

News Release



April 26-28, 2019

Unique Stories St. Anthony's Triathlon 2019

Darin Santangelo

Darin Santangelo's daughter, Gina, has a rare chromosome anomaly resulting in her having Cerebral Palsy. She had an extremely poor prognosis and the doctors only expected her to live a few hours. She is now 25 years old and competing with her father in this year's St. Anthony's Triathlon in the Olympic Triathlon distance. This will be their longest triathlon to-date.

Darin shared that he will never have the opportunity to "Walk her down the aisle" in a traditional fashion due to Gina's disability. However, he wanted to experience "special" life events with her, so he decided to run down as many finish lines as possible with her. Their goal is to complete an Ironman Triathlon together in the future. The duo is committed to the mission of St. Joe's to help children and wants to inspire others to reach their goals, no matter what.



Mary Thomas

Mary Thomas, the oldest competitor in the 2019 St. Anthony's Meek & Mighty Triathlon. Mary, 84, said that she and her daughter had planned to do the Triathlon a few years ago when her daughter, Karen, was diagnosed with cancer. Sadly, Karen passed away in 2013. Now, Mary and her family race in her daughter's memory every year. Mary, who is a proud member of the [Pinellas Realtor Organization](#), said that she intends to keep racing as long as she can.



Pro Athletes
For More Pro Athlete Details, [Visit This Link](#)

Sarah Haskins-Koruem will be going for her record **eighth win** at St. Anthony's. If Haskins wins in 2019, it would make her the only female pro to win St. Anthony's eight times.



None of the current male competitors have won St. Anthony's Triathlon previously. **Jason West** captured the 2nd place podium spot in 2018, while **Jackson Laundry** placed 4th in last year's event.



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Todd Burns

This is his first race at St. Anthony’s and first season as a Pro. He started racing as a professional triathlete at the age of 38. He is an attorney for the Department of Energy.

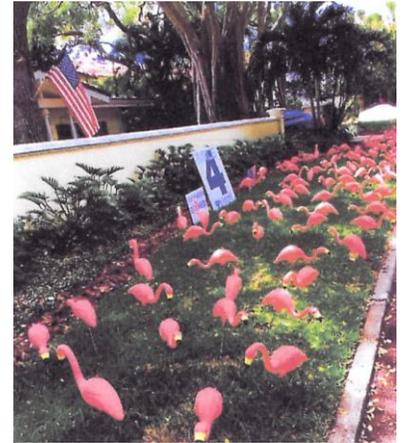


Local Viewing Party for the Heart Gallery of Pinellas & Pasco

Kathy and Mark Mandula are hosting their 8th annual St. Anthony’s Triathlon viewing party to raise awareness about the [Heart Gallery of Pinellas & Pasco](#) and its mission to increase the number of successful adoptions of local children in foster care. During the viewing party, Kathy and

Mark, along with their friends, cheer on race day from 8 a.m. until the final competitor comes by.

Media is welcome to come to the Mandula home during the viewing party and learn more about the Heart Gallery of Pinellas & Pasco.



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