

The Boyk Bulletin

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Local kids receive new bikes from Firm's Bikes for Kids

Three kids from northwest Ohio received a shiny new surprise this month after winning our Bikes for Kids contest.

Parents, teachers, relatives, and friends are encouraged to nominate a deserving child in 150 words or less by telling us why the special child in their life should receive a new bike.

Twins Nikki and Katie Hart of Toledo, 10, and 6-year-old Riley Hicks of Swanton each received a brand new bike, compliments of Charles E.

Boyk Law Offices, LLC.

"Many thanks go out to Jill Wersell of Wersell's Bike Shop," Attorney Chuck Boyk said. We are so grateful to them for donating the helmets and locks, in the spirit of bicycle and children's safety."

We would like to welcome Nikki and Katie to northwest Ohio, as they grew up in Indiana and will be officially adopted at the end of the summer by Gregg and Rene Hart of Toledo.

"This program really shows that people care about kids in this area, and their safety," Rene Hart said of the Bikes for Kids program. "It's also the girls' birthday at the end of the month, so it's a blessing that they received these bikes when they did."

Nikki and Katie did not know they were receiving new bikes until they were in the parking lot at Wersell's Bike Shop on Central Ave. in Toledo.

"I'm just so happy that I got a new bike," Katie Hart said. "I really like that you can change gears and go as slow as you want, or go really, really fast!"

Both girls also were excited to wear their helmets and talk about how they were going to practice safe riding.

See **Bikes for Kids**, page 2



Katie Hart



Nikki Hart

Follow important safety tips to avoid motorcycle accidents

Whether you are a new motorcycle owner or a seasoned rider, it is important to remember to always ride defensively, using proper safety techniques.

"Unfortunately, motorcycle accidents usually result in much more devastating injuries than other types of motor vehicle accidents," Attorney



Charles Boyk said. "That is why it is absolutely imperative to practice safe riding habits."

In our new book, *The Ohio Motorcycle Book: The Ulti-*

mate Guide to Motorcycle Accidents in Ohio, we have compiled some of the most important motorcycle safety tips, suggested by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation.

Be visible

Remember that motorists often have trouble seeing motorcycle and reacting in time. Make sure that your headlight

See **Motorcycles**, page 3

New book helps kids learn punctuation through poetry

After 29 years of experience teaching kindergarteners, Elsa Knight Bruno knows what works and what doesn't when it comes to teaching children.

That is why after nine years of retirement, Mrs. Bruno decided to write *Punctuation Celebration* - to give kids a fun and effective way to learn their question marks and periods.

With lines like, "A period is just a dot/Found sitting in its favorite spot," and "The comma is common/And commonly used/To separate clauses/With essential pauses," *Punctuation Celebration* teaches kids punctuation through poetry and vivid illustrations.

Community Spotlight

"I've found that young people can learn a lesson better if there is poetry and rhythm involved," Mrs. Bruno said. "That is why *Punctuation Celebration* is a book of poems."

Mrs. Bruno is the mother of Attorney Michael Bruno in our office. She attended the University of Toledo for her undergraduate and graduate studies, where she earned a Masters in Early Childhood Education.

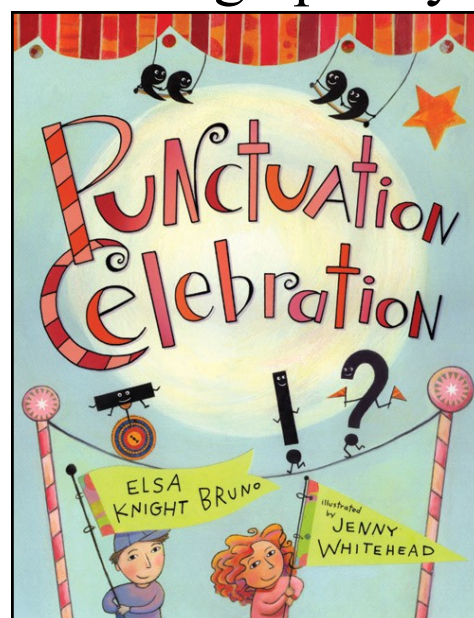
"My mom's book is the culmination of years of hard work," Mike Bruno said. "I am extremely proud of her."

