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PONTE VEDRA



Recorder

April 16, 2020
Volume 51, No. 24
75 cents

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PonteVedraRecorder.com

BEACHES STILL OFF LIMITS



Despite a petition with 12,000 signatures opposing the move, beaches will remain closed in the county for another week.

Read more on page 2

Photo by Don Coble

MORE INSIDE: Local attorney describes experience of suffering from COVID-19, **page 4**

Easter Sunday services go on, online that is, **page 5**

Council addresses small business owners at virtual meeting, **page 10**

What's Available NOW On **NETFLIX**



INSIDE: CHECK IT OUT!

The Recorder's Entertainment EXTRA featuring TV listings, streaming information, puzzles and more!



Business Weekly featuring Legal Eagles

Pages 10-12

Takeout & Delivery Guide Page 14



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INSIDE

One of Us

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Send us your news

We welcome submissions of photos, stories, columns and letters to the editor. Let us know what's happening. Email submissions to pvrecorder@opcfla.com or bring them by our office at **1102 A1A N., Unit 108, Ponte Vedra Beach**. Submissions may be published in the paper, on our website or on our social media platforms.

Visit our website at www.pontevedrarecorder.com



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Find us on Twitter **@PonteVedraNews** and on Instagram **@pvrecorder**



Also, check out the **Ponte Vedra Recorder** channel on YouTube.

EDITOR'S NOTES

What's This?: Because of the COVID-19 crisis and the current closure of the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens, the Recorder is suspending the "Do you know what this is?" contest until further notice.

Pets of the Week: Because the St. Johns County Pet Center is closed, the Recorder's Pets of the Week feature has been temporarily suspended. The feature will return once the Pet Center reopens.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

G	O	B	A	D	U	P	S	P	O	L	L	
A	R	E	N	A	V	I	I	R	O	G	U	E
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4	9	1	5	8	7	6	3	2			
6	2	5	4	3	9	1	8	7			

Solutions correspond to last week's puzzles.



Hugh Osteen
Florida Market Manager
hugh@opcfla.com
(904) 285-8831

Susan Griffin
Publisher
susan@opcfla.com
(904) 686-3938

Don Coble
Interim Editor
don@opcfla.com
(904) 686-3939

Paris Moulden
Page Designer/Reporter
paris@opcfla.com
(904) 285-8831, ext. 3943

Amber Lake
Reporter
amber@opcfla.com
(904) 285-8831, ext. 3945

Daniela Toporek
Reporter
daniela@opcfla.com
(904) 285-8831, ext. 3941

Ed Johnson
Senior Account Executive
ed@opcfla.com
(904) 285-8831, ext. 3940

Kristin Flanagan
Account Executive
kristin@opcfla.com
(904) 285-8831, ext. 3950

April Snyder
Sales Assistant
aprils@opcfla.com
(904) 285-8831, ext. 3937

Jonathan Bueno
Circulation Manager
jonathan@opcfla.com
904-264-3200, ext. 2148

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Photo by Don Coble

Taryn Peterson (from left), Cadee Cooper and Anna Shepherd, who agreed the beaches should be closed for now, use the entrance to Mickler's Landing as their turn-around point for their marathons walks.

Beach petition runs aground

County keeps beaches closed another week with hopes of 'limited' openings soon

By Don Coble

Despite having nearly 12,000 signatures and hearing from a group of nearly two dozen residents who oppose to having the beaches closed, the St. Johns County Commission unanimously voted Tuesday to extend the county's declaration of emergency for another week — a move that will keep everyone off the beach.

For now. County officials currently are looking at ways to get people back on the sand and in the water as soon as the threat created by the COVID-19 pandemic subsides. Many hope gates will be re-opened soon.

"One of the things we have to be careful with is putting us back where we were," said county administrator Hunter Conrad. "But we are making preparations for a limited opening. To what extent, we don't know yet."

A primary reason the beaches were closed

BEACHES continues on Page 4

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COVID-19 INFORMATION

On our website: Visit pontevedrerecorder.com to get the latest closures, cancellations and updates for St. Johns County, as well as a listing of virtual events taking place around Northeast Florida.

Don't miss an issue: In case social distancing requirements get more strict, we will email you your paper. Send your email address to don@opcfla.com.

Weekly newsletter: The Recorder offers a weekly newsletter every Monday that outlines some of the top stories of the week, as well as providing access to our E-Edition and Entertainment EXTRA! To get the newsletter emailed for free, email don@opcfla.com. We'll add you to the list.

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COVID-19 tried to 'rob me of my hope'

Local attorney describes pain, desperation caused by deadly virus

By Don Coble

COVID-19 tried to kill Malcolm Anthony.

It gave him uncontrollable night sweats and bad dreams. It made his joints ache and pop. He ran a fever for nearly 10 days. He couldn't eat.

But more than anything else, it tried to "rob me of my hope."

The local attorney still doesn't know how he contracted the coronavirus. He only remembers feeling bad on March 18. After that, his entire survival was dependent on turning back a virus that forced the rest of the world to lock itself behind closed doors.

