

February 2012

Issue: 1

## Welcome to Hogwash!

Welcome to the first issue of *Hogwash!* the Rosi & Gardner email newsletter. We hope you find the topics in this newsletter interesting and we welcome your suggestions for future issues.

During the next year some of the topics we'll tackle include Collaborative Divorce, limits of liability, oil, gas and mineral rights, leaving a legacy and many more significant legal issues that affect the lives of those of us who live, work and play in Northern Michigan.

If you've got a topic you'd like to see us tackle in the newsletter, please send the topic idea to [info@rosigardner.com](mailto:info@rosigardner.com).

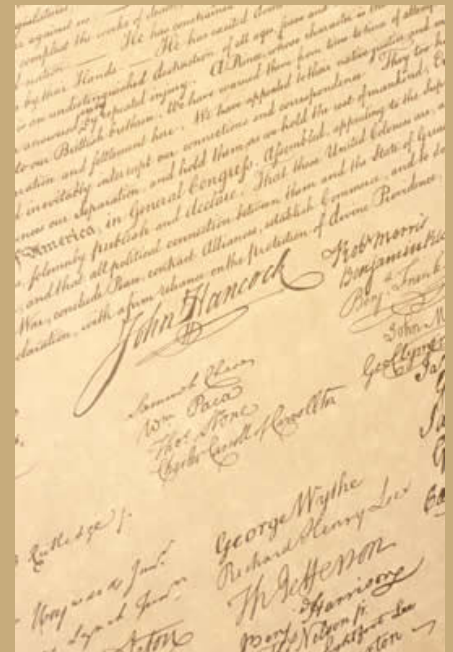
### In This Issue

True or Hogwash!

Resolved: To Get My Estate Planning in Order in 2012

Fun Facts

### Fun Facts



### Clean Up that Penmanship

January 23 was National Handwriting Day, a day dedicated to encouraging more legible handwriting. It's observed on the birthday of U.S. Constitution signer John Hancock, president of the

## True or Hogwash!

If you lose money gambling in Michigan, you can sue to get it back

- True
- Hogwash!

Read on to learn the answer...

Does Michigan Law Allow You to Sue for Gambling Losses?

Legislation designed to regulate legalized gaming in Detroit led the courts to throw out one



Michigan man's lawsuit over his gaming losses at the MotorCity Casino. However the 1961 Michigan act he cited in making his case may still make it possible for gamblers to sue for losses suffered while gambling illegally.

In the suit that was thrown out by the Michigan Court of Appeals, Italo Parise relied on a 1961 statute in his quest to recoup over \$600,000 in gambling losses from Detroit Entertainment, LLC. Parise claimed the right to sue for his losses was allowed through MCL 600.2939(1), which says an individual may sue to recover money or goods lost through gaming.

The Michigan Court of Appeals disagreed, saying that Mr. Parise's losses were suffered in legal gaming, made legal by a ballot measure to allow gambling in Detroit in 1996.

What remains to be seen is if other gamblers will sue to recoup gaming losses if it requires them to admit they were gambling illegally. So, can you sue to recover Michigan gambling losses? Perhaps, if the gaming was not licensed (legalized). Should you? That is a question for another issue...

## Resolved: To Get My Estate Planning in Order in 2012

For most of us, this year opens with a long and involved "to do" list. Hopefully one of the key points on your list is to get your estate planning in order. Too often people put off estate planning because they succumb to one of the major legal myths - that estate planning is just for the elderly.

In fact, the best time to begin working on your estate plan is today. That's especially true if you have small children.

A well-thought out estate plan can help you make sure your children's future will be in the hands of those you trust most and can help deal with any thorny family issues as well. That's particularly important for families where there may be disagreement among extended family members about methods of child rearing, education or religion.

But having a young family isn't the only criteria for getting your estate plan in order. Estate plans should be updated at the time of any major life change including:



Continental Congress. Hancock's large signature was so distinctive that "put your John Hancock" is often used as an informal way to request a signature. In 1962, in a satirical view of history, comedian Stan Freberg in "The United States of America, the Early Years," had Benjamin Franklin comment, upon seeing Hancock's signature on the Declaration of Independence, "Pretty flamboyant for an insurance man."

