



**What you need  
to know about  
YAZ birth  
control**



# Call us at 800.637.8170

## To learn what you need

## to know about

# YAZ birth control

The manufacturers of YAZ, a popular birth control pill, promote it as a way to not only prevent unwanted pregnancies but avoid some of the physical effects of menstruation. Among other things, the makers of YAZ tout it as a way to treat premenstrual dysphoric disorder, treat acne, and maintain hormone levels. Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals, Inc., the company that owns the drug, spent big bucks on a television advertising campaign promoting its claimed benefits that got it into trouble with the FDA because it glossed over the potential harmful side effects of YAZ.

While you may have seen some YAZ ads, you may not be aware of the serious health consequences the drug could be causing to consumers. We represent young women who after taking YAZ have experienced life-altering health conditions such as pulmonary embolisms, heart problems, blood clots, and gallbladder disease. We have filed lawsuits in federal court against the manufacturers of YAZ and other defendants to help our clients obtain fair compensation for the devastating impact YAZ may have had on their health. In addition to ethinyl estradiol, YAZ contains a drospirenone, which the manufacturers say is “a different kind of hormone” that may increase potassium levels. The manufacturers warn that women who have kidney or liver disease should not use YAZ because it could cause heart and health problems. Other concerns about the use of YAZ include serious health consequences such as blood clots that block a vein or artery, pulmonary embolisms, heart attacks, strokes, gallbladder disease, and hypertension.

In 2008, the FDA has determined that Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals, Inc., in a glossy, slick television campaign overstated the therapeutic benefits of YAZ while minimizing the serious risk women using the drug face. The FDA forced Bayer to run corrective advertisements that come closer to setting the record straight. As the FDA pointed out in a warning letter to the company, YAZ has not been approved for treating common premenstrual syndrome and overstates the case for using the drug to treat all acne.

### HOW WE CAN HELP

If you have suffered some of the serious health consequences mentioned above and you have been taking YAZ, you should consult an attorney immediately. Failing to act quickly could destroy any chance you have to hold the manufacturers of YAZ responsible for your injuries. If too much time passes, you'll be barred from ever making a claim.

Our firm has six offices based in northwest Ohio, and we're helping women from around the country explore whether they may have a YAZ-related claim. Due to the number of lawsuits being filed around the country against YAZ defendants, we believe the federal court system will designate them as multi-district litigation cases and assign all of them to one judge. We have experience with this relatively rare process because we are involved with a multi-district litigation case involving the Yamaha Rhino ATV.

Our attorneys have more than 50 years of combined legal experience. **Chuck Boyk** has been in private practice for 26 years and heads the Charles E. Boyk Law Offices, LLC. During his career, he has handled thousands of personal injury and wrongful death claims through settlement or trial for his clients. Chuck has conducted numerous seminars for other attorneys to help them better understand the world of personal injury law.



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## To learn what you need to know about YAZ birth control

**Mike Bruno** also has been practicing law for 25 years. Mike, a personal injury attorney who has been named an Ohio Super Lawyer, has handled more than 100 jury trials, is Board Certified by the National Board of Trial Advocacy, and is AV rated by Martindale Hubbell, the highest rating an attorney can receive.

**Dale Emch** focuses his practice on personal injury cases. Dale writes a column for the Toledo Blade called "Legal Briefs," in which he answers readers' questions about a variety of legal issues. He has been appointed to serve on the Lucas County Public Defender Commission and the Lucas County Dog Warden Advisory Committee. He also is co-chairman of the Media Relations Committee for the Toledo Bar Association.

**WE DON'T GET PAID UNLESS YOU DO:** Most people are understandably nervous about contacting a lawyer, partly because they're concerned about the cost. You won't have to worry about the cost if we take your case. We don't bill you by the hour because most people couldn't afford the out-of-pocket expense, particularly on complex cases against deep-pocketed drug companies. If we prevail for you either through a settlement or by winning your case at trial, we're paid one-third of the gross award. If we can't help you or lose the case, you won't have to pay us a penny. This arrangement allows regular people to seek justice without having to go broke paying legal fees.

**WHAT WE DO FOR YOU:** If we decide to accept your case, here are some of the ways our team will help you:

You'll have contact information for our attorneys and staff members so you know who to talk to if you have a question.

