



Seufert Law Offices, PA

We'll Get You Through It

From the Captain's Log Pucker Factor

Every few years around Father's Day my boys and I try to do something fun together. This year I decided we should try drag racing at New England Speedway in Epping NH. Not knowing what to expect, I bought packages of 3 runs for each of us and told them about it in May. We had a 2:45 pm lane time on 6/24/21 so we all cut out of work at noon to get there early. You also had an opportunity to do a drive-along package in a 2-seat dragster with a professional driver. We're glad we didn't waste that money as each time the 2-seater went down the track it sounded like an old Briggs & Stratton sorely needing new spark plugs, we hoped our rides were not going to be similar. At 2:45 pm our group was assembled and given a mandatory pre-race instruction seminar on what to expect. Heat the tires with a 2 second burnout, push forward until you got 2 yellows on the starting tree, stomp the gas as the 3rd yellow flashes. The 1st run was only 300 yards, a training run, the 2nd was 600 yards bringing you mostly up to full speed, and the last run the full ¼ mile. Lining up at the 1st run I blew the lights and had to be repositioned. Once restarted I stomped the gas and my dragster slammed my head back and launched like a pissed off screaming demon late for a séance. I let off on the gas even before the 300 yard mark. On my 2nd run I knew more of what to expect and made a clean pass. On the final run the speeds are so fast, and so quick, that you lose most of your forward vision and only have peripheral vision enough to keep the dragster going mostly straight. I finished my final run before the boys so was able to meet them at the end of their final runs, their shit eating grins needed no explanation, yah, we going to do this again. And yes, I had the fastest elapsed time. ●



July 2021 News



Common Causes of Wrongful Death

Wrongful deaths—those that are caused by the negligence or misconduct of another party—are more common than a lot of people think. For instance, it's estimated that medical malpractice alone may be responsible for nearly 200,000 deaths annually.

While some wrongful deaths occur instantaneously because of a fatal injury, other deaths can take a long time to happen—sometimes many months or even years—from serious injuries such as traumatic brain injuries, internal bleeding or spinal injuries.

Some of the most common causes of wrongful death include:

- Car accidents
- Medical malpractice, such as serious surgical errors or medication errors. Other examples of medical malpractice can include misdiagnosis, failure to diagnose or a delayed diagnosis.
- Defective products, especially in cases in which medical products are involved.
- Dangerous drugs or drug interactions.
- Workplace injuries, especially at construction or manufacturing sites.
- Slip and fall premises liability injuries.

No matter what the cause or how long the wrongful death took to occur, surviving family members (such as a spouse or children – including adopted children) or, in some states, life partners or even distant family members, have the right to sue for wrongful death and recover compensation for damages they have suffered.

Wrongful death actions can be complex and difficult to file, so you are strongly encouraged to seek experienced counsel if you have questions about a loved one's death or feel that you may have a potential claim. •



Summer Olympics Trivia

In ancient Greece, the Olympics were held every four years from 776 B.C. through 393 A.D. to honor Zeus, the top dog on Mt. Olympus. (No year 0 caused a shift to odd-numbered years.)

In 393 A.D., Roman Emperor Theodosius I, a Christian, any party-pooper, banned all pagan festivals. Bye-bye, Olympics. The Olympic games remained dormant until their rebirth in 1896 — the modern Olympics.

Contrary to popular belief, there was no marathon event in the ancient Greek Olympics. The marathon debuted in the 1896 Athens Games to commemorate Pheidippides, an ancient Greek who in 490 B.C. reportedly ran with the news of the Persian landing at Marathon to Sparta to summon military assistance, but some historians challenge this story.

In ancient Olympic competitions, only the winner was recognized. He received a wreath of olive leaves plucked from the sacred tree dedicated to Zeus, located behind the temple in Olympia. Today, of course, gold, silver, and bronze medals are awarded. However, the last pure gold medal was bestowed in 1912. Since then, “gold” medals are mostly silver with a gold coating.

