



AUGUST 2022 NEWSLETTER

The Winding Road Home

by Attorney, John M. Goralka



Many of you know that I grew up on a ranch with five (5) brothers and three (3) sisters. My Mom loved the idea of a 360° view so we built a home on top of a hill directly across the valley from the Altamont Pass. This area is always windy as evidenced by the many windmills now located on the Altamont Pass.

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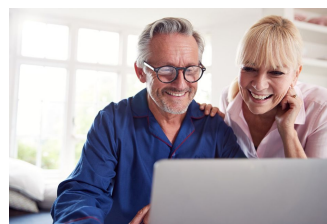
COVID-19 UPDATE

My Dad put the road in himself with a bulldozer, backhoe and initially a rented dump truck. We dug the gravel for the road from the ranch. After an experience with the brakes going out in the rented dump truck, Dad bought a “homemade” dump truck converted from a regular pickup. Years later, I was pulled over on the way to a junior college final exam because the welds to the truck bed broke and the bed was flopping around too much. I kept trying to speed up the police officer to get to my final exam. He did not appreciate that and I think slowed down just to give me a bad time. He never did write a ticket. I think he was surprised that the truck still ran. I barely made the exam and still did well...

Gravel roads, like people, need many years to reach maturity. A mature gravel road will not wash out from the rain. We would often get heavy fog. 4-5 days of heavy fog was almost like rain.



Even without the rain, our gravel road was best suited for a 4-wheel drive. With heavy rain, we had washouts where the road became impassable even with 4-wheel drive. On one such day, we were walking down the hill to go to school, (probably 5 of us) while Dad rode the bulldozer.



We are continuing to provide our legal services over the telephone and by Video Conferencing. We have limited in-person meetings at our office, by appointment only.

THOUGHTS OF THE DAY

“Grudges are a waste of perfect happiness. Laugh when you can, apologize when you should and let go of what you can't change.”

— Unknown

“I used to believe that prayer changes things, but now I know that prayer changes us, and we can change things.”

— Mother Teresa

“If you don't leave the past in the past, it will destroy your future. Live for what today has to offer, not what yesterday took away. The best is

One sister (who shall remain nameless) was allowed to ride with my Dad while we walked. She was so busy turned around and making faces at us that she was not holding on.. My Dad turned and she landed in the mud. We teased her as she had to go to school with mud on her school uniform that day.

Another time while in High School, I was walking home very late and night and two (2) skunks started following me. Skunks don't usually travel like that from my experience and usually shy away from people. My first thought was rabies, so I ran pretty fast that night up the hill that night.

For high school sports, I took to training by pulling a tire up some of the steep parts of the hill with a rope to a shoulder harness. I got up to two (2) tires which was just too hard for any distance...



A favorite memory was... [READ ON](#)

yet to come.”

— Unknown

“The difference between school and life? In school, you're taught a lesson and given a test. In life, you're given a test that teaches you a lesson.”

— Unknown

“What if today we were just grateful for everything.”

— Unknown

3 Key Takeaways from Prince's Estate Planning Mistakes by Attorney, John M. Goralka

Courtesy of Kiplinger



Even without his level of wealth or musical legacy, you should be sure to have a plan in place for everything you want to leave behind after you die.

Prince may have sung that "Money Don't Matter 2 Night," but it's clear that the \$300 million estate he left behind matters quite a bit. Since Prince didn't plan his estate, his family and loved ones are stuck with the headache of probate proceedings. Between the current federal estate tax rate of 40% and an additional 16% from the state of Minnesota, the majority of Prince's estate is going to the Tax Man. Needless to say, there is much that could have been done to avoid probate and minimize estate tax.

Prince's situation is in the news because of his fame and large estate, but anyone could have made the same estate-planning mistakes, regardless of wealth. So what can you do to prevent the same thing from happening to your family? Consider these three strategies... [READ ON](#)

THANKS FROM CLIENTS 



Some very sweet clients sent over some beautiful thank you flowers for Hannah and Jill, our legal assistants. It was greatly appreciated and warmed the hearts of these two ladies and the rest of us at Goralka Law Firm. Goralka Law Firm clients are the best!

