

This Month's Articles

SCAN ME



- Avoid Rolling the Dice - 1
- In the Courtroom - 2
- Estate Planning Tips - 3
- Take A Break - 3
- It's National... - 4

It's National...

It's National Play Monopoly Day on November 19th!



In 1903, Lizzie Magie created "The Landlord's Game" to demonstrate that an economy that appreciates wealth creation is better than one where monopolists have few restrictions.

In 1935, Parker Brothers released Monopoly. The original Monopoly game had two versions, regular and deluxe; but in 1991 Hasbro overtook Parker Brothers and developed new versions. Now there is a Monopoly for all types of interests or places.

In 2003, Hasbro organized a championship tournament of Monopoly on a chartered train going from Chicago to Atlantic City.



November 2022 | Vol. 11

Estate Planning Buzz

Avoid Rolling the Dice on Your Estate

Board games are a huge part of our family. Not a weekend, or sometimes even a day, goes by where we are not playing a board game. Candyland was the first, but our current favorite is Sorry! We even have house rules such as, when you slide you don't knock others out. However, it has become quite an intense game and no one lets anyone win! Games for us are about spending time together and enjoying the moment.

We can take lessons from those games and use them when planning for the future. Consider what "house rules" do you want your kids to play by with their inheritance.

Also we can apply our learning about strategy and how to plan even when you can't predict the future. We never know what card we will draw, so we must make a decision based on what is in front of us right now. If you need to review or want help getting started, just give us a call!

Inside and Outside of the Courtroom

Monopoly Games Help Save Soldiers During WWII

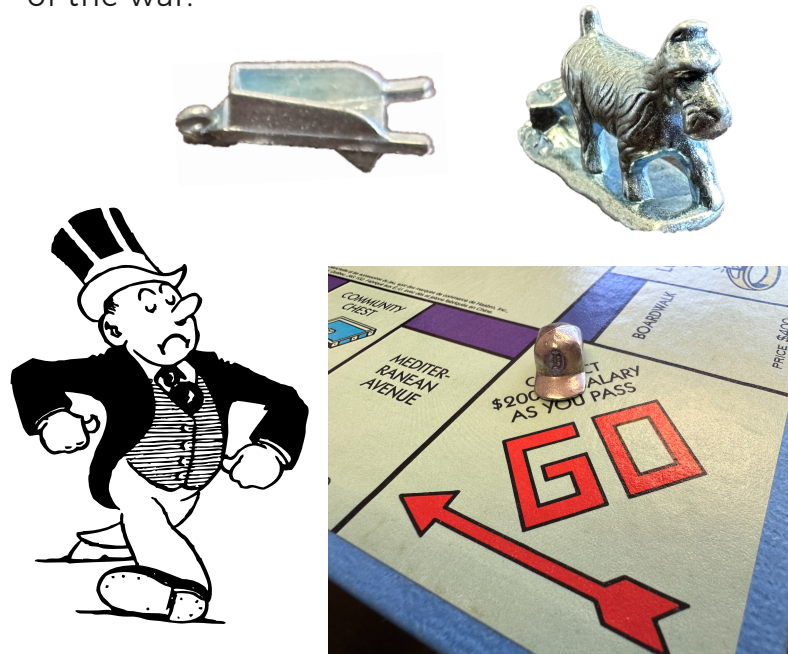
During World War II many British airmen were captured by the Germans and held as prisoners of war. Germany, abiding by the Geneva Convention, allowed humanitarian groups to deliver care packages to those soldiers. The Allies took advantage of this and developed fake charities, so as not to compromise the integrity of the Red Cross, to distribute secret escape kits.

To develop these escape kits, the British Secret Service asked the manufacturer of Monopoly, Jack Waddington Ltd, to create a special edition of Monopoly for prisoners of war. Monopoly was perfect for two reasons. First, the Monopoly box was big enough to hold the game and hide everything the POWs needed. Second, Waddington had the technology to print on silk. This was important because the maps needed to be on material that was harder than paper, wouldn't tear or dissolve in water, wouldn't rustle when opened, and be able to be hidden at a moment's notice. Waddington also had the license for Monopoly in the U.K

British airmen were told that if they were captured, they should look for escape maps and kits in Monopoly and other board games delivered by charity groups. The "special edition" Monopoly sets would be marked with a red dot on the free parking space. The kits included a compass, tools, and maps and real bank notes were hidden under fake money.

Waddington printed six different maps that corresponded with regions surrounding six different German camps and the kits that were sent to Italy, included a map of Italy and Italian currency. To make sure the correct game went to the correct location, each game had a period that was added after different locations on the board. For example, a period after "Mayfair" meant that the game went to Norway, Sweden, and Germany.

Monopoly was not the only game being used to conceal maps; decks of cards, the board game Snakes and Ladders and pencils all concealed maps for prisoners. While the silk maps can still be seen, none of the original complete Monopoly games exist. Everything was destroyed after the war. It is also difficult to say how many used the maps. Some estimate around 10,000 POWs used the Monopoly map and about the 35,000 British and Americans that were taken prisoner were able to return to Allied lines before then end of the war.



Tips for Your Estate Plan

Some simple steps to take

1. Assess where you are starting – Do you have a plan in place already? Does it need to be updated? Are the key players still the same for smooth transition periods?
2. Ensure your property is properly protected – Whether you have Boardwalk or Baltic Avenue you want to make sure you remain in control of your property, and it gets passed down how you want, to cause your loved ones the least frustration and expense.
3. Prepare for the unknown – Make sure your plan includes what happens if you become disabled, and you've named people you trust for your healthcare decisions, finances, and minor children.

Take A Break

Design your own monopoly game. Scan the QR code for a blank copy to print and to see some of the Monopoly games that we have designed!

