

KNOWLEDGE + PASSION + INNOVATION

STAYING in Touch

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This publication is intended to educate the general public about various issues. It is not intended to be legal advice. Every case is different.

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Cybersecurity



Cyber-attacks are on the rise and anyone can fall victim. We highly recommend that you do not click random links in emails even if you think you know who the email is from. Also, don't download files in emails! The only exception to these rules is if you are expecting the link or files. If you receive an email from a person or company that you are not expecting and are not certain

about, close the email and call the company or person directly to ask about the message.



Brandon's Soapbox: June marks the end of the second quarter of the year and what a different place we are in compared to last year. Our office is open to clients although we do ask if you aren't vaccinated to please wear a mask. We continue to offer the option of phone or video calls for those clients that prefer not to come to the office.

Our new Roanoke office located at 25 Church Ave, SW is now open for business. Managing partner Kristen Konrad Johnstone has over 25 years of experience and will focus primarily on family law matters, civil litigation, and criminal defense. Kristen brought with her Mike Darmante who has made a name for himself in the Valley through his hard work and preparation. With the addition of Kristen, Mike, and their staff, Parks Zeigler now has 13 attorneys, 10 paralegals and 7 staff members across three cities to service your needs.

In other firm news, our Chesapeake office will be moving this Fall – but not far. We closed on a new building and, as long as the renovations go as planned, we expect to be moved into the new space, even closer to the court complex, by the end of September.

Wishing you a fun and healthy summer!

Brandon

Did You Know?

In 2014, McDonald's created bubblegumflavored broccoli. Unfortunately, kids were confused by the taste and the item was considered a failure.





"You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough."

- Mae West

SWIMMING POOL INJURIES

Summertime is synonymous with swimming pools and many are excited to escape the heat in local pools. Unfortunately, accidents can happen. It is important to always be careful in and around water.

Many of the accidents that occur at pools fall under the category of what is termed "premises liability." Premises liability actions in Virginia can be complex and require proof of certain elements in order to establish a property owner's negligence.

What are Premises Liability Actions?

Property owners have certain duties regarding people who visit their property. Injured persons must prove that the property owner owed them a legal duty. This legal duty often depends on what class of visitor they fall into – an "invitee," "licensee," or a "trespasser." In short, an invitee is someone that the property owner invited to the property and the person accepts the invitation, a licensee is someone who enters the property for their own purposes and with the knowledge and consent of the owner, and a trespasser is someone the unlawfully enters the land of someone else. The duties owed to people on property flow from the most to the least within these three categories.

Beyond establishing whether and what duty of care is owed, an injured person must prove that the property owner breached the duty of care, and the breach was the proximate cause of the injuries. A property owner cannot be held liable for injuries that are unpredictable or do not have a reasonable link to the property condition. In addition, the injured person must show that the owner either had actual or constructive notice of the defective condition. In other words, the injured

person must demonstrate that the property owner either knew or reasonably should have known of the condition on the property that caused the injuries.

Public Swimming Pools

Owners of public swimming pools must comply with all federal and state safety regulations regarding swimming pools. Such regulations include the construction and maintenance of fencing surrounding the pool of a certain height and the utilization of self-latching gates. Commercial pool owners are responsible for maintaining pool drains, pool decks, and water quality. In addition, the owner of the pool owes a duty to maintain the property in a safe condition and to warn guests of any dangers the owner knew or should have known about.

Wet and slippery surfaces are common at local pools. Generally, the owner of a public swimming pool must take reasonable measures to guard against those accidents which common knowledge and experience demonstrate are likely to occur.

No Running!

We have all been by the pool when the lifeguard yells "no running" to an overly excited child who is running toward the water. Virginia is one of five remaining jurisdictions that still applies "contributory negligence." Contributory negligence means that any negligence on the part of an injured person, no matter how slight, that contributes to the injuries, bars them from recovery for the injuries. Even if the property owner is 99% responsible for causing an injury, if the injured person is 1% negligent in such a way that contributes to the cause of the injury, that person cannot recover for those injuries. So, don't run!

We welcome your referrals!

We value our clients and want you to come to us for any legal need you may have, no matter the type of case. If it is in an area we do not practice, we will refer you to a trusted colleague to take care of you as we would. If you refer someone to us, we promise to answer his or her questions and provide first-rate, attentive service. Thank you for your referrals and for continuing to come back to Parks Zeigler.



