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Inside C2

# Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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## Tears and outrage: Victims of Georgia spa killings remembered by loved ones



ACWORTH, Ga. (Reuters) - Clutching a bouquet of flowers, Jami Webb wept alongside her fiancé Kevin Chen at a makeshift memorial set up in front of Young's Asian Massage for the victims of this week's shooting rampage at three Atlanta-area spas.

Kevin Chen consoles his fiancée Jami Webb outside Young's Asian Massage following the deadly shootings in Acworth, Georgia, U.S. March 19, 2021. Webb is the daughter of Xiaojie Tan, the owner of the spa who was killed in the shootings. REUTERS/Bita Honarvar

Most of those who stopped and prayed in front of the flowers, burning candles and signs condemning racism and violence were strangers to the eight victims. But for Webb, 29, and her family, the visit was personal and deeply painful.

Her father, Michael, is the former husband of the spa's owner, Xiaojie "Emily" Tan, one of the six Asian women killed when a gunman opened fire on Tuesday.

"Today is about taking care of family business," Michael Webb, 64, said on Friday, declining a reporter's request for an interview.

Tan was a "smart, hardworking business-woman," according to her friend Greg Hyn-

son, 54. Originally from China, she was devoted to her business but loved to travel when she could. She would have turned 50 this week.

Hynson met Tan six years ago, when the former competitive weight lifter sought out massages for his sore back. "If I found somebody good I'd stick with them," he said. "She was one of those people."

### 'HEART OF GOLD'

Relatives and friends of some of the other victims shared memories of their loved ones and expressed their grief in online posts.

"She had a heart of GOLD. She didn't care of your race, color, or religion. If you needed help, she was there," read a Facebook post by Cristy Lynn McGouirk, who identified herself as a cousin of Delaina Ashley Yaun Gonzalez, who died at Young's Asian Massage in Acworth.

Gonzalez had gone there with her husband on a date night, McGouirk said in another post. The husband, Mario, survived the attack and is "completely devastated."

"They were on a date night, and just want-

ed to relax. In a blink of an eye, she was taken from him," she wrote.

The suspect, 21-year-old Atlanta-area resident Robert Aaron Long, has been jailed on charges of murdering eight people, six of whom were women of Asian descent.

Hyun Jung Grant was one of those shot at Gold Spa in Atlanta. Her son, Randy Park, set up a GoFundMe page to help raise money for himself and his brother. The loss of their mother left them alone in the United States.

"She was a single mother who dedicated her whole life to providing for my brother and I," Park wrote. "She was one of my best friends and the strongest influence on who we are today. Losing her has put a new lens on my eyes on the amount of hate that exists in our world."

As of early Friday evening, Park's GoFundMe had raised nearly \$1.5 million in donations, far more than its \$20,000 goal.

### 'I DON'T FEEL SAFE'

The makeshift memorials that took shape outside Young's and the two other spas in Atlanta resemble hundreds of others that have sprung up across the United States in recent years to

honor the victims of the country's epidemic of gun violence.



Atlanta shrines have also become places to pay tribute to victims of a nationwide surge in anti-Asian violence and harassment that many say has been largely ignored until Tuesday's bloodshed.

Among the group of well-wishers who stopped by Young's Asian Massage was Tracey Xu, who described herself as a business professional who moved to the United States from China 24 years ago to attend school, and decided to stay

"We're sad to the point of breaking over this," Xu said. "I moved to America because it was the beacon of hope to the world. I love both China and America, but this is crazy." Xu said she has felt an undercurrent of racial hatred against Asians since she moved to the country, but never like now. "It's now all out in the open, people have become emboldened," she said.

# ChaCha 治好花开 暖心陪伴

美國地區總代理

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WELL LUCK

# WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

## CORONAVIRUS DIARY

03/20/2021

### We All Should Be On The Front Line



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A "Stop Asian Hate Vigil & Rally" sponsored by OCA and other Asian groups will be held at a rally in downtown Houston at Discovery Green. This event will touch everybody's heart especially at this time of the murders in Atlanta, Georgia.

We are the century of immigrants. For almost three hundred years, so many people around the world can't go to America for the American Dream. Many people have settled down

here as their home. We all

built the United States of America after World War II. We became a super power and led the world in the last seventy years. But things are changing. We have so many issues these days. Not just the coronavirus pandemic, now the racial bias and attacks have become become our biggest difficulty.

In just the past year alone, more than 4,000 Asians have been involved in hate crimes and more and more people

are feeling very unsafe right here in our community.