Our medical records specialists will monitor your treatment by contacting you periodically so we have a better understanding of how YAZ has affected your health.

We'll collect the medical records that are related to the health problems you're having as a result of using YAZ.

We'll keep you updated with information about how your claim is progressing.

All necessary costs to pursue your case will be advanced on your behalf. If no money is collected for you and you have followed our advice, you will not be asked to repay the costs advanced to you.

Our best negotiators will negotiate a settlement on your behalf or our attorneys will take your case to trial if they determine that is the best course.

If your health has been damaged by YAZ, contact an attorney at The Charles E. Boyk Law Offices, LLC today to learn about your legal rights. We can be reached at 419-241-1395 or 800-637-8170, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. **We can also contact you at your earliest convenience. Visit [www.charlesboyk-law.com](http://www.charlesboyk-law.com) and fill out the contact form. An attorney will contact you within 24 hours.** We also urge you to visit our blog dedicated to issues involve YAZ and the YAZ litigation because it will be regularly updated. The blog site is:

**[www.YazInjuryLawyer.com](http://www.YazInjuryLawyer.com)**



**CHARLES E.  
BOYK**  
LAW OFFICES, LLC

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# Understanding Your Rights

If you have been in an accident, or a family member has been injured or killed in a crash or some other incident, you have many important decisions to make. We believe it is important for you to consider the following:

1. **Make and keep records-** If your situation involves a motor vehicle crash, regardless of who may be at fault, it is helpful to obtain a copy of the police report, learn the identity of any witnesses, and obtain photographs of the scene, vehicles, and any visible injuries. Keep copies of receipts for all of your expenses and medical care related to the incident.
2. **You do not have to sign anything-** You may not want to give an interview or recorded statement without first consulting with an attorney, because the statement can be used against you. If you may be at fault or have been charged with a traffic or other offense, it may be advisable to consult an attorney right away. However, if you have insurance, your insurance policy probably requires you to cooperate with your insurance company and to provide a statement to the company. If you fail to cooperate with your insurance company, it may void your coverage.
3. **Your interests versus interests of the insurance company-** Your interests and those of the other person's insurance company are in conflict. Your interests may also be in conflict with your own insurance company. Even if you are not sure who is at fault, you should contact your own insurance company and advise the company of the incident to protect your insurance coverage.
4. **There is a time limit to file an insurance claim-** Legal rights, including filing a lawsuit, are subject to time limits. You should ask what time limits apply to your claim. You may need to act immediately to protect your rights.
5. **Get it in writing-** You may want to request that any offer of settlement from anyone be put in writing, including a written explanation of the type of damages which they are willing to cover.
6. **Legal assistance may be appropriate-** You may consult with an attorney before you sign any document or release of claims. A release may cut off all future rights against others, obligate you to repay past medical bills or disability benefits, or jeopardize future benefits. If your interests conflict with your own insurance company, you always have the right to discuss the matter with an attorney of your choice, which may be at your own expense.
7. **How to find an attorney-** If you need professional advice about a legal problem but do not know how to find an attorney, you may wish to check with relatives, friends, neighbors, your employer or co-workers who may be able to recommend an attorney. Your local bar association may have a lawyer referral service that can be found in the Yellow Pages.
8. **Check a lawyer's qualifications-** Before hiring any lawyer, you have the right to know the lawyer's background, training, and experience in dealing with cases similar to yours.
9. **How much will it cost?-** In deciding whether to hire a particular lawyer, you should discuss, and the lawyer's written fee agreement should reflect:
  - a. How is the lawyer to be paid? If you already have a settlement offer, how will that affect a contingent fee arrangement?
  - b. How are the expenses involved in your case, such as telephone calls, deposition costs, and fees for expert witnesses, to be paid? Will these costs be advanced by the lawyer or charged to you as they are incurred? Since you may be obligated to pay all expenses even if you lose your case, how will payment be arranged?
  - c. Who will handle your case? If the case goes to trial, who will be the trial attorney?

This information is not intended as a complete description of your legal rights, but as a checklist of some of the important issues you should consider.