### Why the New Year?

It has been reported that in December of about, 178 B.C. a Roman "praetor," or general, LUCIUS POSTUMIUS ABINUS, wanted to declare war on Hispania Ulterior, now southern Spain. However, it was an ancient tradition that wars should be started on New Year's Day and at that time New Year's Day was the beginning of March, the month in honor of the god of war, Mars, and also the month of the first day of Spring.

LUCIUS did not want to delay his expedition until March. So, since at the time he was also a "consul" of Rome he declared that henceforth, the New Year would begin on January 1 so he could promptly proceed to conquer Hispania Ulterior. Can it be that for more than 2,000 years no one has had the "guts" to move it back to where it belongs?



- marriage
- divorce
- death of a spouse
- death of parents

Estate plans are also particularly critical for unmarried couples of the same or opposite sex who have property or children together or who may share custody of children they had with other partners. Such couples are in family situations where the law is constantly evolving, so it's critical to work with an attorney with a strong estate planning background and who is up-to-date on the latest legal decisions involving non-traditional families.

[Click here to read the full article.](#)

## Lawyer Jokes

### Who Says Lawyers Don't Have a Sense of Humor?

Humorless lawyers? Not at Rosi & Gardner. We like lawyer jokes so much that we collect them. We'd love to hear your favorite lawyer jokes too.

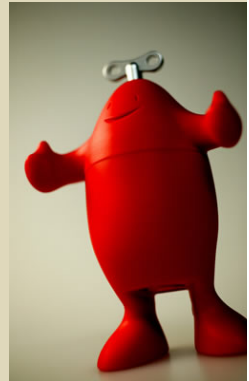
Just send them to [info@rosigardner.com](mailto:info@rosigardner.com).

We'll review them and use the ones that are fit to print in future editions of the newsletter.

At year's end one of the printed submissions will receive a special prize.

***"What do you call six hundred lawyers at the bottom of the sea?"***

***The answer : "A good start".***



## Karen's At Home Cookin'

What do you do in a house where carnivores reside with vegetarians? It may take more dishes, but whoever cooks doesn't do the dishes, right?

At my house, our best meals are made with leftovers - thrown together with a bit of ingenuity and laziness but always with a love for food that just tastes good. If you've got olive oil, garlic, and lemons on hand - and of course wine - you can make any meal delightful. Here is something we put together last Friday, with leftover angel hair pasta - a dish that can go with our without meat (WOW) and taste delicious both ways:

### Spaghetti Quiche

- 1 C Shredded beets (and/or shredded carrots, zucchini, etc. - use whatever veggies you have on hand, leave no veggie to rot!)
- 2-3 C. Cooked spaghetti noodles (if they're sticky, add olive oil)
- 3-4 Eggs
- 1 C Cream (milk will do)
- Cheese (your choice - I like feta & parmesan in this dish)

Sauté a little garlic & onion in olive oil, mix that together w/shredded veggies and pasta. Put the pasta & veggies into pie or casserole dish that's been lightly greased.

Whisk the eggs & cream and pour over the pasta mix. Top with the cheese. If you eat meat, add whatever you have left over (hot italian sausage works great for this). Bake at 325 deg. for 25 minutes or so depending on your oven - check it at 15 minutes, look for the custard to set and the cheese to brown.

Be creative and enjoy!



# Rosi & Gardner, P.C.

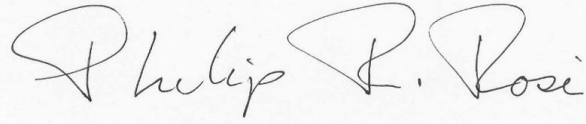


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Philip R. Rosi

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Philip R. Rosi". The signature is written in a cursive style with a light gray background behind it.

**Email Philip**

Gary Allen Gardner

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Allen Gardner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

**Email Gary**

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