Illustrated by Jenny Whitehead, and published by Henry Holt and Co., *Punctuation Celebration* is full of bright pictures and varied examples of punctuation rules.

Mrs. Bruno's teaching techniques have had a huge impact on hundreds of kids over the years.

Attorney Jennifer Dawson's children, Rachel and Patrick, now 16 and 19, both had Mrs. Bruno as a kindergarten teacher.

"Mrs. Bruno was a wonderful teacher," Attorney Dawson said. "She



provided a good introduction to school and prepared both of the children for first grade. We send our congratulations and wish her success with her book."

Punctuation Celebration is available at Barnes and Noble books stores, and on www.Amazon.com and www.BarnesandNoble.com.

If you would like to learn more about Mrs. Bruno and her new book, or to inquire about having Mrs. Bruno speak to your class or group, visit her website, www.ElsaKnightBruno.com.



Attorney Mike Bruno celebrates his first birthday with mom Elsa and dad Dominic.

Bikes for Kids, cont. from page 1

"I'm going to ride on the sidewalks first," Nikki Hart said. "And when I see cars about to pull into the driveway, I am going to stop."

Another child who was excited about his new helmet and bike was Riley Hicks.

Unlike the Hart twins, Riley was told the night before about his big win.

"I couldn't get him to go to sleep," Dale Hicks, Riley's dad, said. "He kept asking what color the bike was, and if it would have pegs. It's so great

to see him so happy. This is really something. Really something."

Losing his mom to cancer last year and almost losing his older brother caused Riley and his father to go down a rough road.

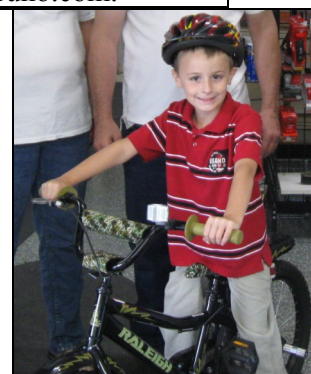
"It's been really hard on Dale and Riley," Terrie McDevitt, Riley's aunt, said. "Winning this bike means the world to Riley. He's so excited."

Riley chose a camouflage-colored bike, and a red helmet and bike lock. While he is just a little guy, Riley is way beyond his years. He even mastered his bike lock on the first try,

noting that he would never forget the combination.

"When I'm a high school guy, I'm going to raise my seat, so I can still ride my bike," Riley said. "I like being outside. It's fun."

If you know a deserving child who would love a new bike, visit ohiochildaccidentbook.com and click on the Bikes for Kids logo.



Riley Hicks

Missing deadlines can destroy your child's case

Few things are scarier than an accident involving your child. Trying to deal with the aftermath of liability questions, insurance companies, lawsuits, and paperwork can be just as bad.

The following excerpt from *Little Kids, Big Accidents: The Ultimate Guide to Child Injury Cases in Ohio* outlines the importance of not missing deadlines in a child injury case:

In any accident case, parents need to understand that there are important deadlines that cannot be missed. The most crucial deadline is that for filing a lawsuit, which is called the statute of limitations.

If this deadline is missed, the child will be forever barred from making a claim.

The court system understands that kids, especially young ones, will have little or no control over whether they can advance a claim. In order to

protect an injured child's rights, the statute of limitations doesn't begin to run until the child is 18. In a typical auto accident case, the statute of limitations is two years. So, in a typical claim involving an injury to a child, the case would have to be filed by the time the child turns 20 years old.

In a dog bite case, the statute of limitations is six years, so the suit would need to be filed by the time the child turns 24 years old.

The statute of limitations for claims involving medical malpractice or intentionally harming someone is a year from the point the child turns 18.

A claim a parents may have for loss of the child's society lasts as long as the child's claims. The reason for this is to promote a more efficient judicial system and to keep the claims together.

Do you know what to do if your child is injured in an accident?

Who is going to pay your child's medical bills?