"It was demonic-like," Anthony said. "I was sick for 10 days. The nights were horrible, just horrible. When you're that sick, you have conversations with God, that's for sure."



Malcolm Anthony

Anthony said he was in traffic court two days before he became ill. As far as he knows, nobody else in court that day developed symptoms on the virus, Anthony said.

COVID-19 hit Anthony hard and fast. He knew instantly "this was not the typical flu." He called his doctor the next morning and together they quickly determined he likely had contracted the deadly virus.

He eventually was tested and it confirmed what he already knew for days — COVID-19 was trying to kill him.

"After I talked to my doctor, I quarantined myself," Anthony said. "It was a very dark time. I was running a 100.8-degree temperature all the time. I sweated through three pairs of pajamas every night. The hard part was the psychological stuff, the repeated dreams every night."

There also was indescribable pain.

"I had joint pain in my hips," he said. "I would moan

so loud it would wake me up. I couldn't walk in the morning. At night, my knees popped when I rolled over."

Friends called every day. They brought food and get well cards. Anthony appreciated the support, but he was too lost in his own solitude of fear, pain and doubt to be social.

"I shuttered every time the telephone rang," Anthony said. "I was so ill. When the phone rang, it startled me out of my misery."

Anthony finally showed enough improvement he went to his office last week. Counting the nine days he spent in quarantine, it was the first time in nearly three weeks he stepped beyond the self-imposed fortification of his own home.

"I'm 1,000% better," he said. "I lost 17 pounds. I don't want anyone to go through this."

Anthony said the virus has changed the way he will approach the rest of his life. He realizes what's important are relationships, friends and family.

"I'm immune to anxiety now," Anthon said. "Going through a near-death experience will do that to you."

Nemours Children's Specialty Care opens walk-in orthopedic injury site

In order to minimize exposure to COVID-19, and to accommodate children who sustain orthopedic injuries and need urgent care, Nemours Children's Specialty Care, Jacksonville South has opened the Walk-in Injury Clinic, a specialty clinic for walk-in orthopedic injury appointments only.

The Walk-in Injury Clinic is for families that do not need to go to a hospital or emergency room setting, avoiding potential exposure to COVID-19. This specialty clinic will specifically offer care for durable medical equipment and casting, bone and joint injuries, dislocations, fractures,

sprains and strains, sports injuries and injury-related imaging.

In order to limit the spread of COVID-19, Nemours asks that only one healthy parent or caregiver accompany a child. Siblings and other family or friends may not attend these visits. Individuals who feel

ill should find a healthy caregiver to bring your child to the clinic.

The Walk-in Injury Clinic is located at 14785 Old St. Augustine Road, Suite 200, in Jacksonville, and is open from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call (904) 697-3600.

Beaches

Continued from 2

on March 29 was the influx of residents from surrounding counties, as well as visitors here on spring break. Beaches in Duval and Flagler counties were closed, which created a bottleneck of foot and car traffic along State Road A1A.

"The effect on other beaches being closed put our population at risk," he said.

Eric Hires, an avid surfer who lives on Anastasia Island, collected online signatures through change.org. He's also served as spokesman for "The Surf Community."

"Our lives are connected with the beach in this community," Hires said. "It's a place to clear your mind. I believe in whole health, not just our bodies. There is spiritual health."

Conrad closed the beach parking lots on March 23 to keep beachgoers from congregating in the lots. The county then closed the beaches six days later as a response to massive crowds that crammed through several access points. Cars were lined up on the sides of roads, particularly A1A, for miles.

Conrad said the county will remain vigilant in protecting its residents, but admitted it was addressing details of removing the padlocks.

"There are plans being made in preparation by law enforcement, health professionals and emergency management of what that reopening would look like," he said.

Hires' petition called for limitations. He doesn't want to risk the community's safety by his desire to get back on his surfboard.

"If one person dies from this, then I don't want the beaches opened," he said. "That would be foolish. I think there are a lot of things that are dangerous. There is a risk. But why is the county's golf course still open? Why are

they selling flowers at Lowe's and Home Depot? Are those essential?"

Residents have mixed reactions to re-opening the beaches.

Taryn Peterson and her friends, Cadee Cooper and Anna Shepherd, have turned their attention away from the sandy shores to taking long walks. Last Saturday, the three used the entrance to Mickler's beach parking lot as a turnaround for their 13.1-mile hike.

"The beach should be closed," Peterson said. "We'd all like the beach to be open, but it's too risky. So, we're walking a half-marathon. We're still getting outside. We all want the beaches open, but right now, it's not smart to do it."

Peterson was sent home from Tulane University by the coronavirus. The school is in New Orleans, one of the hardest-hit cities for death and sickness created by COVID-19.

"I have a friend whose had family members die," she said. "This is serious."

Shepherd said she was on the beach the day before it was closed. She said she's happy to change her routine to help prevent the virus from spreading.

