

Wanted to give an update on what is going on with us. We know we have not kept up our page like we should. But we were seeing a lot of you after we got vaccinated and it was great. Hence, we didn't really keep this going once we were out and about...too many things to do.

But now we are taking more precautions, as are many of you, and we thought maybe some of you could use a small break for a few minutes.

We capture many photos and videos of animals on our property. 99% of the time, the animal is facing the wrong way, moving so fast that all we get is a blur, and sometimes they are so close to the camera that we only get a body part. But occasionally, we get a good picture.

We thought we would start with posting a few animal pictures, rather than add them to the animal section.



This is a good example. You can tell it is a fox, but he is facing the wrong way.



This is a
little
better.
The tail is
as long as
his body.



There we go.
Now you can
clearly see
the face and
for sure it is
a red fox.
Only the red
fox has
white on the
end of the
tail.

These are pictures from our hummingbird cam. We had to shut it off because there is so much activity. Anabel stays busy keeping the feeders full.

The wings are going so fast, you can't even see them in the pictures.





Even the bumble bees like the sugar water Anabel makes. The trick is to boil the sugar and water together until the sugar dissolves...so that you have a sugar syrup. The hummingbirds and bees go nuts for it.

A couple of bucks we got recently...usually we only see does.





Manatee in the creek. These are endangered. They like the creek behind Nick and Carley's property for some reason. We see them on the main river in front of our dock as well. This one was about three feet away when we took the picture from the bank. It was eating the water lettuce.

Manatee is here.



Anabel laying down on the walkway, so she doesn't spook the manatee. It was eating all that water lettuce you see. It hung out for about 45 minutes just chomping away.



A couple of small gators in the creek behind Nick and Carley's place. Biggest we have seen in the creek was about 3'-4' feet...so it is safe for paddle boarding and canoes. No worries :)



If you go way up the creek, it gets skinny. Believe it or not, there are fish here. They are small, but fun to catch on small rods with little beetle spin lures. There is also an old, one acre pond back here from when there was a road and bridge a long time ago. It is only accessible by getting out of the canoe and walking through the swamp a ways. Anabel and I saw a decent sized gator, 7 feet we think, in the pond. We suspect there are bigger ones. We have not visited again to find out...not going to either.



Along with bluegills, flyers, and warmouth, there are lots of small bass way up the creek. You must be motivated to get here...lots of snakes and believe it or not, turkeys.



If you are wondering what a warmouth is, this is it. It looks like a cross between a bass and a bream...big mouth with a bream body. They are usually around a pound or so.



Carley got a cool picture of a large ray next to the walkway. The St. Johns River has the only permanent population of sting rays in a freshwater system in the United States.



We went way up Oldfield Creek, behind Nick and Carley's land, in our Gheenoe and found this spot. Sandy bottom and about two-three feet deep. Dennis says good spot to get out of the canoe and wade some. Refreshing. Anabel sees a possible snake in every dark spot...no way in hell is she getting out of the Gheenoe.



But, she will get out on the land! That is a big step for Anabel...a year ago this would not happen.

Yes, Anabel is a tree hugger.

This is a monster cypress tree the loggers didn't get last century.





Why are there concrete blocks on the top of the trash cans? Why is there a rope tied around them as well? Because the raccoons are damn smart is why. Fingers crossed this works.



Not a great picture, but you can see two sets of eyes showing the little bandits. They were literally sitting on top of one can and eating on top of the other like it was a table right before this picture.



Our neighbor, Suzanne, gave us an old aluminum boat. (Thanks Suzanne!) Needed a little love, but it didn't leak.



Fixed the seats, put on a new transom, added an old 3.5 Mercury we had in the garage, and here she is.

We thought about painting it, but that would detract from its character.

Not sure what to name it. Was thinking on naming it “The Other Boat”, since that is what we keep calling it.

