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## 7-YEAR-OLD AVAH MERILLAT TEACHES AGELESS LESSONS ON GRACE, CHARACTER

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*Avah Merillat*

Crissey Elementary is not your ordinary school. Its administrators and teachers tirelessly work to give life to its mission to provide "exceptional education for today's learners and tomorrow's leaders." That mission and the school's efforts have led to Crissey receiving the prestigious "Hall of Fame" award from the Ohio Association of Elementary Administrators. That award was not only for Crissey's commitment to its students' academic achievement, but more importantly, for its character education.

Walking into the school, its focus on character education is immediately evident. On the walls of its halls are "pillars of character" – traits such as respect, trustworthiness, responsibility, fairness, caring, perseverance, citizenship, and cooperation.

Family and friends of a very small group of special students packed into Crissey Elementary in Holland, Ohio on March 7th for the presentation of the school's annual Character Kid Awards. Nominations are based solely on a student's character and an enduring commitment to the qualities associated with good character.

Among those select students to receive this special award was Avah Merillat. Avah, a first

grader at Crissey, is the daughter of attorney Wes Merillat and his wife, Steffenie, and she was nominated for the award by her teacher, M. Arlene Carlin for her positive attitude and her treatment of others.

"Avah always has a smile on her face," Ms. Carlin said. "Her favorite words are 'sure!' and 'ok!'"

"We are so proud of Avah," Steffenie said. "In our home, good character is celebrated above good grades. Raising kids to become adults with strong morals, good judgment and self discipline is a huge task, and is not easy. So as a parent, it is so rewarding to see good character recognized in your child at school."

In order to help others demonstrate good character, we asked 7-year-old Avah how she does it. She said:

- I help others when they need help
- If I see someone who is sad or lonely, I talk to them and ask them to join me and friends. I make sure to introduce her and tell her all my friends' names.
- If kids are mean to me, I just walk away. I chose not to be mean back.
- When I am asked to do something by my parents or my teachers, I do it the first time without complaint

Wes noted that as the middle sister of two boys, it can be tough for Avah to be graceful *all* of the time.

"Those are all very true of Avah, but to be fair, while she usually demonstrates a wonderful gentleness, I have occasionally seen her respond less than gracefully to her two brothers," Wes said. "But part of good character is getting angry at the right things at the right time. Those boys definitely had it coming."



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# BOYK LAW'S NEW REPORT: TESTOSTERONE TREATMENT FOR LOW-T COULD TAKE YOUR LIFE



Over \$100 million dollars of marketing by drug manufacturers have led to many men believing that testosterone treatments to treat “Low-T” or symptoms of fatigue, sexual dysfunction, hair loss, and/or weight gain are a good option. Yet several recent studies suggest a link between the use of testosterone replacement therapy and serious adverse cardiac events.

One study found that men aged 65 and older who had pre-existing cardiovascular issues had more than doubled their risk of a heart attack within the first 90 days of taking testosterone.

Among men younger than 65 who also had pre-existing history of cardiac issues, the study found the risk of heart attack in the first 90 days following the first prescription of testosterone nearly tripled.

Among all types of testosterone treatments, including those that are administered by topical solution and by injection, the revelations of an increased risk of the following adverse events among men using prescription testosterone replacement drugs include:

- Heart attack
- Blood clots
- Stroke
- Deep vein thrombosis
- Pulmonary embolism

These medical problems prompted the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in January 2014 to announce an investigation into the safety of these drugs and their risks to consumers.

That is why the attorneys in our office wrote, *Testosterone Injury Information Revealed*. This easy-to-read guide outlines Low-T, testosterone therapy, the adverse effects, and how to protect your legal rights.

If you would like a free copy of this report or an immediate, free case evaluation, visit [www.TestosteroneWarnings.com](http://www.TestosteroneWarnings.com), call 888-888-2110, or email us at [info@charlesboyk-law.com](mailto:info@charlesboyk-law.com). You may also Live Chat 24 hours a day, seven days a week by visiting our website, [www.charlesboyk-law.com](http://www.charlesboyk-law.com).

## TRIBUTE TO TOLEDOANS: GREAT DEPRESSION SPARKS LIFETIME OF GIVING FOR SCOTT HIGH GRAD

Many Toledoans remember Tiedtke's as the quintessential local grocery and department store near Summit, Adams, and Monroe Streets. But for Mrs. Loretta L. Tucker, it was almost her birthplace.

Loretta was born on March 13, 1928 in the back of a cab right in front of the store, weighing in at only three pounds.

“I was a very small baby,” Mrs. Tucker said. “Reflecting on the type of technology available at the time of my birth, I consider myself to be sort of a miracle baby. I’m blessed to still be here and healthy at 86 years old.”

Tucker was born shortly before the start of the Great Depression. Despite the time period being an immensely trying time for most families, Tucker believed that the tragedy did a lot of good for her family.

“What a stressful time it was to live during the Great Depression,” Mrs. Tucker said. “One thing for sure is that during this time of hardship for my family, it made us all extremely closer and more grateful for one another. We prayed, we believed in better days, and when all things looked down, God showed up in some way, shape, or form and gave us hope to grasp to.”

Loretta's drive and generosity was clearly



*Loretta Tucker and Daryl Layson*

passed down to her grandson, