



Brandywine Neighbors Support From Afar

We prepared this paper in the midst of social distancing as a result of COVID-19. Brandywine neighbors have found ways to show community support and keep our spirits lifted. Hopefully we will be starting a return to normal by the time this paper has reached you!

Getting outside for a walk, jog, bike ride, or a drive has always been popular in Brandywine, and it seems more than ever, neighbors are hitting the roads for exercise and fresh air. It's been fun to wave to neighbors and just see friendly faces on our forays outside of our homes. Lots of neighbors have been taking the opportunity to do yard work as well, so we can all appreciate this year's glorious yards while we're out for some exercise!

(Continued on page 6)



Michelle loves to take her bike out for a ride.



Loretta and Allen enjoy a walk together



Carson and Waffle enjoy a jog and some sniffing



Debbie enjoys walking, especially on warm, sunny days



Class of 2020:

Help us celebrate Brandywine graduates in the next Sound Waves! To participate, send the graduate's photo and bio to editor.soundwaves@gmail.com by July 15.

BOA Reminders

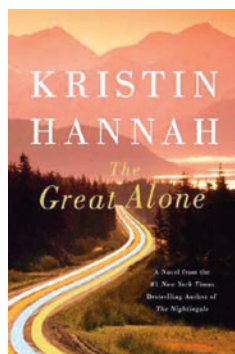
Submit your annual dues and voting ballots by May 15. You can drop them in the mailbox at the Hwy 70 gate.



BOA Annual Homeowner Meeting:
Postponed until further notice

Brandywine Book Club News

As I write our Book Club article this month, we are still in quarantine for the covid-19 virus. Although none of us have been enjoying being at home for so long, it has been a great time to catch up on our reading. Our book for April was *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman. Unfortunately, we were not able to meet for our book discussion due to the virus. Hopefully, we will be able to meet again in May. Our May book is *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah. It is the story of the joys and perils of a family



who decide to live off the grid in Alaska. In June, we will be reading *The Guardians* by John Grisham. His books are always thrilling page-turners, and this one is no exception. It chronicles the case of a lawyer who is trying to free a man who was wrongly convicted of murder.

We meet the second Tuesday of each month. We would enjoy having you join us!!! Contact Melinda Brown at 247-1055 for more information.



Mailbox Improvement Week

By Monica Sellars

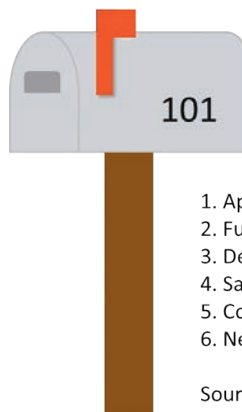
When is a mailbox like the alphabet? When it is full of letters!

The US Postal Service's "Mailbox Improvement Week" is the third week of May. The next time you check your mail, also check your mailbox. It is an important part of your home's curb appeal, and well-maintained mailboxes are important for keeping our whole neighborhood looking great.

The US Postal Service provides a list of six mailbox requirements that you can use as a checklist.

When considering whether your mailbox is "neat in appearance," notice whether your mailbox suffers from any of these issues: Does it need to be cleaned, painted, or repaired? Is the post rickety, or is the mailbox loose on the post? Are the house numbers faded or missing? Are the plants near the mailbox in need of weeding or trimming?

Many minor mailbox improvements are easy enough for anyone to do. If your mailbox needs a serious upgrade or you just don't have time, consider hiring a professional handyman to repair or replace it for you.



1. Approved by the Postmaster General.
2. Fully operational.
3. Designed to protect the mail from weather.
4. Safe to use.
5. Conveniently located.
6. Neat in appearance.

Source: usps.com



Changes to the 2020 Brandywine Directory

New to the neighborhood? Contact Ann Webster to get your welcome packet and set up your gate access code with your phone number.

Need a new gate entry device? Contact Ann Webster to purchase a new gate entry card or clicker. Ann Webster | 252-646-5586 | brandywinewelcome@gmail.com

Moving away? Please give your gate cards to the next owner.

DIRECTORY CHANGES

1003 Cedarwood Village	Nora & Paul Bibaud.....	252-773-5486
513B Village Green Drive.....	Linda & Don Lister	252-241-1837
301 Cedarwood Village	Carol Archino.....	413-687-3625
906 Lord Granville Drive.....	Jerry & Janet Morrison	252-622-4827
313 Emerywood Drive.....	Bobbi Roberts	757-449-6819
106 Fairway Court	Todd Worrell	252-422-2220
201 Lord Granville Drive.....	Robert Lore	not available
919 Lord Granville Drive.....	Jessica McManus.....	252-269-8763
317 Eastchester Drive.....	Donna & Steve Mock.....	422-2750/422-2740
1302 Cedarwood Village	Jackie Maucher.....	252-808-2668
506A Village Green Drive	Tina & Bill Burkett	252-622-4636
405 Hillcrest Drive	Rebecca & Michael Thomas.....	252-723-0528
504B Village Green Drive.....	Anna Garrison	252-622-7986



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Please email submissions by the 20th of each month.

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By-Laws Committee - TBD

Finance Committee - Belinda Etheridge, Brenda Roberts & Jennifer Mann

Storm Water - Roger Spencer

Landscape - Brenda Roberts & Belinda Ethridge

Nominating Committee - Louis Weil & Belinda Etheridge

Boat Yard - Jack Ashley

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BAY CLUB CONDOS
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- **Ann Webster** 252-646-5586 • brandywinewelcome@gmail.com

Security Gates (Breakage) - **Mark Roche** 252-726-9232 • rochedog@gmail.com

Security Gates (Breakage and Gate

Device Problems) - **Ted Beszterczi** 252-269-0179 • tbeszterczi@gmail.com

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ENGLISH TURN

Edward Myers • 252-726-5276

HAMMOCK PLACE

Doug Hamer • 222-5666

Dominick Spadaro • 241-0837

RESERVE GREEN

John Conneely • 252-723-0828

THE RESERVE

Janet Stout • 252-726-0452

VILLAGE GREEN

Gail Howard • 336-580-3069

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Sheriff Deputy Request 252-726-1911

Sheriff's Business Office 252-728-8400

Progress Energy 800-452-2777

Street Light Outage 800-419-6356

Carolina Water 800-525-7990

Animal Control 252-728-8585

NC Highway Patrol 800-411-6127

Mosquito Control 252-504-2107



Pet Corner



PetDocks COVID-19 and Pets: What to do?

By Dr. Todd Worrell – Adapted from an article by Dr. Katy Nelson, DVM

During this time of social distancing, and stay-at-home orders, many of our pets are probably loving this extra time with us. But what do you do if they need to go to the veterinarian?

While circumstances vary from state to state, in North Carolina, many veterinary offices are recommending to only come in if your pet is ill, and to postpone any routine visits until a safer time. These are recommendations put forth by the AVMA, NCVMA, as well as the NC Veterinary Medical Board

Here are some helpful tips to ensure you are taking the best possible care of your pet while minimizing the risk to expose you and your pet to COVID-19: Go to an emergency veterinarian immediately if your pet:

- Ingested a toxin: human medications, chocolate, xylitol (artificial sweetener), antifreeze, rat poison, raisins, etc.
- Has an open wound or other history of trauma
- Is showing signs of pain
- Is having difficulty breathing
- Displays sudden lameness or weakness
- Is having difficulty urinating
- Has vomiting or diarrhea with blood, or any severe distention of the abdomen
- Shows signs such as seizures, tremors, stumbling, circling, being disoriented
- Has an abnormal appearance or behavior, such as pale gums, bruising of the body, bulging eyes, squinting eyes, holding head to one side, or has not eaten in over 24 hours
- Has facial swelling or hives

Call your veterinarian about coming in if your pet:

- Has vomited once or twice in 24 hours
- Has had diarrhea for less than 24 hours but is acting normally
- Is coughing without signs of labored breathing
- Is sneezing or has watery eyes
- Has not eaten for less than 24 hours
- Is itching or shaking ears

Schedule an appointment later if your pet:

- Needs annual exams or routine bloodwork
- Has new lumps or bumps without showing signs of discomfort
- Has a torn toenail that is not bleeding or causing discomfort

- Has worms in their stool and/or visible fleas or ticks without having diarrhea or discomfort.

What Do I Do if I Am Sick?

If you are ill or might be ill with symptoms of COVID-19, have someone else bring your pet to the hospital for you. If you are unable to have someone else take your pet, and your veterinarian recommends that you do bring your pet to the hospital, wear a mask and gloves and keep your distance from employees.

What If I Need Prescription Medication for My Pet?

Ask your veterinarian if getting a 2- or 3-month supply of all necessary medications is possible now, and also ask about online options for ordering medications to minimize trips to the vet's office.

Vet Visit Checklist

1. Call Your Vet Before Coming In

If your pet is ill, call to determine when they can come in, and ask your veterinarian what protocols they have put in place to ensure the safety of you, your pet, and their team members.

Here are some questions to ask:

- Are you offering telemedicine or phone consultations for minor illnesses?
- Has anyone in the hospital become ill?
- Will I be able to be with my pet during the exam?
- Will you come to my car to get my pet?
- How will I communicate my concerns to the doctor?
- Will you take my payment over the phone?

2. Follow the Protocol

If your veterinarian has instituted protective protocols, they are doing so in order to protect you and their staff. Please take the time to learn the new rules and adhere to them carefully. Your patience and understanding during such unprecedented times are greatly appreciated.

3. Stay Prepared

Here are some other things you can do to prepare for the unknown:

- Take time now, while both you and your pet are healthy, to locate alternate veterinary hospitals in case yours is forced to close due to illness or inability to safely serve their clients.
- Ask your veterinarian for a copy of your pet's medical records in case they need to be seen elsewhere (a folder full of receipts is NOT a medical record).
- Check your supplies. Make sure you have enough food, litter, and medications for your pet to make it through at least a month.
- Ensure that your credit card is on file with your veterinarian in case someone else must bring your pet in for you.
- Post numbers for your nearest emergency veterinarian, as well as animal poison control, in an easily visible spot in your home.
- Ask a friend or neighbor if they would be willing to take your pet to the veterinarian if you become ill, and give them the phone number and address ahead of time.
- Put together a pet emergency kit so that you can take care of small issues at home.
- Keep yourself informed of the latest updates on COVID-19 from the CDC and the AVMA (American Veterinary Medical Association).
- Remain calm. We will get through this!



ALL ABOARD!

By Andy Haines

Hello Brandywine!

I hope everyone has stayed safe and healthy over the last few months, and that maybe, by the time this newspaper arrives in your hands, things have eased up a bit and we can begin moving back towards something that resembles normal.

The BOA Board has thought long and hard about how best to handle the Annual May Community Meeting in light of all that is going on, and we have come to the conclusion that it is just not safe or feasible to host it as planned. Therefore, we wanted to announce here, and will do so via community email as well, that the BOA Annual Meeting is going to be postponed indefinitely, and will be rescheduled once it becomes clear that it is safe to do so. If you had planned on submitting your voting ballots at the meeting, please go ahead and drop them in the mailbox at the Highway 70 gate instead, and we will accept submissions through the original May 17th date.

Towards that end, this is also going to be my last All Aboard, as my term on the Board ends in May. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for how welcoming, helpful, and kind you have all been over the last few years as I have tried to figure out how this community runs. It has been a pleasure getting to know you all, and I look forward to continuing to see you around the neighborhood in the coming months and years. I wanted to give a particular shout out to Rachel, whose term is also ending. Thank you, Rachel, for all you have done for this neighborhood over the last three years. I'm sorry we couldn't give you a more proper send off at the annual meeting, but if you see her around in the coming months once we are able to come out of quarantine, please be sure to buy her a drink. She's earned it.

And please also know that you are in good hands with those who will be carrying on after us. Sandra, Peter, and Tommy have done great work, have learned a lot over the past year, and will continue the tradition of positive service to this community. To the two newly elected Board members, good luck. We all greatly appreciate all three of you for having volunteered to run for the two vacant positions, and however it works out, I am certain you will be welcomed with open arms.

In Memoriam

Pellegrino J. DiMarco – January 29, 2020



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Brandywine Neighbors Support From Afar Continued from page 1

You saw a bear where?! Brandywine neighbors participated in the worldwide “Bear Hunt” game, in which people put a toy bear in their front window or yard so that neighbors walking and biking could look for bears as they enjoyed their outdoor time. Did you find bears on your walk?



Joanne De-Bernardo has a thoughtful way to express thanks, from behind our closed doors, to all the medical workers; first responders; store clerks; delivery people of mail, packages, food, and prescriptions; utility workers; and others. A lit candle sym-



bolizes light in the darkness of life; and during celebrations, the candle expresses respect for public figures or special commemorations. Many of our neighbors on Reserve Green Drive have put an electric candle in one of our windows; our lit candles represent our hope for a speedy end of the COVID-19 virus while we honor and show our appreciation for all the “helpers.” All Brandywine neighbors are invited to join us in this demonstration of support and appreciation.

Lisa Lee captured this image of a special Easter celebration. Social distancing may mean that we have to stay 6 feet apart, but neighbors Ellie Workman, with Jere and Donna Geurin, organized an Easter celebration for neighbors in the cul-de-sac on Westchester Drive. Evelyn Winstead brought a basket with toys and candy from the Easter Bunny. It was a lovely and special celebration with songs and prayer, and a nice reminder that Brandywine has the BEST neighbors!



Although we know that we’re all inside our houses, together apart, it was great to see our neighbors in person and resolve to get together again when the restrictions are lifted.

Vince Moreno shared a photo of a garden flag that sums things up! We’re looking forward to getting back to welcoming friends and neighbors to our homes.



Pet of the Month: Kitty

By Davis Bowen



Kitty and Davis are best buddies.

This is Kitty, my dog. I know what you're thinking, what a funny name for a dog. But it's true, she really does act like a cat.

She is an Aussiedoodle, and she is two years old. She is very clumsy, always tripping on her feet. She is also funny about her toys. When my mom cleans up and puts her toys on her little bed, Kitty will grab each one and spread them all over the house.

Like some dogs, she loves playing in the ocean and going out in the boat, but she hates pool water. She loves her walks and prances when she walks. When she sits, if you rub her legs, she will sit there forever and usually fall asleep.

She is a funny dog, but I sure do love my dog Kitty.



Sound Waves is looking for neighbors to contribute stories and photos, so tell us about it!

editor.soundwaves@gmail.com

Have you spent your down time writing poetry, memoirs, or fiction stories that neighbors would enjoy reading?

Would you like to share about a favorite recipe, vacation memory, community group or hobby, or yard or home maintenance advice?

Do you know an interesting neighbor for the Meet Your Neighbor story or a cute pet for the Pet of the Month?

Medical Emergencies Cannot Wait

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU WHEN IT MATTERS MOST.

Serious medical emergencies like heart attacks, strokes, and appendicitis are still happening. Our Emergency Team continues to be here for you around the clock.

Extra safety measures are in place to ensure all patients receive the safest care possible.



When arriving at the Emergency Room or calling 911, please mention if you have a fever, cough, difficulty breathing, or severe illness. This will help us limit any potential exposures to others. Should you come to the hospital, please bring a cloth face covering, such as a mask.



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Safety Issue: Golf Course Trespassing

By Steve Sewell, Director of Golf

Brandywine Bay Golf Club is a neighbor to Brandywine Bay homeowners. It is also privately owned, as are the homes within the community. As such, the golf club respects its neighbors, and abides by HOA Rules. The club, of course, expects the same in return.

This reciprocity has not been demonstrated by a few of the residents. Folks who are not abiding by the rules are causing hardship on the club and its patrons/members.

Residents or outsiders who are walking their dogs, fishing the ponds (water hazards) on the course, walking the golf cart paths and fairways, parking in the various lots, and more are violating the rules of our HOA. All people entering or utilizing the facility are required to first register in the clubhouse, whether they use golf course, pool or practice range. Free parking to non-paying patrons is not allowed without prior approval. Despite the Sheriff's efforts to visit violators' homes, the practices have not only continued, but escalated!

Probably most who do trespass are uninformed of the situation and do not realize they invade golfers' space/play, the maintenance crews, and others who are legally on property. The insurance issues, implications and liabilities are real and possible. To us in the business, it is not uncommon to deal with occasional injuries or medical issues on course or surrounds, but in some cases it has involved adults and children who are on property illegally. The ensuing legal and medical considerations become an issue, to say the least.



Yes, we're all feeling restless, and the **golf course** is inviting for recreation -- but it is **private property**.

If you access any golf course property, **without first registering** at the club house, you are **trespassing**.

Biking, walking, fishing, Frisbee, and other activities on the golf course are **not ok at any time of day**.

Once again, we implore residents to acknowledge and respect the HOA rules and not enter BBGC property before registering at the clubhouse. If the clubhouse is closed, the property is closed; no further entry by members or patrons is allowed. With the utmost respect and appreciation for the many who follow HOA Rules, we offer a big thank you.

Keeping Up with the Ditches

At the previous Quarterly BOA Meeting, Drainage Committee Chairman, Scott Carpenter, spoke about two important factors related to Brandywine rain water drainage.

Downstream Drainage: Scott Carpenter is in contact with the County Commissioners and Morehead City Planning Board to advocate for clean out of the ditches across Hwy 70 in Hull Swamp. These ditches are the downstream ditches for our drainage, so they also need to be clear to avoid water backup within our neighborhood. If you have any connections or influence with anyone in the city or county who could advocate for these drainage ditches to be cleared, your support would be appreciated. This is an ongoing issue that will only become more needed as new development and construction continues in our area.

Neighborhood Ditches: It is crucial that all homeowners keep their ditches clear of debris. Ask your lawn maintenance crew to clear your ditches, and certainly be sure they are not blowing debris into the ditch. If you are clearing your own ditch and see that your neighbor's ditch needs cleaning, please help out and clear it for them. We all need to work together to ensure our street-front drainage ditches allow runoff to flow freely.



Scott and other committee volunteers continuously check and perform maintenance on our community's drainage system, but they cannot possibly do it all! Every neighbor can help with the overall effort to ensure our drainage system functions properly when we need it most. Please continue to clear the drainage ditches along your street, monitor other drainage ditches near your house, and quickly report problems to Scott Carpenter or a BOA Board member.

MGA Happenings

By Vince Moreno

February

The winners of our Tournament Scramble:
First Place-Ken Ghelli/Richie Leinthall/John Miller, with a score of 68
Second Place-Nick Viglianese/Tom Normyle
Closest To The Pin Winners Won By The First Place Team



February MGA winners

March

The winners of our tournament:
John Zimmerman/Vince Moreno/Bob Connolly/Mark Roche/Coasty
Cornwall/Ken Ghelli

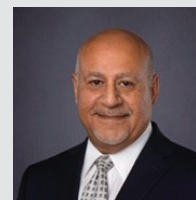


March MGA winners

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A Job Well Done

Since our scheduled BOA Annual Meeting in May is being postponed to ensure social distancing due to the COVID-19 virus, we share these thoughts...

The three-year terms of Andy Haines and Rachael Love-Adrick, who have served loyally in various positions on the BOA Board, most recently as President and Vice President, are nearing an end. In addition to their many duties, they led our community heroically through recovery from Hurricanes Florence and Dorian. With foresight, their Board had plans in place for thorough, quick clean-up as communication to all owners was ongoing. The entire community relied on them for this, as well as the day to day effort and decisions required of them.

A big THANK YOU goes out here to Andy and Rachael for all their hard work and dedication to our community.

With gratitude,
BJ and Craig Ellyson



**Andy Haines
&
Rachel Love-Adrick**

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Board Members -**

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After Social Distancing

By Monica Sellars

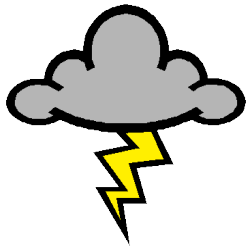
Hi neighbors. I hope you are enjoying the spring sun and warmer weather. If you find yourself thinking of things that you'd like to do, and then you remember that you can't do them right now, why not make a jar to keep notes of your ideas? That's what my manager, Diane, has done at her home. She's pleasantly surprised that her family is participating in her idea jar, and they are all looking forward to spending time together doing the things they have saved in their jar. What's the first thing you'd like to do?



Photo and idea courtesy of Diane Dalton, one of Monica's managers at work



BOA Gate Tips



Hwy 24 clicker functionality tends to malfunction during electrical storms. On these days, you may want to avoid this entrance if you want to use a clicker to enter. Other devices, like cards and phone access, are usually not affected and continue working even when clickers are out of service.



If you are using a clicker and you notice the red light is dim or fading, it is time to replace your clicker battery to ensure the clicker will work at the gate.



You can test whether your entry device is working at any time of day. Approach the control box at the gate and use your device. You should hear a tone and see "open" on the screen if your device is working. If it is not, contact Ted Beszterczei for assistance.



It is recommended to associate your mobile phone number with your gate call code. This way, you can call yourself and press 9 on your phone to open the gate from your car, even if your clicker is not working. To change or confirm the number associated with your gate code, contact Ann Webster at brandywinewelcome@gmail.com.



In many cars with programmable buttons for garage door openers, you can program your gate clicker in the same manner. One clicker can program multiple cars. You may be able to program it from anywhere (like your driveway), but if you are having trouble getting it to work, try programming it while you are at the gate to see if that helps.

Carolina East Singers Announce Spring Concert



Do you like to sing? Do you enjoy singing in a choir? If so, Carolina East Singers is looking for you! We are a community choir who meets on Monday nights, from 6:30 – 8:00 at the First Presbyterian Church in Morehead City. We have 2 performances a year. One in December and the other in April/May.

Our director, Susan Gillis Bailey, will be holding tryouts the first 2 weeks in June. If you are interested, please call the church office at 252-247-2202 and leave a message for Susan. She will call you back with a date and time. We hope to see you singing with us in the Fall.



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What the Stimulus Package Will (and Won't) Do for the Economy



Presented by
Greg Patterson and James Allen Canady

The Federal Reserve (Fed) has been consistently ahead of the coronavirus crisis. To help ensure that this medical crisis does not transmute into a financial one, the Fed stepped up early and hard. Not only did it cut interest rates essentially to zero, it also eased restrictions on banks to enable faster and more business lending. Plus, the Fed has taken unlimited measures to support the financial system as a whole, restarting programs from the last financial crisis to purchase bonds and inject money into the system.

So far, it seems the Fed has been successful in its efforts. The Fed and monetary policy have done what they can do, and they are poised to do more as needed. But monetary policy—think interest rates and bank regulation—can only do so much. We've now added to this direct policy support (i.e., writing checks) for workers and businesses. Spending money, known as fiscal policy, is the province of Congress. With passage of the CARES Act, we have a stimulus deal aimed at providing financial support—checks—directly to workers and businesses. Let's take a closer look at what the stimulus package will (and won't) do for the economy, starting with the numbers.

Unpacking the Stimulus Package

The package totals about \$2 trillion, or almost 10 percent of the economy as a whole. It also includes provisions to enable the Fed and commercial banks to add up to another \$6 trillion in temporary financing. This is real money, larger than what was done in 2008. Although it took longer, Congress has now gone big and hard to get ahead of the damage. And, like the Fed, there is likely more there if needed.

Nearly half of the package is direct payments to both people and firms. Individuals will get a \$1,200 check, with an additional \$500 per child, up to an income limit. Loan guarantees are available to small businesses, which convert to grants if the businesses maintain their payrolls. Unemployment insurance is now for 100 percent of lost wages for up to four months. There is also money to support the health care system, as well as state and local governments. Finally, a significant part will go to large businesses affected by the crisis, such as airlines.

In other words, there is something for pretty much everyone here. While there will undoubtedly be mistakes, it provides the framework for getting the economy through the crisis until something like normality returns. This program is what is needed to mitigate the long-term damage from the crisis.

What the Stimulus Won't Do

What this package, and the Fed's actions, will not do is prevent a significant

short-term drop in the economy. The second quarter will be terrible, and the third quarter probably won't be great either. With the lockdowns in place, with people unable to work or spend, preventing that decline is impossible.

What It Will Do

What can be done—and what the package is designed to do—is allow people and companies to survive during that period, despite that slowdown. People will be able to pay their rent and buy food, first with the initial check and then with the expanded unemployment insurance. Companies will be able to pay their rent, other expenses, and, in many cases, their people. Critically, with that support, both individuals and companies will be around to start working and spending again when the lockdown eases and when the economy starts up again—which is the goal.

There will certainly be collateral damage here. People will suffer, and some companies won't make it through. But this program will help minimize that damage and help ensure that we have a functioning economy when the virus is brought under control.

Between the Fed and congressional action, we will hopefully have the policy response in place that we need to get through the next difficult weeks. There will still be damage, and there will likely be a need for additional policy response. If that's the case, the signs are that both the Fed and the government will do what is needed, when it is needed.

The Real Message

There are two messages from the stimulus package. The first is that the money will be there, which is critical. It will support confidence from consumers and businesses, and it will help preserve both the capability and the confidence needed to keep the economy going.

The second, and in some ways more important, is that the U.S. government is up to the challenge of this crisis. That position will also help preserve confidence, which will help more than anything to resolve this crisis as quickly as possible

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Greg Patterson and James Allen Canady are financial advisors located at Atlantic Wealth Management, 712 Bridges Street, Morehead City, NC 28557. They offer securities and advisory services as Registered Representatives and Investment Adviser Representatives of Commonwealth Financial Network®, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser. They can be reached at 252-515-7800 or at greg@myatlanticwealth.com.

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Crystal Coast Choral Society Performance Postponed

By Marilyn Zmoda

The Crystal Coast Choral Society performance Of Handel's "Messiah" that was originally scheduled for April 26, 2020 has been postponed to late November due to the Coronavirus.

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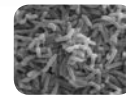
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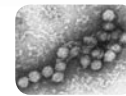
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What Not to Flush

From Deb Clark

Communications Manager at Carolina Water Service, Inc. of North Carolina

Disinfectant wet wipes, paper towels and toilet paper are flying off the shelves. These products help keep us clean and reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus. But when we remember that products like baby wipes and wet wipes are not as “flushable” as typically advertised, it’s no surprise that we’re now at a greater risk for sewer blockages in our communities.



If TP isn't available, it's easy to reach for an alternative – but keep in mind these wipes need to stay out of our pipes, period. Keep a bin next to the toilet for disposal! Do with wet wipes what you'd do with a baby's diaper or other hygiene products.

When “flushable” wipes enter your plumbing system, they don't disintegrate like regular ol' toilet paper. They often hold together better than a paper towel and they require more water to travel the distance from inside your house to the buried sewer lines outside. At some point in this



journey, you're going to get a clog! If wipes survive the trip to the water treatment plant, they just clog up the giant pumps there, creating even bigger problems.

So now that we're never flushing our wet wipes again, are you wondering what else doesn't belong down the drain? Read this quick list of items we're all guilty of tossing in the bowl... Now here's to helping our pipes stay clog-free!

- ✗ Q-Tips and cotton balls – They will never disintegrate like TP, so don't flush 'em.
- ✗ Feminine hygiene products – Pads and tampons are meant to absorb liquids, not break down in them. They are never safe to flush.
- D ✗ Dental floss – Floss might look harmless, but this stuff is tough. It can create a net when it's swishing around in your pipes and wrap around parts of your septic system, even burning out the motor.
- o ✗ Diapers – No no no no no! Diaper pails exist for a reason.
- N ✗ Condoms – They're designed to never break down in water. Put it in the trash.
- o ✗ Medication – Toilet water doesn't break down the prescription drugs you flush, meaning that whatever you're taking will end up in the environment. Throw into the trash or return it to a pharmacy.
- t ✗ Kitty Litter – Some cat litter brands advertise as being flushable, but don't believe the hype. All it does is make water more difficult to purify on the other end.
- F ✗ Cigarettes – Ciggie butts are full of chemicals! Don't flush them.
- l ✗ Hair – When flushed, hair acts like dental floss and creates a net that gets caught on everything. Plus, it never dissolves in water, no matter how long it's there.
- u ✗ Bleach – It's too harsh of a chemical to use as a part of your routine cleaning; try getting toilet stains out with vinegar instead.
- s ✗ And of course, no fats, oils or grease, either! More on that later.
- h

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How Can You Help the Wildlife?

From Monica Sellars

Have you ever found an injured wild animal in your yard and wondered what you could do to help it? We are fortunate to have the Outerbanks Wildlife Shelter, known as OWLS, only minutes away. They are an excellent resource for advice about wildlife injuries, and they also rehabilitate injured animals at their facility on Hwy. 24. From Brandywine, it's on the right, just before you reach Hibbs Rd. Their goal is to help the animals grow or heal until they are ready to be released back into nature, as well as educate citizens about our native wildlife. We have had several experiences with OWLS, and we were so impressed!

We have taken three animals to OWLS for help. Our first experience was shortly after Hurricane Dorian, when we found two tiny squirrels that had fallen from nests that were disturbed during the storm. We brought the babies to OWLS, where the professional staff and volunteers were happy to care for them until they were big enough to be released. In another incident, we helped a mockingbird that was injured when it flew into our window. When I dropped off the bird, I was told that they like to observe birds with concussions for one week, and then release them back to the location where they were found. After a week, our bird was deemed ready to return, so we picked him up and let him loose in our backyard. We think he appreciated the help and hope he enjoyed telling all of his bird friends about his adventure.

After these experiences, we were so impressed with OWLS that we were interested to know more about it. We scheduled a tour of the facility on a Saturday afternoon when my parents were planning a visit. (Note that this was prior to the changes in visit policies that were required during the COVID-19 social distancing. We hope that when the restrictions are lifted, OWLS will be able to return to providing tours. Check with them to

find out more.) The facility is a brick house that has been converted to meet the needs of the wildlife residents. They also have a lovely duck pond in the front with a variety of ducks, and a spacious back yard with secure enclosures for injured and recovering animals. It is such a fascinating place, and our guide, Tyler, was incredibly knowledgeable and friendly. He provided us so much interesting in-



Nigel, the Eastern Screech Owl

formation and introduced us to all of the animals in residence at the time. We saw turtles, snakes, rabbits, ducks, and even owls!

OWLS relies on donations and volunteers to operate their rescue and education programs. If you are interested in helping, check their website or Facebook page for more details and contact information.

<http://www.outerbankswildlifeshelter.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/OuterBanksWildlifeShelter/>

Tiny Kittens Will Need Good Homes

Evelyn Winstead is caring for two tiny kittens that were found in Brandywine. She plans to find good homes for them when they are old enough to move to a forever home. She also plans to catch the mommy cat and have her spayed! If you are interested in having one or two new kittens to join your family, please contact Evelyn at 252-241-4446.



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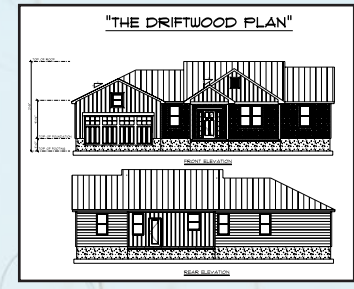
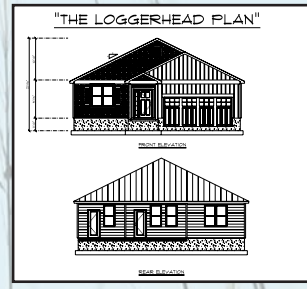
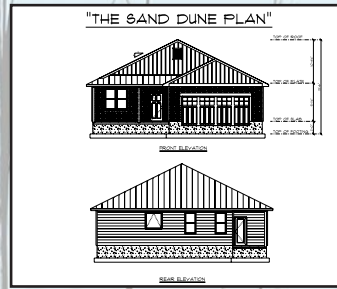
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