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Law Library Newsletters/Blog


Law Library

5-2020

Law Library Blog (May 2020): Legal Beagle's Blog Archive

Roger Williams University School of Law

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May 2020 Library Blogs

Legal Beagle's Post

May 1, 2020

Quarantining Your Body (But Not Your Mind)

May 1, 2020



The COVID-19 self-quarantining is getting old. Although procedures for social distancing are in place to keep us safe, they also keep us feeling a bit cooped up. We thought it might be nice to celebrate some of the things we learned during these last few months. While no one would have wished this pandemic on anyone, it is important to be mindful and see silver linings. Here at the Legal Beagle we learned several new facts over the last few weeks. Here are a few:

1. According to the [CDC website](#), “the Public Health Service Act of 1944 clearly established the federal government’s quarantine authority for the first time.”
2. There are YouTube videos from a channel called [Slow TV](#) which are very long, relaxing videos of uneventful things. For example, there is a ten-hour video of small waves crashing on the shore and another ten hours of gentle snow falling.
3. After binging a particular Netflix series, there is a lot to be learned about the ethics of hybridizing animals. [Did you know that there are such animals as zonkeys \(zebras + donkeys\), camas \(camel + llama\), and pizzlies \(polar bears + grizzlies\)?](#)

4. The history of Zoom is cute and romantic. [The founder of Zoom, Eric S. Yuan, describes its origin](#), “I first envisioned Zoom when I was a freshman in college in China and regularly took a ten-hour train ride to visit my girlfriend (who is now my wife). I detested those rides and used to imagine other ways I could visit my girlfriend without traveling — those daydreams eventually became the basis for Zoom.”
5. [According to the American Library Association](#), “A growing body of evidence suggests that students’ academic success is linked to library usage, including improved student retention and an enhanced academic experience.”
6. Also on the theme of libraries, did you know that there is [a karaoke room in a library in Finland](#)?? “The Tikkurila Library in Vantaa, Finland, has a karaoke room with thousands of songs for guests to perform. (Finland is home to a lot of karaoke-loving citizens.) Fortunately, all that warbling doesn’t rise to the level of a disruption: The room is soundproof.”
7. According to the [International Union for the Conservation of Nature \(IUCN\)](#) via pangolins.org, “virtually no information is available on population levels of any species of pangolin. These species are rarely observed due to their secretive, solitary, and nocturnal habits, and there has been little research on their population densities.”

May 8, 2020

Summer Access to Materials

May 8, 2020



Need to do research this summer? Do not worry, Bloomberg Law, Lexis, and Westlaw offer summer access to continuing students! Soon to be graduates, do not despair-an email will go

out to you next week discussing your access and some other exciting news about library services for alumni.

Our LawGuide, [Bloomberg/Lexis/Westlaw @ RWU Law: Summer Access](#), explains the details of continuing your use of the databases over the summer months.

In addition, [digital resources](#) will be available to continuing students who are working from afar this summer. Log in using the same [username and password](#) you use to access the RWU campus portal from wherever you are working.

Your friendly RWU Law Librarians are also here to help! If you have any questions about our databases and services, or need some help on a tough research question, please don't hesitate to [contact us by phone, email, or chat](#).

Have a wonderful summer!

May 15, 2020

Congratulations to the Extraordinary Class of 2020!

May 15, 2020



While every class of students that passes through the doors of Roger Williams University School of Law has been remarkable in many ways, this class holds an unenviable place in RWU law

history, the first to not hold Commencement in May. You will have a Celebration of the Class of 2020 and a Commencement which is planned for later when the world begins to function more normally. You will be the first to have two dates to celebrate!

You will be the Class that a virus did not defeat. You studied, persevered, accomplished, and completed your law school education! You have every reason to be proud and we want to shout your accomplishments from the rooftops (which will, we think, meet the required social distancing orders).

CONGRATULATIONS!

You are understandably ready to commence studying for the bar, starting your careers, and generally moving on with life. You will get there. You have proved your ability to get things done.

In the meantime, you may have a little more time on your hands than you expected. Some of you may find yourselves wondering about the [history of the regalia](#) worn in the Commencement ceremony or how the [ceremony has changed over the years](#).

You might even decide to binge on Commencement speeches. There are plenty of sites ready to assist you. Here is one of our favorites:

NPR, [Best Commencement Speeches, Ever](#)

Mostly, enjoy this time with your loved ones as much as you can. Once you are busy professionals, the time with them will be what you remember most from this history making conclusion to your law school career and start of the rest of your life.

Congratulations and don't forget, we are your library for life.

May 28, 2020

Summer Vacation

May 28, 2020



Greetings from the Legal Beagle!

This summer the Legal Beagle will be taking a much-deserved break. The blog will continue as usual when classes start back up in the Fall. In the meantime, you can always look back at some of our [past blogs](#). Unlike the Legal Beagle, the librarians continue to be hard at work this summer. In fact, we have expanded our reference hours to include a few evening hours. On Tuesdays from 5 pm to 8 pm Eastern Time a reference librarian will be available via chat and email to answer your questions, especially those questions from our students in other time zones. This week we started using a Zoom room on Tuesday nights, so that RWU Law students with questions can speak live with a librarian. RWU Law students--please check your email and the class FB groups for the link and password.

If you are in [Bristol](#) this summer, find out some of the things this town has to offer by getting out and walking around. You may be new to Rhode Island, or you may be a lifelong resident. Either way, you may have missed some hidden gems this state has to offer. Check out Only in Your State's list of [Rhode Island Hidden Gems](#) to find out what you may be missing. Lastly, Rhode Island has many local food dishes and delicacies you will not find anywhere else. For some, summer is the only time they get to have these treats, for others it will be their first chance. You will not want to miss out on the opportunity to try [these delights](#).

If you are resolved to indoor activities this summer, one place to check out is the RISD Museum which has a variety of [virtual events online](#). Another good option for indoor fun is the upcoming concert [Streaming Outta Fenway](#) with Boston's Dropkick Murphys and NJ's Bruce Springsteen! The best part of that concert? It is absolutely free! Looking for some interactive fun? The library may have an event in store for you this summer. We will be in touch with details!

The Legal Beagle will see you back here at the start of the fall semester. Be on the lookout at the end of July for our return. Remember, if you need any help with legal research over the summer

the librarians will still be available to help you. You can still contact them by [phone, email, or chat](#).

Enjoy your summer. Be safe and be healthy.