**\*The Supreme Court of Ohio, which governs the conduct of lawyers in the State of Ohio, neither promotes nor prohibits the direct solicitation of personal injury victims. The Court does require that, if such a solicitation is made, it must include the above disclosure.**

# The Charles E. Boyk Law Offices, LLC Difference

*Excellent customer service and skilled, spirited representation for the past 25 years*

1. We don't collect a fee unless your case settles or we win at trial.
2. You pay nothing whatsoever to begin your case.
3. We provide an initial phone consultation, free of charge.
4. You can meet with an attorney, for free, to discuss your legal options for your claim.
5. Our three attorneys and nine staff members – including experienced paralegals, legal assistants, and medical records analysts - will investigate your case by obtaining police reports, interviewing witnesses, and gathering medical records.
6. All necessary costs to pursue your case will be advanced on your behalf. If no money is collected for you and you have followed our advice, you will not be asked to repay the costs advanced to you.
7. Our attorneys are always available to discuss the progress of your case. We provide clients with personal cell phone numbers and the attorneys are available after normal business hours and on weekends.
8. Our medical records specialist will contact you regularly to get an update on your medical treatment.
9. If you don't have a doctor, we can provide you with names of respected medical providers who can help you recover from your injuries.
10. We will perform legal research to strengthen your case.
11. We will notify all insurance adjusters of your claim through letters of representation. This ensures that the at-fault party's insurance company will not bother you anymore.
12. After compiling all medical bills and records, we will send a letter to the at-fault party's insurance company that details your injuries and demands fair compensation. The demand letter will include an impact statement on how the injury has affected your life.
13. Our best negotiators will negotiate your settlement with the insurance company to ensure maximum recovery.
14. Our office will negotiate with your medical providers to reduce the amount of money you have to pay for your medical bills.
15. Your attorney will keep you updated about any offers that are made to settle your case.
16. At the end of your case, you will be provided with a full explanation of all case expenses, medical expenses, and legal fees so you can see exactly how much money you'll receive from a settlement or jury verdict.
17. At your direction, we will use a portion of your settlement or jury award to pay outstanding medical bills.
18. If a settlement cannot be reached, your attorney will consult with you about whether a lawsuit should be filed, and what it means to you.
19. If a lawsuit is filed, we will help you respond to interrogatories and discovery requests.
20. Your attorney will help you prepare you for your deposition.
21. Your attorney will conduct depositions of the defendant and key witnesses.
22. Your attorney will consult with you to prepare your case for trial.
23. Your attorney will be at your side during the trial, protecting your rights and fighting for fair compensation.
24. At the conclusion of your case, we will ask you to grade our performance and give us feedback regarding your experience with us.
25. After your case is completed, we would like to stay in touch by sending you our monthly newsletter and periodic legal information that may be of interest to you.
26. Free books, tapes, CDs, and special reports will be available to you on subjects such as auto accident injuries, dog bites, trucking accidents, and workers' compensation claims.
27. Our toll-free 800 number may be called 24 hours a day to request our books and other information.
28. We will enroll you in our free key protection program. If you lose your keys, we'll pay a reward to anyone who returns them to our office.
29. Our clients and past clients are encouraged to come to us with **any** legal question or concern they may have while they are a client and any time after they have been a client.

We do not charge for this service.

If your legal question or concern is outside of our area of expertise, we will provide you a referral to an appropriate attorney that will provide you a free, confidential, no obligation consultation.

# NEED MORE FREE BOOKS?



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of FREE books requested:

\_\_\_\_\_ *The Ohio Accident Book*      \_\_\_\_\_ *The Ohio Work Injury Book*  
\_\_\_\_\_ *The Ohio Dog Bite Book*      \_\_\_\_\_ *The Ohio Wrongful Death Book*  
\_\_\_\_\_ *Little Kids, Big Accidents*      \_\_\_\_\_ *The Ohio Motorcycle Accident Book*

Send this form back to us & we will send your FREE books IMMEDIATELY.

Send us this form back one of three ways:

**Mail to:** *Book Request*, 405 Madison Avenue, Suite 1200, Toledo, Ohio 43604 or

**Fax to:** 419.241.8730 or **Email to:** info@charlesboyk-law.com

There is no charge for these books and it does not establish an attorney/client relationship.  
Your information will not be disclosed to any third party.

You will be added to our firm's **Free Newsletter Mailing List, *The Boyk Bulletin***,  
to receive important legal and insurance updates.

If you do not want to be added to the list, please check below.