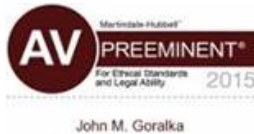
CLIENT TESTIMONIAL: **The Business Sale**

The Stormo family needed help selling their two-generation business, so they turned to The Goralka Law Firm to help. From assistance with the negotiation of the sale to looking at the necessary tax consequences, The Goralka Law Firm was able to take care of all of the details that comes with the business sale.



Also, thanks to all of our clients for their business and referrals over the years. Reviews like these are a reminder about why we do what we do and reaffirms that we are not simply just preparing legal documents, but we're cultivating relationships and really helping families and their loved ones with transformational changes for generations to come.

If you are a client with The Goralka Law Firm, we encourage you to take the time to leave us some feedback and a review online at one (or more) of the following:



RESTAURANT RECOMMENDATION

The Firehouse Restaurant

In addition to cooking, I love dining out and have a few restaurants that I enjoy and thought it would be just as fun to share restaurant recommendations (and for those that prefer or like to eat out, perhaps even better!) than the recipes we share each month. If you have any favorite restaurants you recommend (along with your recommended dishes or selections), please feel free to forward those along and we may just feature your recommendation sometime! 😊

For this month's restaurant recommendation, I am sharing about [The Firehouse Restaurant](#).



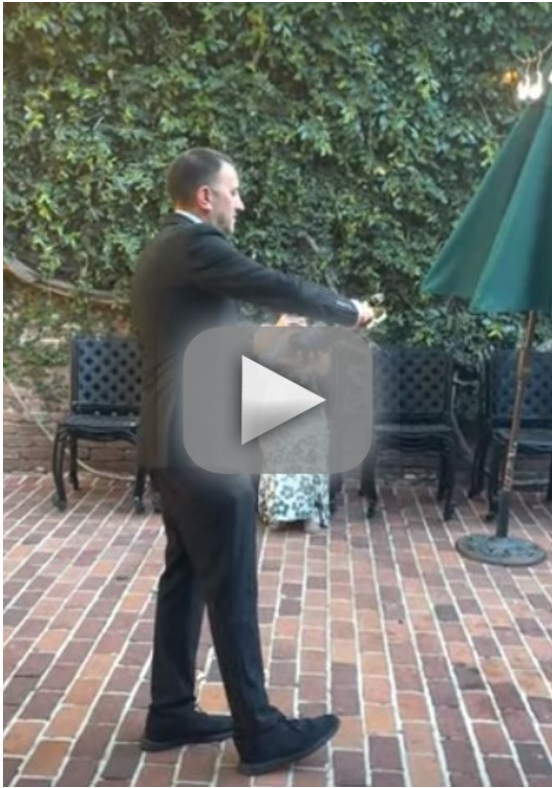
The Firehouse Restaurant is located in Oldtown Sac Waterfront at 1112 Second Street, just blocks from the Capitol and Downton Sac. The Firehouse has been in business for over 60 years and their menu offers an array of choices to meet the palate of just about anyone! [VIEW MENU](#)

The Firehouse is open in the evenings for dinner only and is a fantastic date night or spot to go for weekday Happy Hour (from 4pm to 6pm).

I have a hard time recommending any particular meal, as all of their meals are excellent. However, Sacramento being the caviar capital of the world, I have to say that their caviar and oysters served together with champagne or white wine which is absolutely amazing! If you check it out (or go here regularly), be sure to let me know how you like it and what you ordered!

Champagne & Caviar





Champagne opened with a saber at a Firehouse caviar tasting event 🍷



Sturgeon / Caviar farm in Sacramento

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NOTE: The client testimonials featured in this newsletter and on our website are from actual clients of The Goralka Law Firm, APC. Their last names have been redacted to protect their privacy. These client testimonials do not guarantee your particular results.

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