"The beaches will re-open once this virus is gone," she said.

A woman riding her bicycle along Mickler Road said keeping the beaches closed is "a crime."

"The weather's beautiful," she said. "You should be outside. We haven't been able to leave our house except to take walks and ride our bikes. You live on the beach for a reason."

According to the Florida Department of Health, as of Wednesday afternoon 177 people in St. Johns County have been diagnosed with the coronavirus. Two have died.

Of that group, 66 live on or near the beaches at Ponte Vedra Beach, Nocatee, Palm Valley, Sawgrass and South Jacksonville.



Photo by Don Coble

Easter Sunday draws crowds that never left the living room

By Amber Lake

For many, Facebook Live streams, YouTube and radio broadcast sermons brought the church to churchgoers, making a safe and effective way to deliver a small amount of normalcy and connection for those looking to celebrate their faith.

At the Passion City Church in Atlanta, even a special message from football star and Niece High player, Tim Tebow was livestreamed, among several other guest appearances.

“He wants a relationship with you that will never be severed,” Tebow said on an April 12 livestream from the church. “That’s why Easter is so amazing.”

The former Florida Gators quarterback later tweeted he was honored to join the Passion City Church in Atlanta for Sunday’s sermon along with Louie Giglio, the

pastor, and Sadie Robertson Huff, actress and reality television star on the A&E show Duck Dynasty.

Local catholic church, Our Lady Star of the Sea, featured a number of ways their members can keep in touch with its faith community and Easter service, including Facebook livestreams during Holy Week, weekly Liturgy of the Hours via Facebook, Music Ministry weekly Zoom check-ins and a MyParish App for communication and inspirational messages.

OLSS’s Easter Sunday Facebook livestream drew in more than 1,000 views at its 9 a.m. service, which was recorded at the church.

“We want to recognize that wherever you’re at, God’s praying here with you,” said Father Matt King of OLSS in a weekly livestream prayer. “His presence is with you and your family during this time.”



Our Lady Star of the Sea hosted a livestream sermon on Easter Sunday.

Clients line up to receive groceries during BEAM’s Mobile Food Pantry at Oak Harbor Baptist Church in Mayport. BEAM conducted a “drive-thru” mobile food pantry at Oak Harbor Baptist Church and a “pop-up” pantry at Mayport Elementary School to assist families in the Mayport area during the week of March 30 through May 3.



Photo provided by BEAM

BEAM continues to provide assistance amid outbreak

The Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry staff and volunteers remain resilient to continue to serve families in Jacksonville’s Beaches area communities who have been hard-hit by the economic impact of COVID-19. The nonprofit organization is working to ensure the most at-risk populations have access to emergency services, while adhering to recommendations from the CDC, the Florida Department of Health and local authorities.

Last month, BEAM assisted a total of 69 households with overdue bills, and by April 7 has already assisted 70 households with emergency rent assistance. The nonprofit organization expects this number will continue to climb rapidly and is actively seeking funds to support this growing financial need. In addition, BEAM continues to provide food to families and COVID-19 victims, and last week alone,

they distributed more than 13,000 meals to the high-risk populations in Jacksonville’s beaches area communities.

“What a blessing for the residents!” said Ellen Hopkins, service coordinator at Pablo Towers Senior Living Facility. “The residents and I were amazed at the gift of pre-prepared food. You were so wonderful to share your donation with us. Every time I see the residents they just say, ‘Thank you, thank you, thank you!’”

BEAM started a “Virtual Food Drive” due to the outpouring of inquiries from the community asking for ways to help families in need. They are asking for no food donations to be dropped off by the public at this time to minimize personal contact. More information on the Virtual Food Drive can be found on BEAM’s website at www.jaxbeam.org/covid19-donations.

OBITUARIES

Kevin Winford Ellis

Kevin Winford Ellis, 50, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died April 2, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. www.quinn-shalz.com. (904) 249-1100

Billy. C. Edgen

Billy C. Edgen, 88, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died April 4, 2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedra-valley.com

Ronald “Ron” Freeman

Ronald “Ron” Freeman, 74, of Ponte Vedra, Florida, died March 25, 2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedra-valley.com

Charles Hoffmeier

Charles Hoffmeier, 88, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died April 9,

2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedra-valley.com.

Harukazu Kouri

Harukazu Kouri, 72, of Jacksonville Beach, Florida, died April 10, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. www.quinn-shalz.com (904) 249-1100.

OBITUARIES continues on Page 6

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Obituaries

Continued from 5

Richard Gibbons Mann

Richard Gibbons Mann, 86, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died April 6, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. www.quinn-shalz.com. (904) 249-1100

Photiney "Fifi" Poliak

Photiney "Fifi" Poliak, 91, of Ponte

Vedra Beach, Florida, died April 4, 2020. Ponte Vedra Valley Funeral Home, Cremation Center & Cemetery – (904) 285-1130 – www.pontevedra-valley.com

Rosemary Slafter

Rosemary Slafter, 96, of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, died April 5, 2020. Arrangements by Quinn-Shalz Family Funeral Home & Cremation Centre. www.quinn-shalz.com. (904) 249-1100

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-Ed & Dicki F.

