



## Seufert Law Offices, PA

*We'll Get You Through It*



### From the Captain's Log – A Hotel on an Isle

The Star Island Hotel, a/k/a the Oceanic Hotel has a colorful past - and present. In the 1600's the Isle of Shoals was a bustling port, the busiest fishing port on the East coast. Neighboring Smuttynose Island, connected by a more recent breakwater, is allegedly the site of Blackbeard's honeymoon, later for the shipwreck of the Spanish ship Sagunto in 1813, and then for the notorious 1873 murders of two young women. In the 1800's, the Oceanic Hotel was built on Star Island, and is one of the last of the original Grand Hotels still standing. Star Island, while keeping its "fishy" vibes has evolved more into a haven for creative artists, writers, and intellectuals. The hotel is made entirely of wood, so no smoking is allowed, lest it go the way of the other Grand Hotels before it. In the late 1800's Unitarian's Thomas Elliott and his wife Lilla were guests and started a new chapter for the Hotel as an ideal spot for church conferences. In 1915, the Isles of Shoals Summer Meeting Association bought the hotel and the island, forming the nonprofit Star Island Corporation. While maintaining its close ties to the Unitarian church, there are now a variety of family, youth, and individual themes, including faith, music, art, yoga, and history.

While the official line is that liquor is not partaken on the Island, and is not sold at the Hotel, I have seen, first hand, casks and kegs unloaded from the supply ship that shuttles the staff from Portsmouth each day in the summer, all making its way somewhere into the Hotel. I suspect many a "speakeasy" occurs on the island.



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In addition to the Hotel, there are many outbuildings, a small chapel, a former one-room schoolhouse, meeting halls, and trails that can be taken in for free. The grandkids love to go into the Hotel lobby where, in-season, there is a snack bar and ice cream sold. Myself, I would like to find one of the "speakeasies" but alas, those have proven elusive so far, so our NH boat, the Litigator, which ferries us to the Isle of Shoals and beyond, remains well stocked. As for Blackbeard, I understand that he was a sailor too, so couldn't have been that bad a guy. •



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# E-Cigs Have Their Own Problems

When e-cigs first became available to consumers roughly a decade ago, they were marketed as a healthier alternative to traditional cigarettes. Since then, however, e-cigs have been exposed as potential health hazards in their own right.

E-cigs come in a wide variety of appealing flavors. Unfortunately, the flavor package partly consists of unhealthy ingredients: nicotine solution and humectants. Humectants are substances that help retain moisture and produce a vapor that is inhaled. They have been shown to cause upper respiratory issues and eye irritation. In addition, heating humectants via the e-cig device can create carcinogenic compounds. Nicotine itself can adversely affect heart rate, blood pressure, appetite, memory, alertness, and unborn babies, as well as contribute to depression.

E-cigs have also been known to explode, become projectiles, and injure unsuspecting users (and passersby). An e-cig is powered by a small lithium-ion battery, which packs a lot of energy but can be volatile. Sometimes there is a problem with the coil, which produces the heat necessary for vaping.

The e-cig industry had been unregulated until 2016, when the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) stepped in. From that point, a two-year clock began ticking for manufacturers of e-cig products to submit a new tobacco product application (under which e-cigs are covered). It may take the FDA an additional year to review the application. The goal is to better inform and protect consumers, and hopefully prevent young people from getting hooked on e-cig products. ●

# The White Horse of Uffington

"Aerial Photograph of White Horse And Uffington Hillfort" by Tyler Bell is licensed under CC BY 2.0



There are 56 identifiable hill figures (geoglyphs) scattered throughout the countryside of England. One of the oldest, and most mysterious, dates back over 3,000 years: the White Horse of Uffington.

The White Horse of Uffington is a unique, stylized representation of a horse etched high on a slope of lush vegetation in the region of Oxfordshire, near the village of Uffington. The image is comprised of a long, sleek back; thin, disjointed legs; a streaming tail; and a bird-like, beaked head. These parts are white since they are trenches dug into the earth that expose the white chalk bedrock underneath.

The purpose of the White Horse is unknown. The image is clearly visible only from an aerial vantage point or from a distant plateau. Some

researchers speculate that it's the emblem of a local tribe that was marking its territory. Others believe worshippers of the sun god Belinos, who was associated with horses, carved out the figure.

One legend depicts the figure as a dragon, not a horse. The mythical beast was slain by St. George, its spilled blood creating a white chalk scar from which grass would not grow.

The White Horse has been tended to diligently since its creation. Otherwise it would have long since faded out of existence. Its shape has changed over the expanse of time due to soil slippage and numerous recuttings. Over the centuries, many "scouring festivals" have taken place to maintain the White Horse...with a few days of partying thrown in.