Deb Dishes:

After a year of isolation, it's a great time to get outside and throw a Summer Solstice Celebration! Check our website for recipes like crab pie, blackened sea scallops, Lia's summer salad, island pork tenderloin, cucumber salsa, and many more! Here's a new griller recipe. Skinny Grilled Sriracha Chicken with Garlic Cilantro Rice. For the chicken you will need 8(8-inch) bamboo skewers, 1tsp vegetable oil, 1Tbsp Sriracha sauce, 1Tbsp gluten-free reduced-sodium soy sauce, 1tsp grated ginger root, 1lb boneless skinless chicken breasts, cut into 32 pieces and grilling spray. For the rice you will need 1c uncooked jasmine rice, 1 ¾ c water, 4cloves finely chopped garlic, 1/4tsp salt, 1/2c chopped cilantro, and lime wedges. Soak skewers in water 15 minutes. In medium bowl, mix oil, Sriracha sauce, soy sauce and ginger root. Add chicken pieces; toss to coat. On each skewer, thread 4 pieces of chicken; cover and refrigerate until ready to grill. In 2-quart saucepan, heat rice, water, the garlic and salt to boiling over high heat. Stir; cover and reduce heat to low. Cook 20 minutes. Remove from heat; let stand 5 minutes. Fluff with fork; stir in cilantro. Spray and heat grill. Place chicken skewers on grill over medium heat. Cover grill: cook 8 to 10 minutes, turning occasionally to cook on all sides, until chicken is no longer pink in center. Serve skewers over rice with lime wedges. . See the full recipe in our Parks Zeigler Family Cookbook 2021 Edition, on our website at www.pzlaw.com/library/pz-family-cookbooks.cfm.

VIRGINIA SAFARI PARK

If summer boredom is setting in, and you are in search of a fun family outing, head out to Natural Bridge, VA where you will find Virginia's only drive-thru safari. It has a 180-acre drive-thru adventure featuring animals of all sizes, shapes, and colors.

From the safety of your car, you will have the opportunity to feed animals up-close while they run free and frolic in a natural setting. During your drive, you will see llamas, camels, antelope, deer, bison, ostrich, elk, zebra, and many more animals. Located in the Shenandoah Valley, with the Blue Ridge Mountains as your backdrop, this 3-mile drive of wandering road thru a natural habitat of wild animals is sure to impress.



VIRGINIA



In addition to the drive-thru safari, the park features 10 acres of walk-thru exhibits. As you stroll thru this exhibits you will have the opportunity to stop at the giraffe feeding station, observe Bengal tigers at the tiger territory, observe king cheetahs, feed and pet goats and other farmyard animals, stroll through a bird aviary, stop by the penguin pool, and hop through the kangaroo walk-about.

They have a gift shop and picnic shelters are available for you and your family to enjoy a nice break. For more information, visit https://www.virginiasafaripark.com/.

Family Corner



Geri's daughter Kendall is spending the summer working in Denali, Alaska.



Caryn and her husband Marc spent a week cruising the Chesapeake Bay.



OYSTERS ROCKATELLER

The wide availability and variety of Chesapeake Bay oysters bring a distinct local flair to this dish. I (Brandon) start by cooking down bacon. Using the flavors from that pan I then warm garlic and scallions in melted butter for about 3 minutes, just long enough for the garlic to open and scallions to soften. I next mix in fresh spinach and sauté until wilted. Throw in a splash of white wine, lemon juice, cream, Romano cheese, and pepper. Heat until the mix thickens. Once reduced, chill the mixture in the fridge until ready to serve. When ready, top each oyster with a tablespoon of the mixture, sprinkle with panko breadcrumbs, place in a 350-degree preheated oven and bake until golden brown. Enjoy!



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Summertime Driving Tips:

Summer is here and that often means road trips to popular vacation destinations. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in 2019, 9,050 fatal car crashes occurred nationally during the months of June through August. Prevention and planning prior to hitting the road can help keep you and your family safe on our roadways.

Here are five tips for staying safe behind the wheel so you can enjoy this summer:

1. Regular Vehicle Maintenance

The extreme summer temperatures can take a toll on vehicles. Make sure to check your tire pressure and tread before a road trip and inspect cooling systems to make sure they are in working order to prevent the vehicle from overheating.

2. Check the Weather Forecast.

Summer storms can pop up with short notice and bring with them blinding rain and heavy winds. Check the local forecast before starting your road trip and periodically check for any changes to the forecast.

3. Never Leave Children and Pets in Parked Vehicles.

According to the National Weather Service, a vehicle's inside temperature can reach 100 degrees in 25 minutes when the outside temperature is only 73 degrees. Do not leave children or pets alone in a parked car, even for only a few minutes.

4. Wear Sunglasses.

While also a favorite summertime fashion statement, sunglasses protect your eyes from glare, which can reduce visibility and cause accidents.

5. Maintain a Proper Lookout.

The summer months mean more people are on the road. Be aware of pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorcyclists who are sharing the road and maintain a safe following distance. In addition, vacationers who are unfamiliar with the area may drive slower or make sudden lane changes.

New address? New phone number? New Email? Help us stay current by letting us know. Call Deb at 757.453.7579 or email her at dmontagna@pzlaw.com. If you wish to unsubscribe to this newsletter, please call Deb. Thanks!