“The staff has done an amazing, almost unbelievable job! I'm pleased and reassured as I feel protected from this national threat. It's not easy, but we're doing the right thing!

-John O.



Janet Johnson is a criminal defense attorney in Northeast Florida. She is a member of the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and the Florida Bar Association and has appeared as a legal expert on ABC News, CNN, Headline News, First Coast News in Jacksonville and NPR radio, among others. Janet and her husband Ed live in Neptune Beach.

Janet Johnson

Can you please briefly tell us about your background?

I was born in Stamford, Connecticut. Went to undergraduate at Connecticut College, where I majored in English. After college, I worked at Rolling Stone magazine for two years, in advertising and licensing. Then I went to law school at university of Oregon. I've practiced criminal defense for 25 years and do legal commentary on CNN.

Why criminal law? What aspect about practicing criminal law do you enjoy the most?

I went to university of Oregon to study environmental law, but I found that my criminal law classes just clicked. I get to help people and I've always identified with the underdog. It's a challenge fighting the police and the prosecution but it's very important that someone does it. I'm honored that I get to be that someone for my clients.

Do you have any particular case(s) that you've worked on that stands out above others or was particularly meaningful to you?

The cases that stand out are when you achieve something that seemed impossible. That can be getting a DUI dropped when someone's career depends on it or getting a not guilty at trial on a felony that could have meant years in prison for someone who just made a bad choice. Any time you can help someone who has a lot at stake it's incredibly meaningful.

What types of criminal cases do you handle? What is your primary duty when handling a criminal case?

I handle all criminal matters, state and federal. We handle everything, even before the arrest. We meet with the police for interviews, which sometimes don't even result in arrests if we get involved. So, we do everything from investigation up through trial.

What is the biggest challenge you think criminal defense attorneys face professionally?

Being a criminal defense attorney is a challenge because it's the entire government (police and prosecutors) against you and your client. Fighting those forces is difficult and a lot of people don't appreciate that or think of us as the bad guys. Until they need us!



Photo provided by Janet Johnson

What should someone know when seeking out an attorney? What should they be looking for?

When hiring a lawyer, I think you should consider referrals and reviews online. Martindale-Hubbell rates lawyers and you should look for an AV rated lawyer. And, probably most important, you should click with them when you have your consultation.

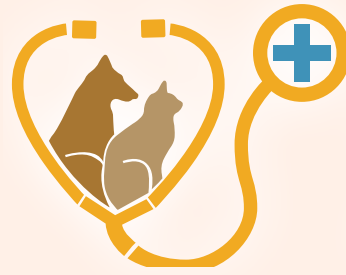
What do you enjoy most about living here?

We actually live in Neptune beach, but I love the beaches. I can't imagine living in Florida and not being near the ocean.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

In my spare time I run or ride our

Peloton (which is amazing, by the way), I am a voracious reader, we travel a lot and try to go somewhere every year (South Africa, London, Paris to name a few). Since the coronavirus, I've been watching classes online from Oxford University, especially math, because I'm terrible at it.



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The Recorder has a new garden columnist, Kathy Esfahani, of Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery. Read her column for garden-growing tips in Northeast Florida.

KATHY'S GARDENING

"To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow." – Audrey Hepburn



Kathy Esfahani
Columnist

HERB AND VEGETABLE GARDENS

When planting herbs and vegetables in Zone 9A, we need to keep in mind that the best plantings will be hot weather plants. Spring is the best time to start these plantings!

Planting in this zone requires well drained soil and will rot if they become too soggy. A good rule to follow is to water when the first two inches of soil feel dry. If you see wilting, the plant is too dry, and needs water immediately. Most herbs will grow, so don't overcrowd them in your garden. Generally, these plants need 6-8 hours of sun a day to thrive. Some popular herbs in this zone include basil, oregano, dill, parsley, rosemary, mint and thyme.

Northeast Florida is considered a year-round planting area for vegetables. This means there are a variety of vegetables throughout the year to continuously plant and harvest. Peppers, beans, lettuce, squash, eggplant, zucchini and tomatoes are popular vegetables to plant in this zone. An adequate amount of six hours of



Flower of the Week:
Blue daze

Photo provided by Kathy Esfahani

sunlight, water and compost or organic matter are crucial in the success of your vegetable garden.

Herb and vegetable gardens can be created into your landscaping, or in pots or boxes on patios or windowsills. Feel free to get creative, as long as all other criteria are reached. Tending to an herb and vegetable garden often can aid in the growth of the plants, and eventually the overall taste when harvested!

Email Kathy at kathys.creative.gardens@gmail.com for any questions or gardening tips you would like to see in the future.