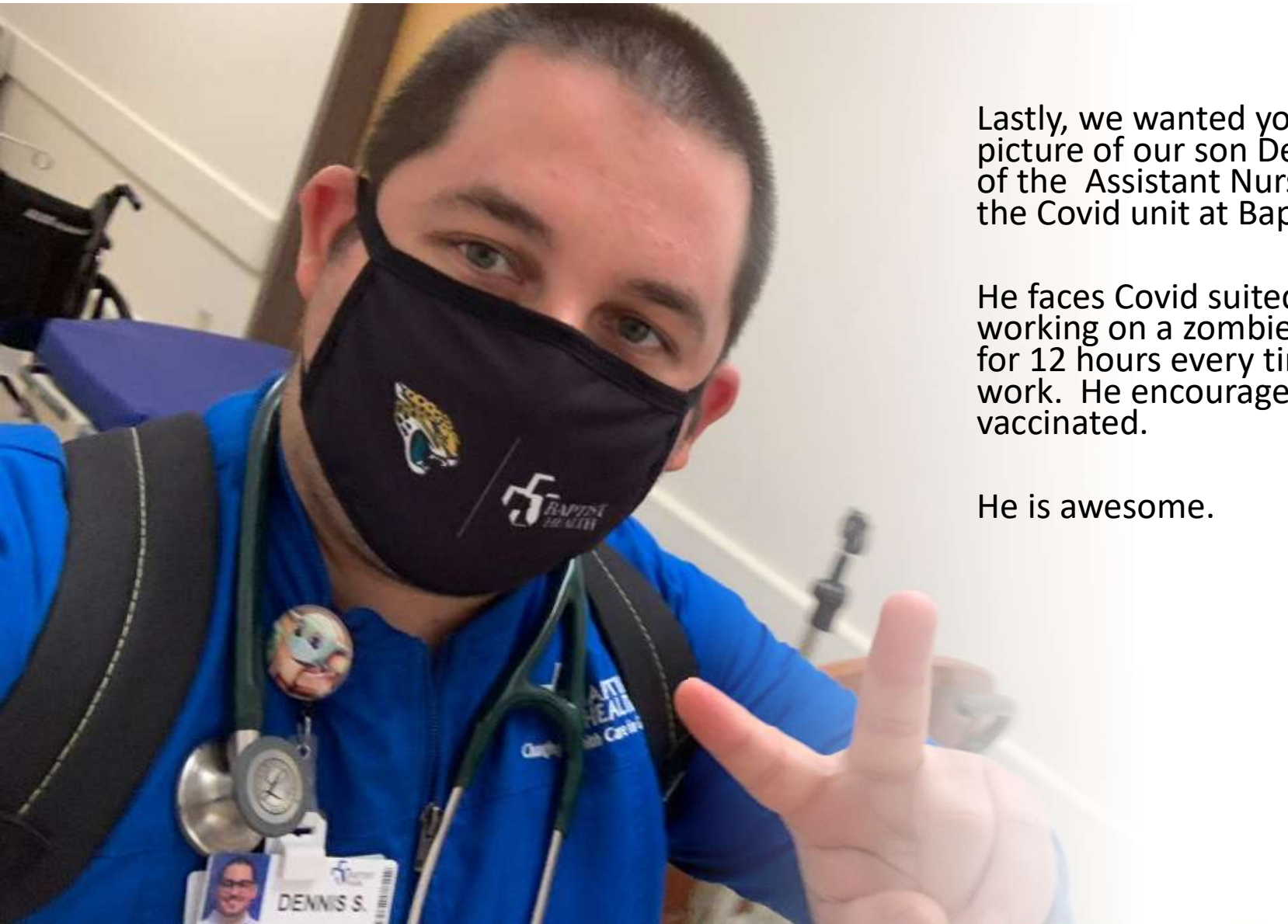


Dennis in the back driving. Anabel in the front giving instructions to Dennis.
Had some sideburns going on in this picture haha.



Leased another warehouse... Anabel in her construction outfit...love it. I think she would rather do this than work on her 3000+ unanswered emails. (That was not a made-up number.)





Lastly, we wanted you to see a picture of our son Dennis. He is one of the Assistant Nurse Managers on the Covid unit at Baptist Health.

He faces Covid suited up like he is working on a zombie infection unit for 12 hours every time he goes into work. He encourages you to get vaccinated.

He is awesome.

Until next time...