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**STUDENT TECH SUCCESS**

*Educational Tools to Improve Digital Learning*

Kids these days face so many more distractions from academics than their parents did. It's not as easy to focus on homework when TikTok, YouTube, and all sorts of video games beckon. Instead of trying to prevent screen time, why not allow students to engage with technology that will help promote their learning rather than distract from it? Here are three tools to help students at different age levels get the most from online learning.

**BEANSTALK**

While Beanstalk is an online learning tool, the beauty of it is that the classes and videos aim to pull kids "out of the screen to do real-world physical activities." These include science experiments, building projects, and more. Experienced teachers provide engaging lessons and learning tools, and many of them are free.

**EDUHAM**

What better way to learn about the history of our nation than through one of the nation's most popular musicals? "Hamilton" creator Lin-Manuel Miranda launched this learning platform in 2016 along with the show's director and in partnership with The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. EduHam is a free digital program for students and their families that provides history lessons on the Founding Era of the United States. It also brings art into the mix — Miranda shows students how to create their own performance

pieces based on primary source documents, which they can then share in the app. The program is geared toward students in sixth through 12th grade, though everyone is welcome to participate.

**FIVEABLE**

For high school students, the most looming challenges include the SAT and Advanced Placement exams that are so important for college. Enter Fiveable, the amazing free resource that houses thousands of livestreams, study guides, trivia games, and other resources for 15 AP subjects. Started by a former teacher, Fiveable is passionate about giving students the resources they'll need to be successful now and into the future.

With so many resources out there, students can use technology in plenty of ways to help them be successful. Here's to a fall season full of learning!



*The Importance of Empathy in a Firm*

*A Tribute to the Staff of Friedman & Simon*

When people hear the words "Labor Day," they often start thinking about the summer ending, catching another trip to the beach, or going back to school. That's not a bad thing. When Labor Day was first recognized in New York 138 years ago, the Labor Movement would've wanted future Americans to spend Labor Day as a moment to relax and enjoy their lives outside of work. The movement earned us simple things we take for granted now, like 8-hour work days and 2-day weekends. (Imagine working in the 1800s with 12-hour work days, 7 days a week!) Ultimately, Labor Day is about finding empathy and compassion for other people.

And I'm incredibly proud to say that having empathy and compassion for other people is something our firm does very well.

I've learned a lot of things from this firm over the years. Mainly, I've learned that there isn't a single job in our firm less important than the next — that's not an exaggeration and I'll tell you why. Our clients often come to us at a very vulnerable time in their lives. They experience fear about their futures, and maybe even fear of other people (depending on the harm done to them).

“Our staff members don't just provide legal guidance, they often become a most trusted source of support through very difficult moments of our clients' lives.”



For 29 years, I've seen thousands of people go through the legal process at our firm, and I've noticed something special. Our staff members don't just provide legal guidance, they often become a most trusted source of support through very difficult moments of our clients' lives. Clients will open up about their families, relationships, and deepest concerns — and our staff will listen.

When people suffer serious injuries, very frequently family and friends will rally to support them in the first days or even weeks after the accident. However, as months pass, people tend to return to the demands of their own lives and the injured person ultimately faces many challenges of post-accident life without that same level of support from those initially supportive relatives and friends. I am proud that we stand by our clients every step of the way until their legal case has been concluded.

Sometimes it means the front desk staff will make a client's day a little bit better by asking them about how they're feeling, or an attorney or case manager will comfort a client who is upset over their income suddenly stopping, and hold their hand as they share a personal

story about a family member who went through the same thing.

Cases can sometimes go on for an extended period of time and getting through all the challenges that can arise until the case is resolved can feel difficult every now and then. But it can

be easier when you've formed a real bond with the people you've gone on that legal journey with. That connection has always been important to me, whether between myself and colleagues or our clients, so it really warms my heart when I hear these stories from others. And I mostly hear these stories after we get flowers or chocolates delivered to our office. In fact, usually once I attempt to tease someone saying, "Ooh, who is that from?" I usually discover it's from a past client. That's always a really meaningful gesture to us.

Feeling valued is something you can't take for granted. I can only hope that, for all the thoughtful things they do for others on a daily basis, my staff feels appreciated — evidently, many of our clients help them feel that way, too. So thank you, everyone, for all the work you do for our clients and each other! Have a very happy Labor Day.

*-Roger Simon*





## ENJOY YOUR FAVORITE FILMS EARLIER



The way we watch our favorite shows and movies has changed drastically in recent years and even more so this year. With the pandemic impacting the world, people found themselves stuck inside their homes looking for new sources of entertainment, and many found exactly what they were looking for through the numerous streaming services available to us. The pandemic made time for people to watch their favorite shows again and again, and it also changed the way businesses, such as Disney and Universal Studios, release their movies.

Throughout the spring, many movies were released early and some skipped theater showings all together. "Trolls: World Tour" was released through video-on-demand and earned nearly \$100 million in rental fees on its April 10 debut, grossing far more than the first "Trolls" movie debut in 2016. Other movies, such as "Onward" and "Frozen II," were released early on different digital platforms for purchase or rent.

One of the most anticipated early releases under this new system is "Hamilton." This hit Broadway show has drawn thousands of people to the theater since its debut in 2015. A stage performance of "Hamilton" was filmed in 2016 in just over three days. The resulting movie creates an opportunity for everyone to see the show, whether or not they were able to catch it live on stage. Disney bought the rights to the film last year and announced this February that it would be released on Oct. 15, 2021, in theaters.

