

Take Me Out to the Ballgame

A Present-Day Trip Down Memory Lane

My life has always been about passion. Long before I was thinking about the law or building my profession, there were only two long-standing relationships in my life: my family and the game of baseball. Most of the time the two went hand in hand. So, when I got the chance to travel to Arizona this past month and meet my brothers for a few MLB preseason games, it was a very familiar feeling. I'd never been so excited to celebrate a birthday that wasn't my own. My brother was turning another age with a zero at the end of it but I think we all felt like we were 18 again. The pop of the leather, the smell of the grass, the crack of the bat after a pitcher hung one too high, it was the perfect time to reconnect for a brothers-only weekend under the beautiful umbrella of the baseball diamond. Sometimes it takes going back to the old times to appreciate what you have.



Growing up in a baseball family really helped me and my brothers stay close. Both my grandfather and father were ballplayers back when they used to have town teams. So it was never really a question of if we would learn to love the game, it was just a question of how far we'd take it — and take it we did. Throughout the years, my brothers and I played in the same leagues and took the sport about as far as we could with our skills.

Coming from a family of Cardinals fans, I grew up idolizing the likes of Bob Gibson and Lou Brock. I still carry many of those same feelings today — a love that deep is not really something you grow out of. The World Series always fell around the time of my birthday, and my family would all gather around to watch the game. I still think about some of those games. It was a way to dream close to home. We had a lot in common with those guys, or at least we liked to think so. Now I've passed that passion

on to my own family — it's the same gift that my grandfather and father gave to my brothers and me. Thankfully, my wife and daughters have embraced this passion for baseball and it will continue for another generation. We've excitedly made it our goal to see as many US MLB stadiums as we can, and we've managed to actually make a dent in our lofty ambitions. I think we've got plenty of time; the game isn't going anywhere.

The whole time I was down there trying to soak in the Arizona weather and enjoy the games, I was incredibly thankful to have some time to spend with my brothers. We were able to celebrate my brother's birthday in style, sitting in the bleachers and eating concession-stand food. Not a whole lot had changed, really. We had a few more wrinkles and could drink a cold one or two, but the feelings were still the same as they were when we were growing up. I just

felt proud to be where I was, and that's what I want for every family. Through my firm, we are able to offer you peace of mind. That's a gift you can't put a price on. To learn more about what we can offer your family in our estate planning and probate services, feel free to visit our website at LeRoyPetersonLaw.com, or give us a call at (402) 718-8888.



-LeRoy Peterson

The 2 Most Common Ways Criminals Steal From Seniors

AND HOW TO SPOT THEM

Scamming older adults has become big business. According to the American Journal for Public Health, an estimated 5 percent of seniors are hoodwinked by criminals every year, and that statistic is thought to be a steep underestimate since so many scams go unreported. To stem the tide of seniors unknowingly giving \$36 billion to scammers annually, it's important for retirees and their loved ones to get savvy on the subject.

Here are the two of the most common scams older folks fall prey to — and how to avoid them.

ADVANCED FEE FRAUD

The most common con in 2017 and 2018 was the classic “You’ve won a sweepstakes!” scam. Victims are told they’ve won some exorbitant amount of money, but they must pay a fee to receive the prize. After the “fee” is paid, victims receive a fake check in the mail, but by the time it bounces, the scammers are gone and they’ve taken the money.

If you ever receive a contract from an unknown entity out of nowhere, you should start seeing red flags. Unless you remember entering a contest, there is no chance you’ve won something. And it’s vital to

understand that it is *never* safe to give out financial information over the phone or via email.

COMPUTER SOFTWARE SERVICE FRAUD

This type of scam is slightly more sophisticated. First, a hacker will call a victim and claim to be a member of a tech support team or an employee from a trusted company like Microsoft or Apple. Then, they’ll tell the victim there is a problem with their phone or computer and that if they cooperate with the “tech support” representative, they can sort it out. They may also ask you to install a piece of software on your device or provide credit card information to “validate your software.”

The fact is that well-known tech companies will never send unsolicited emails to ask for your personal or financial information, and they definitely won’t ask you to install some shady software on your computer. If you ever receive a call out of the blue from “Microsoft,” hang up the phone immediately.

The first step to stopping these criminals in their tracks is to be aware of their tactics. With these tips in your arsenal, you’ll be able to defend yourself and your bank account effectively.

Exploring the Crimes of Antarctic Wildlife

LEGAL CASE STUDY: ADÉLIE THE ROCK THIEF

On an island off the coast of Antarctica, a BBC film crew caught footage of a naughty penguin engaging in criminal activity. In the video, as one male Adélie penguin leaves his nest to search for additional rocks to add to it, his neighbor waddles over, removes a rock from the nest, and carries it back to his own. When the first penguin returns from his search, his neighbor plays it cool, but at each opportunity, he repeats the crime and steals his neighbor’s rocks.