Kathy's Creative Gardens & Nursery is located at 196 N. Roscoe Blvd. in Ponte Vedra Beach. (904) 655-7373

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Business Weekly

PAGE 10

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2020

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Takeout and delivery guide:
Where and how to still eat
local during the crisis

Page 14



Photographs provided by Hilton Garden Inn

Hilton Garden Inn at Ponte Vedra revamps hotel rooms as individual offices.

Hilton revamps suites into office spaces during COVID-19 crisis

By Amber Lake

Nocatee residents James and Kristen Howell welcomed their newborn boy into the world on April 11. While many things have come to an abrupt halt during the pandemic, Calvin Howell wasn't one of them.

Back from the hospital, James Howell is returning to business, working from home in a makeshift office in his kitchen. Amid all the changes going on, there is one thing for certain nonetheless – that is – babies don't make good coworkers. It's a fact many

people around the U.S. are having to come to terms with while surrounded by sibling fights, interrupted Zoom meetings, fistfuls of hair and ever-shrinking homes. James is hopeful, however, as many new parents are.

"Luckily, my wife is on leave," Howell said. "The hope is that she will be able to take care of him during the workday. I work off the kitchen table, so I expect frequent interruptions when he's hungry or needs a diaper change. Hopefully productivity doesn't fall to badly."

While productivity just isn't what it

used to be these days, Howell still has a lot on his plate. It's a situation that the Hilton in Ponte Vedra recognized and found a creative way to address.

Recently, the hotel begun a new business model which targets those looking for somewhere to work without all the interruptions of home life. Once hotel suites, now "office suites," the Hilton is renting space during the day — which includes all the complimentary peace and quiet one could ask for.

SUITES continues on Page 12

Chamber council hosts virtual meeting for small business owners

By Daniela Toporek

To better prepare small business owners financially, the St Johns County Chamber of Commerce's North Business Council held a virtual meeting April 10, focusing on how can adapt during the COVID-19 lockdowns.

Small businesses should be re-evaluating business plans, revenue drivers and industry verticals, and protecting important documents and identification information, according to JAX Chamber Vice President of Entrepreneurial Growth Carlton Robinson.

The first step, Robinson said, is to identify and or evaluate a business's plan, strategy and model. Each is different and provides different information.

"A business strategy sets out the purpose of your business, who it serves and what the long-term mission is," Robinson said.

A business plan also provides in-depth details on how to achieve the goals of the business, including financial results.

"I think all of us are taking a look at how to get more customers, how to let people know you're open and also working remotely," Robinson said.

The next step is re-evaluating revenue drivers.

"So, as we look at our businesses, what's the core thing that actually helps us make money? What are all the different areas that are able to generate revenue?" Robinson said. "When we think about Uber, we only think about ride-sharing. But

COUNCIL continues on Page 12

Judge John: Observations on laws that affect living at the Beaches – 'Leash that Stick'



John Miller
Guest Columnist

A leash is the cord or tether that connects to a surfboard and then is fastened to the ankle. The purpose is to keep the board nearby after a surfer is no longer on his or her board. It is for the safety of swimmers, surfers, and assists in rescue efforts.

Not long ago, Judge John was playing in the ocean with his then 4-year-old son. Suddenly, a loose surfboard struck the little guy. Taking his frightened (but thankfully not seriously injured) child

under one arm, Judge John seized the board and hurled it toward the shore, sternly advising the incompetent newbie surfer that he needed to use a leash. Instead of being apologetic, the man unleashed a string of expletives toward Judge John. Fuming on the inside, Judge John decided to research the issue so he could know what is right.

The Jacksonville Beach Municipal Code provides in Section 6-49 that it "shall be unlawful for any person to surf or use or ride a surfboard in the surf adjacent to the beach within the corporate limits of the city at any time and at any location unless such surfboard has securely fastened to it a tether not exceeding eight (8) feet in length, the free end of which must be securely bound to

either the ankle or wrist of the surfer." The other Beaches cities have similar laws. Simply stated, the law in effect requires surfers to use a leash when surfing on the Jax Beaches.

In addition to knowing the law, Judge John was interested to know the opinion of local surfers. The surf culture in the Jax Beaches dates back many decades and is as ingrained as sand in our local way of life. The results of this informal poll reflect the very nature of the soul surfers who inhabit our beaches. While acknowledging that the drag created by a leash does negatively affect the performance of a board, every surfer Judge John inter-

JUDGE continues on Page 12



Janet E. Johnson, P.A.
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Demere (Dems) Mason, Jr., has practiced Family Law since 2007. He holds a 10.0 “Superb” rating AVVO since 2014. He has also been named a Rising Star by Super Lawyers in 2017, 2018 and 2019. Dems has taught clinics in family law for Jacksonville Area Legal Aid and is a frequent lecturer at Family Law Seminars. Dems is married with 2 sons and is active in local homeless ministries and the Gator Bowl Sports organization.

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Council

Continued from 10

Uber actually makes money off of their platform,” Robinson said, explaining it may have started out by ride-sharing but the platform now also has UberEats, UberAir and even UberFreight.

Industry verticals are vendors that cater to a specific industry. Examples include the automotive, healthcare, ecommerce and travel and marketing industries.

