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# LIVE LIFE VIVE LA VIDA!



July 2018

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## CAN I HAVE S'MORE?

### CREATIVE TWISTS ON THE CAMPFIRE CLASSIC

You're just three ingredients away from the perfect summertime treat: chocolate, graham crackers, and marshmallows. The s'more is a fan favorite on camping trips and at backyard bonfires alike. Though they say you can't improve perfection, we've found a few creative twists on the classic treat that will make your summer a little sweeter.

**The Elvis** A campfire snack fit for a king — of rock 'n' roll, that is. This s'more pays homage to Elvis Presley's love of peanut butter and banana sandwiches. Swap out the chocolate bar for a peanut butter cup candy and add a few slices of fresh banana between the graham cracker and marshmallow. If you're feeling particularly adventurous, you can even add some bacon.

**S'mores in a Jar** Here are s'mores you can enjoy all year long. Layers of crushed graham cracker, melted marshmallow, and creamy chocolate turn a simple jar into a great dessert! Learn how to make the perfect s'mores on the go at [family.disney.com/recipe/smore-in-a-jar](http://family.disney.com/recipe/smore-in-a-jar).

**Strawberry S'more-cake** If you really want to wow your guests at the next bonfire, try your hand at this creative take on the summertime classic. Goopy s'mores meet fresh strawberry shortcake in a dessert that's as delicious as it is original. Find the whole recipe, including tips on making the perfect shortcake, at [aspicyperspective.com/smore-strawberry-shortcake-recipe](http://aspicyperspective.com/smore-strawberry-shortcake-recipe).

**S'mOreo** A simple but memorable twist on the campfire classic. Grab a

box of Oreo cookies, pull a cookie apart, and use that in place of your graham cracker. The cream filling will pair nicely with the chocolate and toasted marshmallow.

**S'mores Milkshake** Too hot for a campfire? Cool down with a s'mores milkshake! The trick is to lightly toast the marshmallows in the oven so they mix well with the other ingredients in the blender. Get the recipe at [spoonfulofflavor.com/2013/08/30/smore-milkshake](http://spoonfulofflavor.com/2013/08/30/smore-milkshake) to enjoy this sweet treat even in the heat of summer.

It's the simple recipe that opens the door for creative interpretations of the classic s'more. Be adventurous this summer and see what great new s'mores you can create!

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Take Your S'mores to the Next Level

### The Bikes for Kids Giveaway

One cause that is extremely close to my heart is the Bikes For Kids program our firm is working on. Every child deserves the opportunity to ride a great bike, and we want to open up that possibility. We'll be giving away one bike, helmet, and lock each week to a deserving child. The contest runs through August 22, and nominating a child is simple.

#### Rules

For a child to be nominated, they must meet the following criteria:

- 5–15 years old
- Must live within the Pasadena Independent School District OR if the person nominating the child is a VIP member, the child will be eligible

#### Process

- 1. Find a Nominee** Do you know of a child who has had a positive impact in the community? Maybe a child who persevered in the face of adversity? If you know such a child, nominate them!
- 2. Fill Out Our Form** Head on over to [attorneymcclure.com/bikes-for-kids-texas](http://attorneymcclure.com/bikes-for-kids-texas) and fill out the form.
- 3. Winner Winner, Chicken Dinner** We will review all the nominees each week and select a winner. Our team will reach out to you and make sure the child receives their new wheels.

If you have more questions, be sure to read the fine print at [attorneymcclure.com/bikes-for-kids-texas](http://attorneymcclure.com/bikes-for-kids-texas) or reach out to our office today at 281-747-9961.

## WHAT DOES JULY MEAN TO YOU?

Happy Second of July! Yes, you heard that right. While we celebrate the Fourth of July as our nation's Independence Day, the resolution that freed us was approved on July 2, 1776. John Adams was so sure we'd celebrate the Second of July that he wrote to his wife, "The second day of July, 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival." The resolution may have been approved on July 2, but the Declaration of Independence wasn't adopted until July 4, 1776. Thus, we have the Fourth of July, not the Second. But the day we celebrate our liberation from tyranny is not nearly as important as the people we celebrate it with.

By far, the best part of the Fourth of July is spending time with family. We get so busy throughout the year that life becomes more about rushing from one place to the next than investing in deep and meaningful relationships. Why do we accept this as the American way? Instead of trying to connect with family and friends, we compete to be the person who

works the most. We have a limited amount of emotion to invest in any given day. If we pour ourselves into our work, something else has to suffer.

**"Seeing the night light up with the red, white, and blue of America is a sight that brings a smile to my face."**

The first casualty is usually our spouse, children, or even our health. What if instead of diving into work for 50 weeks and taking two off for a big vacation, we tried mini vacations with our family throughout the year? Just as a good marriage needs a regular date night, families need regular getaways. That's why I love the Fourth of July; it's a perfect time to recharge and invest in what really matters. The food and fireworks sure help, too.

What is more American than firing up the grill with your family and throwing a slab of beef on it? The same goes for fireworks. I have so many great memories of shooting off fireworks over the San Bernard

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# SMALL BUSINESS, HUGE HEART



All three of my children grew up with “Ms. Anna” (Armenta), and I wouldn’t have it any other way! When our eldest started with Ms. Anna, she was operating out of her child care licensed home. But her success grew, and by the time my youngest graduated from pre-K, Armenta’s was in a big, beautiful facility. While the location may have changed, the love, care, and attention my children received never changed! How did Ms. Anna clone herself? How was she able to instill the same passion, work ethic, and principles to her staff? I don’t know, but I think all of us have seen most businesses lose their soul, personality, and spirit once they begin to grow. But this has not happened at Armenta’s. Somehow, the same guiding principles that started as a small seed have continued and sustained growth that can be seen today.