While animals aren’t actually subject to legal action, and the Adélie penguin was only behaving according to natural instinct, the fine writers for the blog Legal Grounds point out that the rock thief situation presents an interesting legal case study.

By taking his neighbor’s rock and putting it in his own nest, the neighbor penguin committed an act of theft. Theft is defined as “the taking of someone else’s property with the intent to permanently deprive the victim of that property.” In some places, when a thief leaves the scene of the crime, the theft is considered complete. If the thief returns and steals

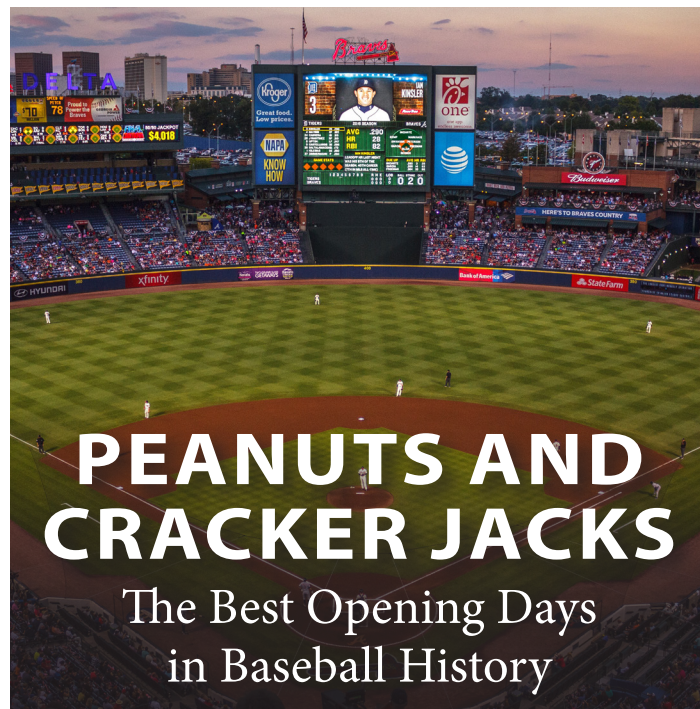
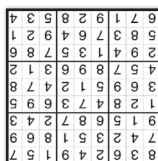
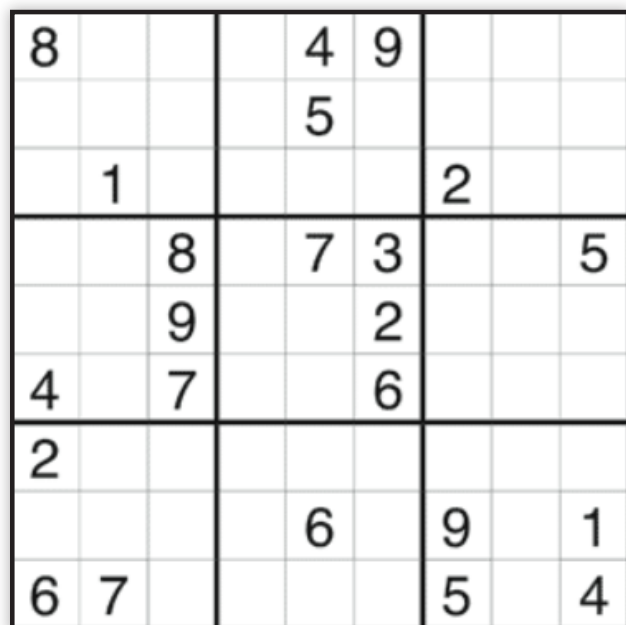
additional items, that could be considered a new crime and result in additional charges. So, since the neighbor penguin takes a rock, leaves the scene of the crime, and returns, he could be found guilty of multiple theft charges. If he’d decided to go big and take his neighbor’s entire nest at once, he might’ve been charged with grand theft.

Now, if the penguin who was stolen from had used force to protect his precious nest rocks, the case would be complicated even further. Allowable force is generally limited in cases of theft. To prove self-defense, the victim penguin would have to show there was a threat of force against him, that he didn’t provoke the neighbor penguin in any way, and that he didn’t have the option to escape. From a legal perspective, it was probably best that the victim penguin didn’t use force.

For now, we’ll leave the Adélie penguins to their nest-building business and save the legal cases for the human world.