“This requires us to go back through our books of customers spending with us and identify how these customers got to us,” Robinson said.

Robinson also said it’s essential for any business to protecting important documents and identification.

“I can’t talk about this enough,” he said. “As small business owners, we’ve got to protect our identity and our documents. Not just our driver’s licenses or passports,

but what’s called our personally identifiable information, or your PII.”

Stephen Hudson, chair of the North Business Council, offered ideas how to improve online business representation. He strongly recommended registering and using the Google My Business website to increase exposure.

“Businesses usually post about 70% of its information, it’s partially filled, but there’s so much more information that Google is allowing you to show about your business,” Hudson said. “Fill it out!”

The future for small businesses is unknown, but if owners stay vigilant, active and efficient, both online and in the community, Hudson and Robinson believe there will be a light at the end of the COVID-19 tunnel.

For questions of more information, business owners can contact Stephen Hudson at Stephen@digitalmarkco.com or Carlton Robinson at Carlton.Robinson@myjaxchamber.com.

Suites

Continued from 10

Since social distancing restrictions, the Hilton is currently being occupied by overnight stays at only about 12-15%, according to Anna Washington, director of sales and marketing. Creatively turning the empty suites into office suites is one way of making the most out of a bad situation for the tourism industry.

“Our main thing is we want to emphasize is [this is a] safe solution to help the community,” Washington said.

The suites, once an average of \$200 a night have been reduced to daytime rental hours of only \$49. Check in is at 7:30 a.m. and checkout at 6 p.m. for one full day of uninterrupted work. Guests receive highspeed internet and room service availability, which includes breakfast, lunch, dinner, cocktails or Starbucks coffee.

The Hilton even offers hourly passes to use the gym and pool areas for those looking to get a quick workout in while the local gyms have been closed.



Photo provided by Hilton Garden Inn

Hilton Garden Inn in Ponte Vedra shows support of the community with heart display.

Washington ensures that the hotel has gone the extra lengths to adhere to social distancing and cleanliness since the onset of the pandemic. In fact, the hotel just received a “Best of Housekeeping” award for 2020, just prior to the business remodel.

For those interested, Washington said the business suites will be available until the end of April, where they will revisit continuing the model.

For those interesting in booking an office suite for the day, call (904) 980-1661 or email anna.washington@hilton.com.

Judge

Continued from 10

viewed said that the informal surf code is that surfers agree that the safety of beach goers requires that a leash is worn at all times. The exception in the surf community seems to be that when surfing an empty beach, the experienced surfer may choose not to leash the stick.

Judge John recalls being a wee grommet long ago when a surfer swam toward shore having lost his board far on the outside break. The guy was totally out of breath, and was barely making it to the beach, literally in danger of drowning. That surfer was lucky that Judge John’s father was around to pull him out of the ocean. Was it luck that had the preacher on the beach that day? If that surfer had

worn his leash, his board would not have gotten away. So, the leash is not only to protect swimmers, but benefits the surfer, too. Judge John is a “warm weather wannabe” surfer himself, and always uses a leash.

Conclusion: Surf only while using a leash. Why? 1. It’s the Law. 2. It’s for the safety of swimmers. 3. You could be that dude needing rescue by the preacher.

Do you have any questions of law or custom that are of particular interest to those living the Sand Life on our beautiful island? Please submit them to Judge John for consideration for a future article by emailing john@rocksolidlaw.com

John Miller is the Special Magistrate for the City of Neptune Beach. His law firm, Rock Solid Law, focuses on Estate Planning, Real Estate Closings and Title, and representing entrepreneurial small Business Owners.

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ACROSS

- 1. Like many mythical creatures
- 6. Second mo.
- 9. Spill the beans
- 13. Convex molding
- 14. ___ the President's Men
- 15. Ankle support, e.g.
- 16. Make a logical connection
- 17. *E.T.'s craft?
- 18. Des Moines native
- 19. *Fire-breather
- 21. *Household spirit
- 23. Tucker of "Modern Family"
- 24. Antonym of is
- 25. *Grimm's Queen
- 28. Tailor-made
- 30. Showing on TV
- 35. "All's well that ___ well"
- 37. Golly!
- 39. Punctuation mark
- 40. Seaport in Yemen
- 41. Hitching post?
- 43. Additionally
- 44. Poison ivy or Poison oak
- 46. One more than The Beatles
- 47. Hold as a conviction
- 48. *Mrs. Potts or her son Chip
- 50. Andrew Sean Greer's 2017 Pulitzer-winner novel
- 52. Toast choice
- 53. Jack and Jill's water jug
- 55. "___ Now or Never"
- 57. *Horse's cousin
- 61. *One of the seven dwarfs
- 64. Ascetic holy Hindu
- 65. HHS agency
- 67. Relating to #25 Across
- 69. Banana treat
- 70. Go bad
- 71. Australian canid
- 72. Lou of "Walk on the Wild Side" fame
- 73. Card in the hole?
- 74. "The Forsyte ___," pl.
- 10. Croquet turf
- 11. Popular smoothie berry
- 12. Well, to Sofia Loren
- 15. Relating to living organisms
- 20. Opposite of alpha
- 22. Genetic initials
- 24. Parents hope to do this with values
- 25. *Beauty's beau
- 26. Empower
- 27. Drowsy
- 29. *Big Bad One
- 31. Yellow brick one
- 32. Feeling worse than before
- 33. *Like Curious George
- 34. *Garden dweller
- 36. Finger move
- 38. Moneyed one
- 42. Pine product
- 45. Choose not to do something, 2 words
- 49. Toni Morrison's "___ Baby"
- 51. 1862 plots, for short
- 54. Prefix for below
- 56. Old photo color
- 57. Stalin's domain
- 58. Back of the neck
- 59. Not active
- 60. Past tense of chide
- 61. Fill beyond full
- 62. Sound of passing bullet
- 63. *Baba ___
- 66. *Who Bugs Bunny talks to?
- 68. Numbers, abbr.
- 66. Garden cultivator

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TAKEOUT & DELIVERY *guide*

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Barbara Jean's on the Water: 15 S. Roscoe Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach

Barbara Jean's is currently doing takeout orders and has expanded its services for delivery in the Ponte Vedra and Palm Valley area. To place an order or inquire if your address is covered, call the restaurant at (904) 280-7522.

Bogey Grille: 150 Valley Circle, Ponte Vedra Beach

Bogey Grille will continue to offer takeout and is partnering with Delivery Dudes for delivery. Additionally, the restaurant is now offering alcohol to go. Staff is ready to take your orders and will bring them out to your car. Call (904) 285-5524 for placing orders.

JaxSpice: 311 3rd St. N. #104, Jacksonville Beach

Jaxspice located at Jax Beach is open for takeout orders. The authentic Indian restaurant is open Monday and Wednesday-Friday from 1-9:40 p.m. and Tuesday from 5-9:40 p.m. Call (904) 853-6217 to pick it up. The restaurant will also deliver at the curbside to your car, and offers delivery through Bite Squad, Diverly Dude, Uber Eats and Door Dash.

Lulu's Waterfront Grille: 301 Roscoe Blvd. N., Ponte Vedra Beach

Lulu's Waterfront Grille, which serves fresh local seafood and other Southern-accented fare, is open daily from 11 a.m.-8 p.m. for delivery and

curbside takeout. Call (904) 285-0139 to place order or for more information.

McFlamingo: 880 A1A N., Suite 12, Ponte Vedra Beach

McFlamingo is offering free delivery for Ponte Vedra Beach, Nocatee and Jax Beach. Curbside pick-up is also available. To order, call (904) 834-2331. The restaurant is also offering dining al fresco.

Memphis Jax BBQ: 10870 U.S. 1 S., Ponte Vedra Beach

Memphis Jax is open for takeout or delivery. The restaurant encourages customers to order online at www.memphisjaxbbq.com or call (904) 342-0078.

Mulligans: 45 PGA TOUR Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach

Mulligans is introducing Mix & Match Meals for two. Sandwiches are \$8, burgers are \$10 and entrées are \$12.50 each. Entrées include a side salad with dressing of choice. The deal excludes steak and family style entrées. Order on the website for curbside pickup or delivery with Delivery Dudes. The kitchen is open until 10 p.m. nightly.

Palm Valley Fish Camp: 299 Roscoe Blvd. N., Ponte Vedra Beach

Offering takeout, including most beer and wine. Call (904) 285-3200.

Palm Valley Outdoors Bar & Grill: 377 S. Roscoe Blvd., #2, Ponte Vedra Beach

Palm Valley Outdoors will remain open for business, however, it is operating under food truck-type protocols. The restaurant will not

have any tableside service available as of now but encourage customers to go up to counters at the inside and outside bars to order any and all food, alcohol and other beverages that will be packaged in a to-go capacity. The restaurant will still be offering dockside delivery as well as curbside delivery. Call Palm Valley Outdoors at (904) 834-7183 and orders will be brought directly to customer's vehicle or boat.

Pieology Pizzeria: 641 Crosswater Parkway E., Ponte Vedra Beach

The pizzeria offers takeout, curbside pickup and delivery for its menu. For delivery, the restaurant encourages customers to order online at www.pieology.com/menu/custom-pies.

Poppy's Italiano: 832-1 A1A N., Ponte Vedra Beach

Poppy's will be offering drive thru pick-up and delivery. Customers may inquire on the website at poppysitaliano.net or call (904) 273-7272 to place an order.

Pussers Bar and Grille: 816 Highway, A1A N., Ponte Vedra Beach

Pussers is offering free delivery. Call ahead at (904) 280-7766 or view the takeout menu at bit.ly/33xh5Yz. Delivery provided by Uber Eats.