We really appreciate that President Biden came to Atlanta and visited our community, but we still want to urge the federal and local governments to take more action to protect our community.

In the meantime, all of our people need to stand in the front line to do our best to help each other.



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Southern DAILY Make Today Different

## Editor's Choice



A man who was shot during a crackdown on anti-coup protesters shows a three-finger salute as he is helped in Thingangyun, Yangon, Myanmar March 14, 2021. REUTERS/Stringer



Police detain Patsy Stevenson as people gather at a memorial site in Clapham Common Bandstand, following the kidnap and murder of Sarah Everard, in London, Britain March 13, 2021. Police faced a backlash from the public and an official inquiry into their actions after using heavy-handed tactics to break up the vigil. A London police officer is charged in Everard's death. Stevenson told LBC radio: "The main point that everyone was trying to get across when everything happened is that women don't feel safe, they don't feel safe walking down a street and that's the bare minimum we should feel the freedom to do." REUTERS/Hannah McKay



Abu Jakka Farhan, a truffle hunter, is pushed in a wheelchair as he searches for truffles in the desert in Samawa, Iraq. Fetching its hunters up to \$7 a kilo this year, Iraq's desert truffle is cheaper than its rarer European cousins that can cost hundreds of dollars or more a kilo. But with Iraq's economy in crisis, the local variety are a big help to foragers. Picture taken Febru-



Bernice Bohannon, who turned 111 years old on Sunday, is comforted by nurse Jilissa Hurd following her coronavirus vaccination, at the IU Health Neuroscience Center in Indianapolis, Indiana, March 16, 2021. REUTERS/Chris Bergin



Asylum-seeking families and unaccompanied minors from Central America walk towards the border wall after crossing the Rio Grande into the United States from Mexico on rafts, in Penitas, Texas, March 17, 2021. REUTERS/Adrees Latif



A migrant child from Central America plays with his own shadow inside the office of the Center for Integral Attention to Migrants (CAIM) after being deported with his mother from the United States, in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico March 15, 2021. REUTERS/ Jose Luis Gonzalez

## Fauci Sees U.S. Gaining Control Over Pandemic By Next Autumn



Dr. Anthony Fauci, the leading U.S. infectious disease specialist.

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) -The leading U.S. infectious disease specialist, Dr. Anthony Fauci, said on Wednesday he foresees America achieving enough collective COVID-19 immunity through vaccinations to regain "some semblance of normality" by autumn 2021, despite early setbacks in the vaccine rollout. Fauci made his remarks during an online discussion of the pandemic with California Governor Gavin Newsom, who announced at the outset that a more infectious coronavirus variant originally found in Britain has been detected in his state, a day after the first known U.S. case was documented in Colorado.

Newsom said the coronavirus variant B.1.1.7 had been confirmed earlier in the day in a Southern California patient. He did not provide further details. But the California Department of Public Health said in statement later that the person, a San Diego County patient, has no known travel history, suggesting the variant is spreading within the community. Fauci said he was "not surprised," adding that additional cases of the variant would likely surface around the country and that the mutating nature of such viruses is normal. "It appears that this particular mutation

does make the virus better at transmitting from one person to another," he said. However, individuals infected with earlier forms of SARS-CoV-2 "don't seem to get re-infected by this," meaning that any immunity already acquired "is protective against this particular strain," Fauci added.

He also stressed that the so-called UK variant is believed to be no more severe in the illness it causes, and that newly approved COVID-19 vaccines will prove just as effective against it as against earlier known forms of the virus. The same is believed to be true for a second new variant, also more infectious and first reported in South Africa, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).



Still, the emergence of a more highly transmissible variant could make a

swift rollout of immunizations all the more critical.

President-elect Joe Biden warned on Tuesday it could take years to inoculate most Americans given an initial vaccine distribution rate that has lagged behind the promises of the Trump administration. He called on Congress to approve greater funding for the endeavor.

### Related

#### Studies Show Vitamin Supplements Crucial To Fighting COVID-19

We've learned a lot the past year about how to fight COVID-19. The latest studies show an arsenal in your medicine cabinet could be quite simple, in the form of vitamins.

We get all types of medical tests to evaluate everything from blood pressure to cholesterol.

After dozens of studies have recently shown the importance of Vitamin D when fighting COVID-19, Dr. Peter Osborne with Origins Nutrition Center suggests, you consider a blood test to check your vitamin levels.