TAKE A BREAK



PASTA PRIMAVERA

Ingredients

- 12 ounces pasta, ideally fusilli
- 1/2 pound broccoli florets
- 2 carrots, shredded
- 1 yellow bell pepper, cut into strips
- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 4 cloves garlic, thinly sliced
- 1 pint cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1/2 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese, ideally Parmigiano-Reggiano
- Kosher salt, for pasta water and to taste

Directions

1. In a large pot, liberally salt water and bring to a boil. Add fusilli and cook according to package directions. Add broccoli, carrots, and bell pepper during the last 2 minutes of cook time.
2. Drain the pasta and veggies, reserving 1/2 cup of cooking liquid. Return pasta and veggies to pot.
3. In a large skillet, heat olive oil to medium heat. Add garlic and cook until translucent and golden, 30 seconds. Add tomatoes, red pepper flakes, and 1 teaspoon salt. Cook until tomatoes are wilted, about 2 minutes. Stir in reserved pasta water.
4. Add tomato mixture to pasta pot, stirring to coat evenly.
5. Divide into bowls, top with Parmesan cheese, and serve. *Inspired by Food Network*

Baseball's opening day has been an American holiday of sorts since the Cincinnati Red Stockings threw out the first major league pitch in 1869. To celebrate the start of the 150th season of professional baseball, here are three of the best opening days in baseball history.

A NEW BEGINNING

On April 15, 1947, an opening-day game changed the course of Major League Baseball. On this day, Jackie Robinson started for the Brooklyn Dodgers, becoming the first African-American player to start for a major league baseball team. Robinson's historic showing was lackluster, going 0-for-3 at the plate and making a solid showing on the infield at first base, but his mere presence in a Dodgers uniform had already broken history. Despite his nationally-recognized skills — Robinson was named MVP of the MLB farm team league in 1946 — the backlash that followed his rise to the pros, both from fans and teammates, was palpable. Still, as well-known sportscaster Howard Cosell said, "Suddenly, it was a new beginning."

LOU, COMBS, AND BABE — OH MY!

Considered one of the best teams in baseball history, the 1927 New York Yankees started their historic run and 25th season by dismantling the Philadelphia Athletics with a score of 8-3. The slugfest was true to form for the 1927 Yankees, whose players would go on to make up baseball's famous "Murderers' Row." With sluggers like Lou Gehrig, Earle Combs, Babe Ruth, Mark Koenig, Bob Meusel, and Tony Lazzeri, it's no wonder this team went on to win its fifth championship that year.

THE HAMMERTIES BAMBINO

For decades, no one could match George Herman Ruth. The Great Bambino's all-time home run record seemed like an impossible feat of strength — that is, until Henry "Hammerin' Hank" Aaron came along. On opening day, April 4, 1974, Aaron smashed his 714th homer, tying Babe Ruth for the most home runs ever hit and extending the Atlanta Braves' shutout lead over the Cincinnati Reds. A few weeks later, Aaron surpassed Ruth's record, prompting a standing ovation from the crowd.

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COMPANIES THAT PARTICIPATE IN APRIL FOOLS' DAY 3 Hilarious Pranks Played by Businesses

April Fools' Day might be the only appropriate time of year for you to prank your friends or coworkers with gags like dipping an onion in caramel and offering it as a candy apple or loosening the tops of the salt and pepper shakers. It's also the one day of the year when big companies get to join in the mischief as well. Check out these company-wide April Fools' jokes that left millions of people scratching their heads.

NETFLIX'S PSA

In 2015, everyone's favorite online streaming company issued a PSA that warned binge-watchers all over the world of the social, physical, and psychological dangers of watching too much TV. In fact, if viewers watched more than two consecutive episodes of a show on April 1, they were greeted with a PSA from popular actors, like Michael Kelly from "House of Cards" or Taylor Schilling from "Orange Is the New Black." Some stars even told Netflix users to "Turn off the TV and take a shower. You stink!"

BURGER KING'S CHOCOLATE WHOPPER

Just last year, Burger King fooled hungry customers by creating the Chocolate Whopper. The imaginary fast-food treat is made with chocolate cake buns, a chocolate "beef" patty, raspberry syrup as the ketchup, rings of white chocolate as the onions, milk chocolate as the lettuce, vanilla frosting as mayo, and candied blood oranges as the tomatoes. This prank was quite a creative feat by Burger King staff, and



merely watching the advertisement spiked glucose levels everywhere.

EHARMONY'S 'FUREVER LOVE' DATING SERVICE FOR DOGS

Perhaps the most wholesome prank that's ever been peddled to the masses was the launching of eHarmony's FURever Love: Canine Compatibility Companion Service. The dating website claimed that based on the algorithms they use for creating compatible human relationships, they built this service to "create robust profiles for dogs based on key dimensions of their personality." The biographies they created for the pups' profiles included canine mate preferences, like "Looking for a tug-o-war partner," "Must love squirrels," and "It's been ruff finding a quality stud to go on walks with."

While these April Fools' Day jokes were all made in jest, the pranks certainly kept audiences guessing long after April 1 had passed, and it's not hard to see why.