The White Horse of Uffington's purpose remains a mystery, but its survival is a testament to what it's meant to the people of the region. ●



# Penalties for Drivers Under the Age of 20 in New Hampshire



If you are under twenty and are convicted of any moving violation in New Hampshire, you will almost certainly be sent an order to appear for a hearing at the Department of Motor Vehicles. At that hearing, the issue will be whether your license will be suspended for that violation.

This law was passed to encourage young drivers to exercise more care when driving. As the statistics have shown, teen age drivers are statistically responsible for significantly more car accidents than any other age group. In fact, driving teens are three times as likely to be involved in a fatal crash than any other age group. The theory behind

imposing a license suspension was that if there were a loss of license imposed upon conviction of a moving violation instead of just a fine, these young drivers would be less inclined to speed, drive through stop signs, etc. They would learn to exercise caution while driving.

On some occasions DMV is willing to hold the loss of license in “abeyance”, which means hold the loss of license over the driver’s head. The period of abeyance is usually one year. If the driver has no further incidents in that year, no suspension is ever imposed. However, if the driver has a new infraction, DMV will seek to suspend the license for the new as well as the earlier infraction.

If the driver is convicted of a more serious offense, such as Negligent Operation or Conduct After an Accident, DMV will almost certainly impose a suspension of the driver’s license. Of course, the most serious motor vehicle violations, such as Reckless Operation and DWI, carry their own court imposed loss of license.

Before your under-20 driver pleads guilty to any motor vehicle related offense, you should talk to an attorney about a possible suspension of their driver’s license. ●

## Important Steps to Take Following an Auto Accident

Over 6 million automobile collisions occur annually in the United States, resulting in injuries to more than 3 million people and considerable property damage. If you are involved in a collision, take the following steps to ensure your well-being and protect your rights:

- If you are able, turn on your vehicle’s four-way flashers and set up flares if available to give a heads-up to other drivers. Leave your vehicle where it is, unless it’s causing a dangerous situation. If you aren’t injured and can safely move it off the roadway, go ahead.
- Call the police, even if there seemingly aren’t any serious injuries. A police report may be necessary to file a claim with your insurance company.
- Do your best to give the investigating officer accurate information. However, do not speculate, guess, or assume.
- Take cell-phone photos of damage and/or injuries.
- Exchange names, addresses, telephone numbers, and insurance information with the other driver(s) and passengers. If police respond to the scene, they will collect this information for you. Obtain basic information from witnesses (if any) to bolster a potential claim.
- Notify your insurance company about the accident as quickly as possible.
- Seek immediate medical attention, and tell your physician everything about the accident. In many cases, injuries might not crop up for days or even weeks. Even minor impacts can cause serious and sometimes permanent injuries.
- Possibly the most important thing you can do following an accident is contact an auto accident attorney. An attorney will protect your rights, prevent valuable evidence from being destroyed, and help you receive fair compensation for damages and injuries. ●



**September 2017 Important Dates**

<b>September 4</b>	Labor Day
<b>September 10</b>	Grandparents Day
<b>September 11</b>	Patriot Day
<b>September 20-22</b>	Rosh Hashanah
<b>September 22</b>	Fall begins
<b>September 30</b>	Yom Kippur



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*Protect Your Family, Protect Your Rights*



## A Hotel on an Isle

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## Cathy's Corner

## Schools

Due to budget cuts, art has been removed from the curriculum at Franklin School District, nor is there any funding for art supplies in the classrooms themselves. In a time when school policy emphasizes test results, the arts do not easily lend themselves to quantifiable measurements of individual students and their intellectual abilities. Although some may regard art education as a luxury, simple creative activities are some of the building blocks of child development.

Art education at the elementary level affects student growth and development beyond the art classroom both physically and educationally. Development of motor skills is supported by motion required in art classes, including holding pencils and crayons or using a paintbrush. Drawing, sculpting with clay and threading beads on a string all develop visual-spatial skills. Decision-making and visual learning skills are also supported in art classes for young students as they are required to use creativity and critical-thinking skills in designing their own art projects.

Additionally, the process-driven basis of art education develops student ability to engage in a project and develop creative solutions to a problem. Learning through the arts promotes the idea that there is more than one solution to a problem, or more than one answer to a question. When kids are encouraged to express themselves, and take risks in creating art, they develop a sense of innovation that will be important in their adult lives. The kind of people society needs to make it move forward are thinking, inventive people who seek new ways and improvements, not people who can only follow direction.

The staff at Seufert Law is partnering with Paul Smith School to provide some of the needed art supplies during the course of the school year. We are hoping that you can join us in this endeavor. Any donation would be welcome at any time in the school year. We have a collection box at our office, and will make sure that all donations are brought to the schools. We are looking for the following items:

Paintbrushes, paint, construction paper, glue and glue sticks, colored pencils, ribbon, tissue paper, popsicle sticks (any size). •