#### Dr. Peter Osborne offers advice on how to take in the vitamins you need to help fight COVID-19.

"I think that's probably one of the smartest things that a person could do right now, with an unpredictable role of a relatively unknown illness. What we do know at this point about vitamin therapy, particularly about vitamin D, a new study has come out and a new analysis has come out on what we know about vitamin D and COVID. So far, here's what we know: people with low vitamin D who get COVID have a greater tendency toward dying, have a greater tendency toward hyper-inflammation in the cytokine storm that comes with COVID, and have a greater tendency toward get-

ting on ventilators, which are very bad because ventilators don't work very well for COVID. When a person's on a ventilator with COVID it's not a good thing. So, the outcomes aren't great, so if we can keep people off of ventilators and we can keep their immune system supported really well with nutrition, that ideally that makes the most sense," explains Dr. Osborne.

He also says the most recent studies show that nine out of 10 COVID-19 deaths could be prevented if people had adequate Vitamin D levels. Vitamin D in our bodies often goes down in the wintertime, because fewer people are outside and not soaking it up from the sun. You need at least 20 minutes of sunlight every day to get an adequate amount, which is why a supplement is often needed to get to a healthy level. Some hospitals around the country are even using vitamins as a treatment for COVID-19, not just prevention.



"A lot of doctors are now learning this and coming out and saying it! The East Virginia School of Medicine actually has a COVID protocol that includes Vitamin D. So if you're a patient who gets hospitalized for COVID, they're automatically putting you on between 20,000 and 60,000 units of Vitamin D. This is part of their standard of care protocol in that hospital system," says Dr. Osborne.

Dr. Osborne believes Vitamin D is one of the most simple and affordable ways to help you stay healthy.

"Vitamin D is very inexpensive. You can buy it at the local nutrition store, and it might just save your life, should you get sick. With vitamin D, there's a therapy that can be done that I recommend, and it's 1000 international units (IU) of vitamin D per pound. So if you're 100

pounds, you would take 100,000 international units of vitamin D for three days. After that, you don't have to keep taking those higher doses, but three days of high dose vitamin D will elevate your serum vitamin D levels to adequate levels," states Dr. Osborne.

If you have a condition called sarcoidosis - Dr. Osborne says this many vitamins would not be safe for you. It's important to talk to your own doctor before taking a new vitamin regimen, to make sure it's safe for you and doesn't affect any prescriptions you're taking or any other medical conditions.



Along with following the CDC health guidelines, he encourages everyone to think of boosting their immune systems as a four-pronged approach, using four different supplements:

**Number 1:** Vitamin D, get your levels up, and you can also ask your doctor to test your levels, a very easy blood test.

**Number 2:** Vitamin C, we know it's working well. There have been some studies on COVID where vitamin C has shown to have very good benefits in the outcome of an illness.

**Number 3:** Zinc stops viral replication multiple ways, so it prevents the virus from hijacking your DNA, prevents the virus from replicating. It also prevents the virus from entering the cell, so zinc is very important right now.

**Number 4:** Quercetin, which is what's called a natural bioflavonoid. Quercetin opens up the cells in your body so that zinc can get inside your cells, where it works. So think of quercetin as the key. Think of zinc as the repairman, that is allowed into the house, so-to-speak," says Dr. Osborne. (Courtesy <https://www.fox-26houston.com/>)

Stay Home!

# COMMUNITY

Wear Mask!

## A Coronavirus Vaccine That Wouldn't Require A Shot



A vaccine that is simple as putting on a Band-Aid is in development. (Photo UPMC)

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

As labs around the world race to develop a vaccine, my colleagues and I are trying to find a better way to deliver it than the standard, cringe-inducing shot.

I am an immunologist and dermatologist, and my colleagues and I have been working on vaccines against the very related coronaviruses that cause MERS and SARS. We were able to use the resources and systems we had already developed to very rapidly create a vaccine candidate for this new SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus that we have tested in mice.

Called the PittCoVacc vaccine, it is a simple protein vaccine that is made from a small piece of one of the virus's proteins, much like some of the flu vaccines that are now on the market.

There are currently many groups around the world working to develop a vaccine. What's different with our design is the way the vaccine is delivered to people. Rather than inject the vaccine via a traditional shot, we use a small patch which has hundreds of small needles. We hope this delivery device will be simpler to produce in large numbers

and administer to people.

**Do experts have something to add to public debate?**

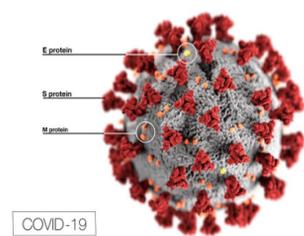
We think so.