However, due to the pandemic, Disney decided that what people needed most was something they could enjoy, even if they couldn't leave their homes. On May 12, the studio announced the film would be available to stream on Disney+ starting on the July Fourth holiday. "Hamilton" fans and those who've never seen the play are thrilled to watch the film 16 months in advance of the originally scheduled release.

Streaming services have changed how people consume their entertainment, and the pandemic has changed how streaming services offer it. Both changes are helping people get through these difficult times.

## Can You Win an Injury Case Despite Having a Preexisting Condition?



At times, clients will call our offices after an injury to a part of their body with which they already had problems. For example, they may call after having suffered a back injury in a car accident but had issues with their back before the accident.

The law permits recovery for an aggravation of a preexisting injury or condition if the aggravation caused increased suffering and disability. In that case, the injured person is entitled to recover for the disability or pain caused by the aggravation, but not for the underlying injury or condition. The law also permits recovery if the preexisting condition or injury makes the person more susceptible to injury than an otherwise healthy person.

We just concluded a case for a 65-year-old truck driver who was involved in a motor vehicle accident. At the time of the accident he had a two-year history of knee pain, which caused him to limp. When he made no reference to the accident at his doctor appointments, it wasn't recorded in his medical record.

He continued to work for about six weeks after the accident until the pain in his knee caused him to stop working. He was referred to a surgeon and, four months after the accident, underwent a knee replacement for advanced degenerative joint disease. The surgeon's record also made no reference to the motor vehicle accident. We were, however, able to successfully argue that his injury exacerbated the medical issues with his knee.

Despite a two-year history of knee problems, and no reference in his doctors' records to the accident, we were able to obtain a \$475,000 settlement for our client. The law recognizes a right to recover despite a preexisting condition. So, if you or a loved one is ever caught in the same situation, just give us a call. Our expert team at Friedman & Simon is ready to fight for you.

## DO YOU KNOW THESE MOST COMMON MEDICAL MALPRACTICE CLAIMS?

Ignorance in the medical field can be deeply costly and painful — not only to your body and your finances (as you try to fix the mistakes), but also to the mental well-being of those who were negatively impacted. It can be unnerving to be mistreated by a doctor or hospital because it feels like you don't have any control. Even if this sounds familiar, you might still be wondering: What does medical malpractice commonly look like?

### MISDIAGNOSIS

A basis for most medical malpractice claims is often misdiagnosis, or when a doctor confuses a patient's condition with a different illness. This mistake can result in serious consequences like delays in starting appropriate medical treatment, worsening of a medical condition due to the delay, or unnecessary and expensive treatments that don't help the patient. It can even include when a doctor fails to diagnose a condition altogether, as when the doctor tells the patient they're healthy when they aren't.

### CHILDBIRTH INJURIES

Even if everything goes well, childbirth is a difficult process. Both the mother and child are at high levels of risk if doctors provide treatment in a negligent manner. Doctors can cause birth injuries in many ways. For example, tragedies ranging from spinal cord injuries to lifelong cognitive impairment to death can result from failing to monitor vital signs, not ordering a C-section when necessary, handling forceps incorrectly, or

improperly conducting a vacuum-assisted delivery. These and other birth injuries are among the potential catastrophic consequences of a medical professional's failure to conform to the generally accepted standard of care during pregnancy and delivery.

### MEDICATION ERRORS

Doctors regularly issue prescriptions while patients recover from illnesses or injuries. If those prescriptions aren't filled correctly, however, it can cause serious injuries to the patient. When pharmacists provide patients with the wrong medication, the right medication at the wrong strength, medications a patient is allergic to, or even a medication that interacts poorly with other medications, the pharmacy or other parties responsible for the erroneously filled prescription may be held legally and financially liable for the consequences.

### SURGICAL ERRORS

From operating on the wrong patient or the wrong part of the body to improperly leaving instruments inside the patient, surgical errors, ranging from minor, relatively inconsequential matters to terribly grave mistakes, do sometimes happen. Sometimes surgical and medication errors can occur at the same time, as when a patient is administered the incorrect amount of anesthesia.

If you recognize any of the above, or even something that strikes you as, "this is not supposed to happen when medical treatment is properly administered," in your life or the life of a loved one, don't hesitate to give our team a call. While the legal battle is only one step to dealing with the potential lifelong consequences of medical malpractice, we're ready to fight to make it as easy for you as possible.

## SUDOKU

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SOLUTIONS

## Minty Carrot Top Pesto



Inspired by YupItsVegan.com

*Pesto may sound like a fancy ingredient on restaurant menus, but you can make it at home in minutes! This vegan recipe is a great way to use spare carrots tops, and it tastes delicious as a pasta sauce (thinned with water) or a cracker spread.*

### Ingredients

- 1 large bunch carrot tops
- 1 clove garlic, chopped
- 1/4 cup fresh mint
- 4 chives, chopped
- 2 tbsp red wine vinegar
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 3 tbsp olive oil

### Directions

- To blanch the carrot tops, bring a pot of salted water to a boil. Meanwhile, prepare a large bowl of ice water. Remove the stems from the carrot tops and add the greens to the water. Boil for 3 minutes, then drain the water and dunk the tops in ice water. When they're cool, wring out the extra liquid.
- Use a food processor to blend the carrot tops and all other ingredients except olive oil. Add 1 tbsp of olive oil at a time to the food processor and blend until the pesto is smooth. Taste and serve!