While we may be surprised that Ms. Anna was able to accomplish this feat where many others have failed, she is not shy about telling you her “secret.” Ms. Anna will be the first to tell you that the source of everything she has comes from God. Her faith, coupled with a strong family, has allowed personal growth beyond anything she envisioned for herself. She sees Armenta’s as a way to demonstrate her faith and “to love each other” as we are instructed. In many cases, these are just words, but at Armenta’s, you can see this principle in action on a daily basis.

On a personal note, some people come into our lives who radiate joy and inner peace. Ms. Anna is one of those (rare) people. And now that my youngest has moved on to kindergarten, I will really miss hearing what she told me every day as I dropped her off at school: “Have a blessed day, Mijo.”

If you want to see Ms. Anna in action, head on over to [facebook.com/armentasearlychildhood](https://www.facebook.com/armentasearlychildhood) or [Armentasecd.com](https://www.facebook.com/Armentasecd.com). You’ll be able to see her heart for children and compassion for all of humanity.

## MYTHS OF ‘FULL COVERAGE’ INSURANCE POLICIES

Jeff was driving home from work on a balmy Wednesday afternoon. His caution while operating a motor vehicle is only exceeded by his politeness. He arrived at a four-way stop at nearly the same time as another car. After waving the other vehicle through, he proceeded to make his way through the intersection. As he pulled away from the stop sign, an inattentive driver in a third car blew through the intersection and slammed into the passenger side of Jeff’s vehicle.



The mountain of medical bills, therapy, and car repairs was adding up very quickly. Unable to work, Jeff reached out to his lawyer to help him and his family navigate through the scenario. After digging into the case, his lawyer came across a startling revelation: The driver who hit him wasn’t insured. Jeff’s policy stated that some of the costs would be covered, but his uninsured/underinsured policy only could cover the minimum requirement. Learning that Jeff would be stuck with the remainder of the damages came as a surprise to him and left him feeling hopeless about his situation.

Unfortunately, this scenario is all too common. Drivers will often think they have full coverage, but they aren’t educated on what happens when they encounter an uninsured driver. Follow these 10 steps to ensure you aren’t left holding the bag after an accident.

1. Check liability limits.
2. Review personal injury protection.
3. Take a hard look at your underinsured/uninsured policy.
4. Notice all the extras in your policy.
5. Research your insurance company.
6. Get everything in writing.
7. Finance your premium.
8. Obtain accident forgiveness.
9. Sift through for every possible discount.
10. Shop as often as possible for the best deals.

If you want to know more about these 10 tips, check out the videos on our Facebook page or reach out to us today. The team at the Law Office of Don E. McClure is here to represent you to the fullest extent of the law.

## THIS AMERICAN GRUB HOW HOT DOGS AND HAMBURGERS BECAME NATIONAL TREASURES

If your plans for this Independence Day involve firing up the barbecue, you’ll probably be cooking two American classics: hot dogs and hamburgers. Come the Fourth of July, families will be grilling up burgers and dogs from sea to shining sea, but it wasn’t always this way. The story of how beef patties and sausages became culinary symbols of our nation will give you plenty of food for thought.

**The Hot Dog.** It was German immigrants who brought the “frankfurter” and the “wienerwurst” to American soil in the 1800s. There is much debate over who first decided to place one of these franks in a bun, but by the opening of the 20th century, hot dog stands had popped up all over the Eastern Seaboard. We do know the identity of the man who took the hot dog’s popularity to a national level: Nathan Handwerker.

A Jewish immigrant from Poland, Nathan sliced buns for a hot dog stand on Coney Island. After scraping together enough money, he quit his job and opened a stand of his own, undercutting his former employer’s prices by half. Not only did Nathan’s hot dogs outsell the competition, the Great Depression made them the perfect food for a nation

suddenly living on a tight budget. By the 1930s, hot dogs had become so unquestionably American that Franklin Roosevelt famously served them to King George VI during his royal visit in 1939.

**The Burger.** Like the hot dog, the exact origin of the beef patty’s eventual “sandwiching” is lost to history. Once again, it was German immigrants who brought their recipes for “Hamburg steak” with them across the Atlantic, but reports vary as to who first sold the meat patty inside a bun.

Multiple diners and fairgrounds across America claim to be the home of the first hamburger. All of these claims date to the turn of the 20th century, a time when our nation was faced with feeding a growing working class quickly and cheaply. By the 1950s, the burger had become a symbol of the American everyman.

Both the hot dog and hamburger embody the history of our nation. Immigrant traditions merged with blue-collar needs to create two uniquely American foods. It’s fitting that we celebrate America’s birthday with the grub that has grown along with it.

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River. We had an armory of options that was truly a sight to see: Black Cats, artillery shells, Roman candles, Texas bottle rockets, and mortar tubes that shot balls of fire into the sky. I’ll never forget the reflection on the warm gulf waters of the fireworks as they burst overhead. Seeing the night light up with the red, white, and blue of America is a sight that brings a smile to my face.

Our country is a place to be treasured and valued. But the less time we take to invest in the abundance of experiences at our fingertips, the more we lose what makes life meaningful. When the Founding Fathers established the guiding principles for our nation, it wasn’t so we could spend time getting wrapped up in the muck and mire of the world. It was the exact opposite. I hope this Fourth — or Second — of July, we can all invest in what makes this country great: the beautiful people who make it so unique.

—Don E. McClure Jr.



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