Should you talk

to the insurance adjustor? Order

your **FREE** copy of

Little Kids, Big Accidents

to learn the **FREE** answers

Call **800.479.8203**,

ext. 1234

or visit

OhioChildAccidentBook.com



Motorcycles, cont. from page 1 works and is on day and night. Use reflective strips or decals on your clothing and on your motorcycle. Be aware of blind spots cars and trucks have. Flash your brake light when you are slowing down and before stopping.

Dress for safety

Wear a quality helmet and eye protection. Wear bright clothing and a light-colored helmet, as well as leather or other thick, protective clothing.

Apply effective mental strategies

Constantly search the road for changing conditions. Use the Motor-

cycle Safety Foundation's Search, Evaluate, Execute strategy (SEESM) to increase time and space safety margins. Give yourself extra space and time to respond to other motorists' actions.

Give other motorists time and space to respond to you. Use lane positioning to be seen, and ride in the part of a lane where you are most visible. Watch for turning vehicles, and signal your next move in advance.

Avoid weaving between lanes. Pretend you're invisible, and ride extra defensively. Don't ride when you are tired or under the influence of alcohol

or other drugs. Know and follow the rules of the road, and stick to the speed limit.

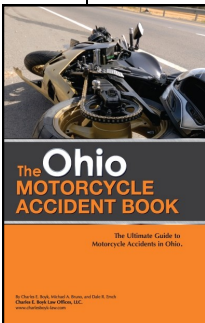
Know your bike and how to use it

Get formal training and take refresher courses. Call 800.446.9227 or visit www.msf-usa.org to locate the Motorcycle Safety Foundation hands-on *RidersCourse*SM nearest you.

Practice by developing your riding techniques before going into heavy traffic. Know how to handle your bike in conditions such as wet or sandy roads, high winds, and uneven surfaces.

Discover the BIGGEST mistakes BIKERS make after a motorcycle ACCIDENT

Order your **FREE** copy of *The Ohio Motorcycle Accident Book*, call 800.479.8203, ext. 9000 or visit **OhioMotorcycleAccidentBook.com**



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New address or phone number? Help us stay current by letting us know!
Call Anneke at 419.720.4452 or email her at akurt@charlesboyk-law.com



**Anneke's
Amazing
Spinach Lasagna**

2 Tablespoons olive oil • 1/4 onion
 1 lb. ground beef • 8 oz. cottage cheese
 8 oz. ricotta cheese
 1 package (10 oz) frozen spinach
 1 package (8oz) fresh mushrooms
 1 jar spaghetti sauce
 1 box (16 oz) lasagna noodles
 8 oz. shredded mozzarella cheese

1. Preheat the oven to 350° F.
2. Sauté onions & mushrooms in olive oil over medium heat. Add meat and cook until brown.
3. Mix together spinach (thawed & drained), cottage cheese, ricotta, and meat mixture.
4. In bottom of a 9x13 inch dish, pour layer of sauce. Add layer of uncooked noodles. Add half of meat mixture. Repeat until meat mixture is gone. Top with remaining sauce.
5. Sprinkle top with mozzarella cheese and cover with foil. Bake for 1 hour covered until noodles are cooked all the way through. Allow to cool and enjoy!

Yo-Yo Photo Contest!

Hey Kids!

Order your FREE yo-yo one of three ways:

1. Call 419.720.4452
2. Visit OhioChildAccidentBook.com and request a copy of *Little Kids, Big Accidents*
3. Write to 405 Madison Ave., Suite 1200, Toledo, Ohio 43604

**Send us a photo of you
and your
Yo-Yo on vacation,
around town, or at
home! The most
creative photo wins
movie tickets!**



Cases of Interest our office is handling

51-year-old man suffers broken ribs, facial bruising, and serious injuries to right knee and elbow after his car flips one and a half times in an auto accident.

Drunk driver rear-ends a county worker, causing serious injuries to her neck and back, as well as the need for physical therapy.

The drunk driver had already caused another car accident a few minutes prior, and proceeded to cause a third accident.

4-year-old girl is bit in the face by a Rottweiler, causing need for over 60 stitches. She'll likely have permanent facial scars.

19-year-old woman had to have gallbladder taken out while on Yaz birth control. She also suffered irregular heartbeat and a drop in blood pressure.