his mom's cooking expertise. Buerk's brother Brandon and cousin Tim Trautman subsequently joined the business.

On the menu: Hearty breakfast and lunch

Scramblers offers a versatile, made-from-scratch menu designed to appeal to everyone from college students to businesspeople, retirees and especially families.



Patti Miller, left, and Tom Smith, enjoy a work lunch Monday at the newly opened Scramblers, 9940 Old Baymeadows Road in Deerwood Village Mall on the Southside of Jacksonville.

COREY PERRINE/FLORIDA TIMES-UNION

Menu highlights include:

The Classic: Three eggs any style, bacon or sausage, hash browns and two full-sized pancakes.

Uncle Moose's Manhandler Skillet: Bacon, ham, sausage, onions and a blend of Monterey Jack and Cheddar cheeses, on a bed of skin-on potato chunks topped with two eggs any style.

Chicken & Waffle: Breaded chicken tenders on a Belgian waffle, topped with powdered sugar, chives and syrup.

Breakfast Tacos: Three corn tortillas with scrambled eggs, chorizo sausage, black bean and corn salsa, cheeses, tomatoes and green onion.

Scramblers also offers "bottomless" pancakes, French toast and waffles. Omelets, a variety of eggs benedicts, breakfast sandwiches, frittatas, burritos, fresh fruit bowls and traditional egg-and-meat plates round out the breakfast menu.

Limited-time dishes, which change seasonally, include such offerings as kale and quinoa salad, quiche, lemon raspberry ricotta pancakes or a Nashville Hot Cauliflower Croissant.

Lunch selections include Angus Cheeseburger, Turkey Club Wrap, Monte Cristo and more.

Scramblers is open from 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily.

PLAYERS PETS WEEKEND

Humane Society waiving adoption fees

Garry Smits
Jacksonville Florida Times-Union
USA TODAY NETWORK

Call them The Players Pups. Or perhaps the TPC Tabbies.

The Jacksonville Humane Society and The Players Championship have teamed up to waive adoption fees for all pets this weekend from Friday through Sunday at the JHS Adoption, Education and Pet Help Center at 8464 Beach Boulevard, between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

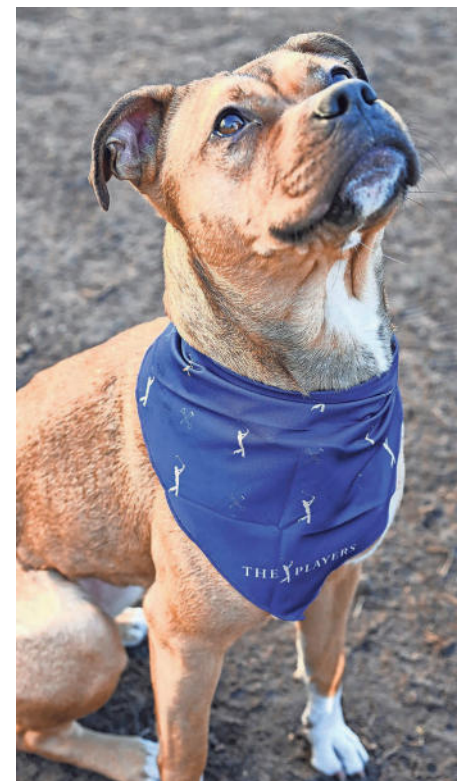
JHS will have more than 100 pets, including dogs and cats, available for adoption. All dogs will go home with a Players Championship bandana and a package of treats from Barkin' Biscuits of Berry Good Farms.

"We are so thrilled that we are able to do this for our four-legged friends here in Northeast Florida," said Emily Bellock, community outreach director for The Players.

"The Jacksonville Humane Society is excited to partner with The Players for this special adoption event, just in time for Valentine's Day," said Denise Deisler, JHS CEO. "If you've been considering pet adoption, this is a perfect weekend."

All pets are spayed/neutered, vaccinated and microchipped prior to adoption. While adoption fees are waived, additional fees may apply.

For more information, visit jaxhumane.org or call (904) 725-8766.



Dogs adopted this weekend at the Jacksonville Humane Society will receive a Players Championship bandanna through to a cooperative venture with The Players, the JHS is waiving pet adoption fees this weekend for dogs and cats.

TRACY WILCOX/PGA TOUR