\_\_\_\_\_ No, I do not want to be added to your mailing list to receive current legal  
news and information regarding insurance laws affecting drivers in Ohio.



**CHARLES E.  
BOYK**  
LAW OFFICES, LLC

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www.charlesboyk-law.com | 419.241.1395

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# The Boyk Bulletin

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## We Have Six Offices to Serve You

### Downtown Toledo

405 Madison Avenue  
Suite 1200  
Toledo, Ohio 43604  
419.241.1395  
800.637.8170 Toll-free  
419.241.8731 Fax

### West Toledo

4032 Secor Road  
Suite A  
Toledo, Ohio 43623

### South Toledo

5241 Southwyck Blvd.  
Suite 108B  
Toledo, Ohio 43614

### Bowling Green

121 E. Wooster Street  
Suite 255  
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402

### Swanton

110 W. Airport Highway  
Suite 208  
Swanton, Ohio 43558

### Findlay

612 Main Street  
Suite 101  
Findlay, Ohio 45840

## Lawyers offer FREE Auto Accident Kits to community

**O**n a daily basis, we deal with the problem of clients who did not know what to do in the event of a car accident.

In response to this problem, we have created an Auto Accident Kit for the glove box.

While we hope it is never needed, the Auto Accident Kit is equipped with all of the tools you would need in the event

of a car accident.

The kit includes a camera for taking photos of the car damage; instructions on how to handle a car accident, including forms for witness statements and driver information; a pen; a flashlight; a bag to collect your belongings; and a copy our *Ohio Accident Book*.

If you would like an



Contents of the Auto Accident Kit

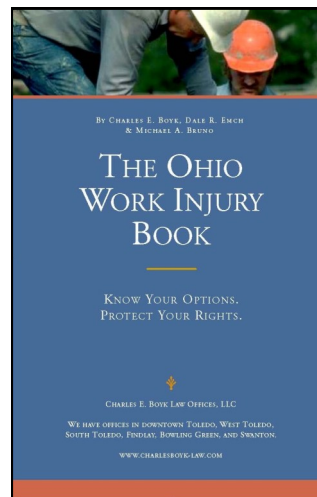
Auto Accident Kit **free of charge**, contact Anneke at 419.720.4452 or via email at [akurt@charlesboyk-law.com](mailto:akurt@charlesboyk-law.com).

## Take proper steps after work injury to receive fair compensation

**A**ccidents suffered at work can devastate your life. One second you're working hard on the job, the next you've got an injury that prevents you from working for days or months. In some cases, injured workers never get back on the job.

The steps you take immediately after a work accident can affect the compensation you receive for your injuries.

"Many people don't know what to do after they are hurt at work," Attorney Chuck Boyk said. "I have handled many cases where



we have helped clients take the necessary steps to save their claim."

Here are the top four steps to take immediately after a work injury, taken

from our book, *The Ohio Work Injury Book*:

### 1. Report the injury to your employer

Always make sure you tell your employer when you've been injured at work. Ask your employer to produce a written report about the incident. Whether or not your employer completes a written report, make sure you document the date and time of the injury, how it happened, where it happened, and whether there were witnesses. Do this even if you have to produce the report yourself.

See **Workers' Comp**, page 2

## Employee Spotlight

## Stacey Swiergosz



One of the toughest jobs at Charles E. Boyk Law Offices, LLC is mastering the art of answering a phone that is ringing off the hook all day long.

As a receptionist, trying to route an incoming call to the correct person while handling multiple ringing lines can be daunting. But our new receptionist, Stacey Swiergosz, has the job mastered.

Our office welcomed Stacey, 24, to the team at the end of July, when she became the newest addition to the front office staff.

Upbeat and friendly, Stacey is the first person people see when they enter the office, and the first person a new client speaks with when they contact the firm.

Also, keep all receipts and hospital records.

### 2. First Report of Injury form

Complete a First Report of Injury form, which is called a FROI in the work comp world. Your employer is supposed to fill out the form, but if that doesn't happen, an attorney can help you. The form is crucial because it's the only way you can get a claim number on file with the Bureau of Workers' Compensation. Without a claim number, your claim will go nowhere. So, complete a FROI as soon as possible. Generally, an injured worker has two years from the date of injury to file a claim.

