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Golf Carts Have Expanded Their Territory



In the 1970s, golf carts began branching out from the fairways. Today, they are also a popular mode of transportation at gated and retirement communities, airports, sports facilities, college campuses, resorts, and farms, among other places.

Although golf carts are smaller, slower, and less intimidating-looking than cars, they can be just as dangerous. According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), there are roughly 15,000 accidents each year involving golf carts that require ER visits, with some fatalities mixed in. Over 30 percent involve children under age 16.

Many golf carts lack safety features such as seatbelts, doors, turn signals, and rollover bars. The CPSC states that nearly 40 percent of serious golf cart injuries occur when passengers are thrown from the vehicle, mostly during sharp turns. Handholds and hip-restraint bars affixed to the passenger seat are frequently inadequate to restrain passengers in these instances. Rollovers and overcrowding are problems, too.

Most golf carts are designed for speeds ranging from 10 to 25 mph. To be street-legal, golf carts must achieve speeds of 20 to 25 mph and generally can't be driven on roads with speed limits greater than 35 mph. Some additional requirements include seatbelts, lights (e.g., headlights, turn signals, brake lights, etc.), a horn, and a driver's license.

Golf carts generally weigh between 500 and 1,000 pounds. Even at "low" speeds, collisions can be devastating; same for passenger ejections. Distracted and impaired driving play roles in some golf cart incidents as well.

Golf carts are fun, convenient, and cost-effective but should never be taken lightly. If you or a family member is injured due to negligence, contact our office to schedule a free consultation. ●



July 2021 News



Blueberry Dump Cake

Yield: 10 servings; prep time: 10 mins.; total time: 1 hour 15 mins.

Fresh blueberries take on a perfect “jammy” consistency in the oven as the cake mix turns golden brown and crispy. This recipe is a fun take on a cobbler with way less work. Simply dump on the cake mix and get to baking!

INGREDIENTS

- 6 c. blueberries
- 1/4 c. granulated sugar
- 1 tsp. pure vanilla extract
- Juice of 1/2 a lemon
- 1/4 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 box yellow cake mix
- 1/2 c. (1 stick) cold butter, cut into small cubes
- Whipped topping, for serving

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350°. In a medium bowl, combine blueberries, sugar, vanilla, lemon juice, and cinnamon. Pour into a 9”x13” baking pan. Pour cake mix on top and spread into an even layer. Dot top all over with butter and bake until top is golden and fruit is bubbly, 1 hour.
2. Serve warm with whipped topping.

Recipe courtesy of www.delish.com. ●



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, 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. ran with the news of the Persian landing at Marathon to Sparta to summon military assistance.

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 4
Independence 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! ●



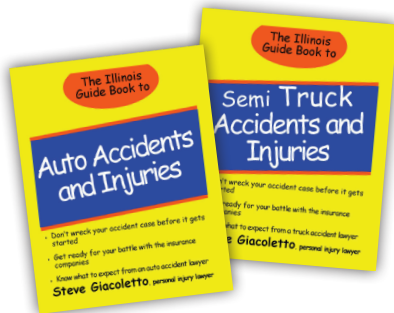
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"We find the defendant guilty. I mean, why else would he go out and hire the best lawyer in town?"

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Splashing, Frolicking ... and Falling

During the summer, community pools and pools at hotels, theme parks, resorts, vacation rentals, and private residences are destination points. They are a refreshing way to beat the heat! However, amidst the fun, injuries sometimes intrude. Drowning incidents may come to mind first, understandably, but don't overlook slip-and-fall injuries.

Many pools open to paying guests incorporate textured concrete and nonslip coatings with their decks to provide better footing, but unattended spills of food, drinks, or sunscreen along with algae buildup can create treacherous conditions. Forceful human contact with concrete typically doesn't end well for the human. Injuries range from sprains and fractures to spinal and traumatic brain injuries. Potential drowning rears its ugly head when a slip-and-fall victim is sent plunging into the pool.

Changing-room and restroom floors frequently see water accumulation with foot traffic between the pool area and these locations. Concrete and tile floors can become slick in a hurry.

Diving boards may be poorly maintained, lack slip-resistant materials, or be defective. Same thing with diving board and water slide ladders, and steps leading into the pool.

Victims of slip-and-fall incidents typically need to prove that the pool owner knew of the hazardous condition, or should have known in the course of exercising routine, reasonable care to keep guests safe — their legal responsibility. Pool owners need to anticipate the risk of falls by utilizing traction mats and nonslip materials, posting warnings, and properly maintaining pool features and surrounding areas.

If you or a family member is injured by a slip-and-fall at a pool, the pool owner and/or product manufacturer may be liable for damages. Contact our office to protect your rights. ●

