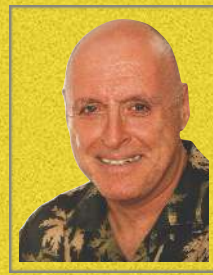


# THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



## # 549 In Other Pandemic News...

While everybody is totally focused on doing their best not to catch Sars Cov-2, there is other news to talk about. I'm Jerry Roberts and today, a few stories you might have missed. That's next on The Extra Point.

Yesterday I was going over some news items that some folks may have missed. Things like:

1. The U.S. Postal Service is in financial trouble. Well, that in itself is not news. They always need money. However, they say the pandemic has resulted in a catastrophic drop in mail being sent. They're asking for about \$75 billion in order to balance their checkbook.
2. The crazy world of social media has a new star. An 88-year-old grandma sent her family a video where she sang "Happy Birthday" to herself, over the burning candles on her cake. She blew all the candles out and sent the video to her granddaughter who posted it to TikTok. Granny had over 3 million views as of a couple of days ago.
3. With all their protective gear on hospital workers look a little scary to patients, so they've now taken to taping photos of themselves on their chest. Patients have become more comfortable as a result.
4. A wealthy donor in the town of Earlham, Iowa, population 1,450, decided to make a difference for his or her neighbors. The donor gave each household — 549 in all — \$150 in gift cards for groceries and restaurant meals. The total tab was over \$82,000.
5. The top 10 car insurance companies in the U.S. who together own 72% of the market, have all announced they will return more than \$7.5 billion to customers. Why? People are driving less and there are fewer accidents, so the insurers have fewer claims and they're giving a chunk of that savings back to policy holders. Will it also happen in Guam?
6. The volume of trash has greatly increased, because most people are home and making more to collect. Trash companies are reporting that they're pushing hard to keep up.
7. Apple and Google, two companies that are major competitors, are now working together on a platform to enable contact tracing. People who test positive can load their test result into the app on their phone, which then notifies other app users that they may have been exposed to the virus and they can be tested.
8. John Griffin, age 53, lives in Southern England. He came up with an interesting way to exercise and raise some money for his local food bank. There are 30 steps in his three-story house and in four days he made 1,363 trips up those stairs, 40,846 steps in all. He climbed the equivalent of Mt. Everest. As of yesterday, Griffin's effort had raised \$2,135 from crowdfunding.
9. Cannabis users aren't going to like this, but smoking weed is said to increase the risk of serious complications if the user comes down with the coronavirus. Dr. Albert Rizzo, chief medical officer for the American Lung Assn., says marijuana causes inflammation and that can add to COVID-19 problems.
10. In the Czech Republic, sunbathing in your birthday suit and nothing but your birthday suit is legal. However, community leaders are concerned with the spread of infection. Thus, police officers have been called out to enforce the requirement that the nudists wear masks.

That's The Extra Point. Stay home and make something good happen today. For 93.3 and the Ray Gibson Show, I'm Jerry Roberts.

###

For information on training and consulting services from Jerry Roberts, please click this link: [guamtraining.com](http://guamtraining.com)



Listen to The Extra Point at 7:20 a.m. on The Ray Gibson Show — 93.3 fm [ThePoint.gu](http://ThePoint.gu)