### 3. Get a claim number

You need a claim number issued by the BWC. Once the FROI is filed, contact the BWC so you can get an ID claim card. Everything that hap-

“Stacey’s outgoing personality and patience made her a great candidate for one of the most important jobs in the office,” Attorney Chuck Boyk said. “She is a great representative of the firm.”

Stacey is a 2003 graduate of Bowsher High School in Toledo, and is currently working towards Criminal Justice degree in Corrections from Owens Community College.

She has a background in the legal field, as she worked for another downtown law firm for two and a half years.

“I really enjoy working with clients on a daily basis,” Stacey said. “I like the fast-paced environment, and helping clients get to the person they need to talk

to.”

Stacey is so good at her job, that in a few short weeks she started filing pleadings with the Court, handling correspondence with other attorneys, and writing letters to insurance companies.

In her spare time, Stacey likes to travel (she’s soon travelling to Puerto Rico for the third time) and go to concerts (she has been to 15). She loves country music and her favorite artist is Kenny Chesney.

Stacey lives in Waterville with her English bulldog, Tank.

pens with your case will be linked to the claim number on the card.

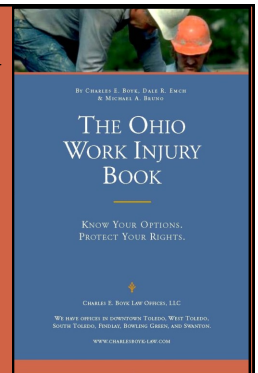
**4. Get medical treatment** Many people don't realize they don't have to get their injuries treated by their employer's doctor.

You can treat with any doctor you want as long as the doctor is certified with the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation, or the BWC.

If your family doctor isn't BWC certified, consult a lawyer who does a lot of this work to get references for qualified doctors. You can only get compensated for the conditions that the BWC determines were caused by your workplace injury.

Your attorney can file a motion that seeks coverage for additional conditions related to the injury. This becomes important if you later have to file a permanent partial disability claim.

**Injured on the Job? Learn Your Rights!**



Order your **FREE** copy of  
***The Ohio Work Injury Book***  
Call **800.479.8203**  
Code 8224  
or visit  
**OhioWorkInjuryBook.com**

# More Bikes for Kids winners to be featured on new firm website dedicated to children

The attorneys in our office just launched a new website strictly dedicated to children and child injuries called **OhioChildAccidentBook.com**.

The site features frequently asked questions about child injuries and accidents, as well as videos and articles for parents.

Kids are also welcome to visit OhioChildAccidentBook.com with their parents' permission. We have a special Kids Only section of the site, where kids can order yo-yo's and watch videos on yo-yo tricks. There are even downloadable coloring sheets on safety. Kids are also encouraged to contact our office if they would like to upload a video of themselves doing yo-yo tricks.

We have a special section on the site dedicated to our Bikes for Kids winners. Bikes for Kids is a program where the attorneys at Charles E. Boyk Law Offices, LLC choose one deserving child each week of summer to receive a brand new bicycle. The bikes are purchased at Wersell's Bike Shop on Central Avenue in Toledo, where the owner, Jill Wersell, has graciously donated helmets and locks to each child.

On the Bikes for Kids section of OhioChildAccidentBook.com, readers can view stories on why the winners were chosen, the parents reactions, and videos of the kids on their new bikes.

An electrical fire on her birthday didn't stop 12-year-old Cassidy Steinline from looking at the bright side of things. Even though she lost her bike in the fire, she still stayed positive, and continued to help out with her brothers.

"Now I can ride my new bike when I take my brothers to the library," Cassidy said. "I no longer have to walk while they ride ahead on their skateboards!"

Another young lady who is a big help with their brothers and sisters is 11-year-old Kayla Meeker. Kayla was adopted, and just recently recovered from an unexplained medical event that left her paralyzed from the neck down for six hours. After eight weeks of therapy, she learned how to walk again, and is now ready to bike ride with her six siblings.

"I am just so happy to be playing sports again," Kayla said. "I really like my new bike!"

Shiloh Hagerman also overcame a serious medical condition. She was diagnosed with a blood disorder that prevented her from playing sports or riding a bike, and she had to give blood once a week for months. This past June she finally had blood counts normal enough to ride again, but she didn't have a bicycle, even though she had been saving up her money for one.