Speaking of medals, the tradition of biting a medal during the awards ceremony harkens to business transactions of yore. Counterfeiters often disguised lead coins as gold ones. Since lead is a soft metal, it would show teeth marks; gold coins would not. Merchants used the bite test to avoid getting ripped off.

In the modern era, the five Olympic rings are symbolic of the five inhabited continents. Some geography models in 1896 counted North and South America as one continent — “the Americas.”

Many ancient Greek athletes performed in the nude, a practice that allegedly originated with the Spartans. Although nudity didn't carry over to the modern Olympics, the speedo era in men's swimming came close. •



July 2021 Notable Dates

July 1
Joke Day

July 3
Cherry Pit Spitting Day

July 7
Chocolate Day

July 8
Blueberry Day

July 13
French Fries Day

July 18
Ice Cream Day

July 29
Chicken Wing Day

Keep Grillin' Season Safe!

According to the National Fire Protection Association, 10,000+ American households each year experience home/outdoor grill-related fires. To maximize safety for **gas grills**, check your gas cylinder hose, valve, and regulator assembly for leaks with the “soapy water test” (YouTube can help):

- Make sure the valve of the gas tank cylinder is closed.
- Coat the entire hose assembly with soapy water (spray bottles work well).
- Open the valve of your gas cylinder **without turning on your grill** to pressurize the hose.
- If bubbles form anywhere, you have a leak. Shut off the cylinder valve and get your grill serviced.
- Check for leaks at the beginning of grill season and with each replacement/refill of the gas tank.

When turning on the gas, the grill lid should be open (to avoid gas buildup). If you smell gas and there is no flame, turn off the gas tank and get the grill serviced. If you smell gas while cooking, call the fire department **immediately** (don't move the grill). After cooking, double-check that the valve is completely closed.

For **charcoal grills**, use *only lighter fluid* to light charcoals, and never add it to already flaming or hot coals. Place lighter fluid far from heat sources.

Inspect the grill for rust damage. Hot coals may fall through holes and become loose cannons.

Place any grill on a level surface, at least 10 feet away from buildings and deck railings, and don't use under overhangs, near tree branches, or in a tent or garage. Never leave a grill unattended; keep young kids and pets at a distance.

And remember, charcoal grills remain hot for hours after use. Clean grills after each use, and store them away from the house.

Have a safe and scrumptious grilling season! •

Seufert Law Offices, PA
Attorneys At Law



59 Central Street, Franklin, NH 03235

(603) 934-9837

www.seufertlaw.com

Protect Your Family, Protect Your Rights



Pucker Factor

SEE PAGE ONE

This publication is intended to educate the general public about personal injury, medical malpractice, and other issues. It is for information purposes only and is not intended to be legal advice. Prior to acting on any information contained here, you should seek and retain competent counsel. The information in this newsletter may be freely copied and distributed as long as the newsletter is copied in its entirety.

Alcohol Isn't the Only Cause of Driving Impairment



When it comes to DWI, many people automatically think “alcohol.” However, a myriad of drugs—illegal, prescription, and over-the-counter—can also impair one’s ability to safely operate a motor vehicle and subject a person to DUI charges. In addition, adding alcohol to ingestion of drugs (legal or illegal), in combination can also lead to DWI. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimated that in 2014, approximately 22 percent of drivers involved in fatal auto accidents were impaired by drugs. In over half those cases, prescription drug usage was involved.

Drugs of many varieties can cause drowsiness, dizziness, impaired motor skills, diminished reflexes, sensitivity to light, and impaired judgment—all of which can make driving a perilous venture. In addition, not all drugs affect people in the same way.

Measuring a person’s blood-alcohol concentration can be done easily and with a high degree of accuracy at the time of a traffic stop, or shortly thereafter. Measuring drug impairment is a bit trickier. For instance, some drugs can be detected in a person’s bloodstream or urine for weeks after use, making it difficult to determine actual impairment at a given time.

Drivers need to keep in mind that just because they are under doctor’s orders to use a certain prescription drug, or they have state permission to utilize medical marijuana, that does not give them the green light to drive, they can be charged with DWI if caught driving while impaired by them. •