Ruth's Chris Steak House: 814 A1A N., Suite 103, Ponte Vedra Beach

Now through April 5, purchase an eGift Card online worth \$100 or more and earn a 25% bonus card to use on a future visit. To purchase, visit bit.ly/33sfsKr. Additionally, the restaurant is offering takeout. Call (904) 285-0014 to place an order or to inquire about delivery options.

Sandwich Man Deli: 1110 A1A N., #102, Ponte Vedra Beach

The deli is currently open and doing pick-up orders only. Call (904) 285-9660 to place an order.

Timoti's Seafood Shak: 152 Crosswater Parkway, #18, Ponte Vedra Beach

Timoti's is currently doing takeout only until further notice. Online orders can be conveniently placed on their website at www.timotis.com/order-online.

Trasca & Co. Eatery: 880 A1A N., Suite 12, Ponte Vedra Beach

Trasca & Co Eatery is offering neighborhood pop-

ups in order to bring meals to neighborhoods. Additionally, the restaurant will be offering curbside service and lunch delivery from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., dinner prepared meal delivery will be offered from 2-4 p.m. and pop-ups will be from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Anyone interested in hosting Trasca for a popup in their neighborhood is encouraged to call (904) 395-3989.

Tropical Smoothie: 830 N. A1A, Suite 1, Ponte Vedra Beach

Tropical Smoothie is open for takeout. Order online or call (904) 280-4044 to place an order.

Two Dudes Seafood Restaurant: 268 Solana Road, Ponte Vedra Beach

Call (904) 273-5595 to place an order for either pick-up or delivery. Staff will bring your food to your car or deliver for \$5 within a 5-mile radius and \$20 minimum order. Two Dudes is also currently delivering beer, wine and cocktails. Visit www.twodudesrestaurant.com for their menu. Additionally, all first responders, military and health industry professionals receive 25% off all take-out and delivery orders.

V Pizza Palm Valley: 154 Canal Blvd., Ponte Vedra Beach

V Pizza's curbside cocktail bar is open for business. The restaurant is extending its "adult lemonade" stand hours to 2-8 p.m. every day. V Pizza is also selling its wine by the bottle for half off and curbside pick-up orders for menu items. Call ahead at (904) 473-5218. If you have any special requests or would like to place a cocktail order ahead of time send an email to dan@drinksidecar.com.

Woody's Bar-B-Q in Ponte Vedra: 226 Solana Road #1, Ponte Vedra Beach

Woody's is open for drive-thru, curbside pickup, delivery and online ordering. Visit woody.com/locations/ponte-vedra/ to place an order or call (904) 280-1110.

Zoes Kitchen: 240 Highway A1A, Ponte Vedra Beach

To order pickup or delivery, go to Zoes Kitchen website or ZK app: bit.ly/33vWR1f. Zoes Kitchen closes at 8 p.m. and is also available on DoorDash.

To add your restaurant to the takeout and delivery guide, email paris@opcfla.com and provide restaurant name, location and a brief description of services offered.

Check out Berry & Co. Real Estate's ad in this week's issue of Recorder entertainment **EXTRA!**

Found in the House & Home section on Page 21

Berry & Co. Real Estate's physical office is closed, but its virtual office is OPEN!

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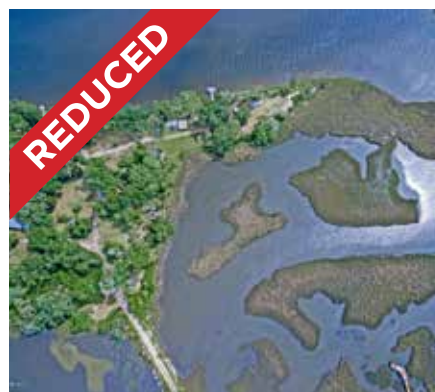


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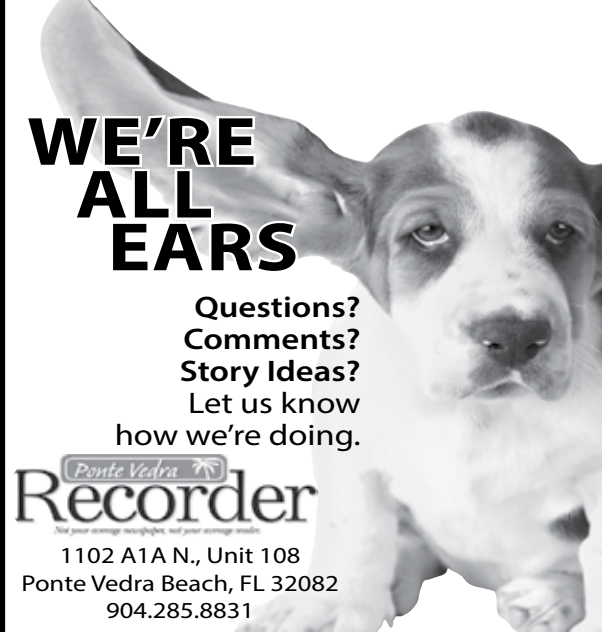
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