She didn't know when her mother pulled up to Wersell's that she was about to receive a new bike. When Anneke Kurt, the Marketing Director for Charles E. Boyk Law Offices, LLC told her, she threw her arms around her mom.

"Oh my gosh!," Shiloh said. "I can't believe it! Thank you so much, Mom!"

Excitement was also apparent on Mikey Stahl's face when he came to pick up his new bike. He lost his in a tornado last year. Mikey has been volunteering since he was three years old, in his hometown of Fostoria, Ohio.

Since finishing a nine-week stint at a fitness camp in New York, Mikey has come home to volunteer in the Obesity Task Force sponsored by the Fostoria Community Hospital and Healthy Lifestyles.

"My bike is really going to help me stay in shape," Mikey said. "I have already put 30 miles on it."

Visit **OhioChildAccidentBook.com** to enter your child in our Bikes for Kids program.



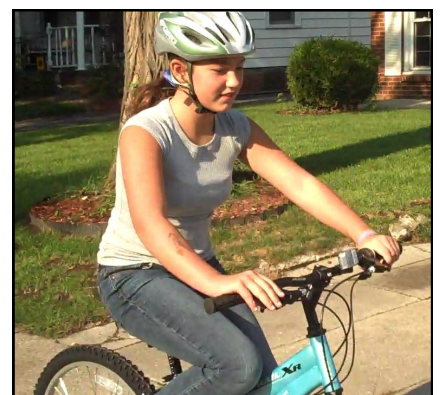
Cassidy Steinline is interviewed by 13 ABC news anchor Tony Geftos



Shiloh Hagerman poses with her new



Mikey Stahl takes a test ride at Wersell's.



Kayla Meeker switches gears while rid-

## Charles E. Boyk

*Law Offices, LLC*

405 Madison Avenue

Suite 1200

Toledo, Ohio 43604

Phone: 419.241.1395

Toll-Free: 1.800.637.8170

Fax: 419.241.8731

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 Call Anneke at 419.720.4452 or email her at akurt@charlesboyk-law.com**

## The Soccer Chef's FANTASTIC Stuffed Poblano Peppers



8-12 Large Poblano Peppers

1 Cup Rice (cooked) • 1 can black beans • 2 T roasted garlic

1 16 oz. package of spicy ground sausage

• 1/3 Cup coarsely chopped fresh cilantro (needs to be fresh - no dried!)

1/2 Cup red onion, finely chopped • 1 T sea salt • 1 T cumin

1/4 finely chopped chipotle peppers in adobo sauce (Embassa is a good brand)

1 Cup shredded Monterey jack cheese

1. Preheat oven to 350°. Cook rice according to instructions. Cook sausage until brown and ground into small pieces - add onions and garlic to sauté for around 5 minutes.

2. While cooking rice and sausage, chop cilantro and chipotle peppers and cut the tops off of the poblanos, taking out the seeds and making sure the holes at the top of the poblanos are big enough to put stuffing into.

3. Once everything is cooked, put all but cheese into a large bowl and mix thoroughly. Add cheese and mix again.

4. Stuff the poblanos with a spoon and fill them as full as possible!

5. Bake in a 9x13 for 45-60 minutes.

*Variation:* Cook on the grill - this may not take as much time, but you will need watch so the stuffing doesn't come out all over the place.

6. Serve with salsa, sour cream and/or more cheese!

**Note: Left over stuffing is fantastic as part of an omelet or in a burrito. Thank you to Brian Fowler, a soccer dad and friend of the Boyk family, for providing us with this delicious recipe. Stay tuned for more great recipes from The Soccer Chef!**

## Cases of Interest our office is handling

**34-year-old woman taking Yaz birth control suffers a blood clot on her brain.** The injury causes numerous hospital stays and the life-long need for blood thinners.

**52-year-old man is shot by a police officer.** The gun shot wound caused him to lose part of his intestines. He also had two teeth knocked out in the incident. The firearms review board found that using that level of force was not justified.

**6-year-old boy flies over defective dirt bike handlebars, lacerating his liver** in the accident, causing the need for a liver stint and surgery, as well as a five-week hospital stay.

**42-year-old man suffers a torn Achilles tendon after being rear-ended by "road-raged" driver.**