#### Band-Aid with 'microneedles'

Like traditional vaccines, our vaccine uses a small piece of the virus as an antigen, or "target" to stimulate the body's immune response to make antibodies that recognize and bind to that target on the virus.

In this case, the target is from the virus's S1 spike protein. This is the critical part of the virus that recognizes a protein receptor on our own human cells - and works much like putting the virus's key in our own cells' lock. Once the spike protein attaches to our cells, it enables the virus to enter our cells and cause the infection.

Our team at the University of Pittsburgh hopes that the antibodies our patients make after receiving the vaccine will bind to this key, and block it from fitting into the lock. That would prevent the infection.



dissolvable microneedle array.

This is like a Band-Aid, but with hundreds of small needles, roughly the width of a human hair and just over half a millimeter in length. In this case, the microneedles are made out of a sugar-like substance mixed with the antigen.

When the vaccine patch is stuck on the skin, the microneedles poke into the skin and dissolve, releasing the antigen without causing pain or bleeding. This delivers the vaccine to a region of the skin that has specialized "scout" cells known as dendritic cells that recognize foreign invaders, and carry that information to the body's immune system factories where antibodies are made.

#### Potential to scale quickly

When we tested this microneedle coronavirus vaccine in mice, we saw that it helped trigger the production of many antibodies which can then respond to the target protein on the virus.

Our team of Pitt and UPMC scientists hope to be able to test this vaccine in people very soon. Our next step is to obtain approval from the Food and Drug Administration to start these clinical trials. The entire clinical testing process can take a year to 18 months in normal times. But there is nothing about this pandemic that is "normal." Very intelligent and hard-working scientists at the FDA are doing their best to assure that a vaccine which is both safe and effective will be available as soon as possible. Safety is everyone's primary concern.

The advantage of our microneedle delivery system is that it is relatively straightforward to make and uses very little antigen. That means that production can be scaled up very quickly. In addition, unlike most vaccines that need to be kept cold from when they are made until they

are given to the patient, this vaccine does not require this "cold chain" and can be distributed and stored at room temperature like Band-Aids. Cutting out this cold chain - a goal researchers have been pursuing for years - reduces cost and should facilitate global vaccine distribution.

Of course, we never know how well a vaccine will work until it's tested in patients, but progress with this vaccine and others like it give us a reason for hope. (Courtesy [theconversation.com](https://theconversation.com))

### Related

#### Vaccines Will Power 5.5% Global Economic Growth In 2021: IMF

WASHINGTON (AP) — The spread of COVID-19 vaccines will power a stronger global economic recovery in 2021, the International Monetary Fund forecast Tuesday.

After sinking 3.5% in 2020, the worst year since World War II, the global economy will grow 5.5% this year, the 190-country lending organization predicted. The new figure for 2021 is an upgrade from the 5.2% expansion the IMF forecast in October and would mark the fastest year of global growth since the 2010 snapback from the financial crisis.

The vaccines should contain the spread of the virus and allow governments around the world to ease lockdowns and encourage a return to normal economic activity. The world economy also got a boost from government stimulus programs late last year in the United States and Japan.



But the IMF also says economies worldwide will need support from their governments to offset the damage from the pandemic and warns that coronavirus mutations could cloud the outlook for global health and economic growth.

"Much depends on the outcome of this

race between a mutating virus and vaccines and the ability of policies to provide effective support until the pandemic ends," IMF chief economist Gita Gopinath said at a press briefing Tuesday. "There remains tremendous uncertainty." In an update to its World Economic Outlook, the IMF said that it expects the U.S. economy -- the world's biggest -- to expand 5.1% this year after collapsing 3.4% in 2020. No. 2 China is expected to record 8.1% growth after eking out a 2.3% increase in 2020.



Women carry shopping bags, Thursday, Dec. 10, 2020, in New York. The spread of COVID-19 vaccines will power a stronger global economic recovery in 2021, the International Monetary Fund forecast Tuesday, Jan. 26, 2021. (Photo/M. Lennihan/AP)

The 19 countries European countries that share the euro currency will collectively register 4.2% growth this year after seeing economic output crater 7.2% in 2020, the IMF says. The Japanese economy is forecast to grow 3.1%, reversing a 5.1% decline in 2020.

The IMF gave India a big upgrade, thanks to a faster-than-expected recovery at its factories and farms: The Indian economy is forecast to expand 11.5% in 2021, fastest among major economies, and a turnaround from 2020's decline of 8%.

The agency also expects global trade to rebound this year: recording 8.1% growth after falling 9.6% last year. (Courtesy [news.com](https://news.com) via AP)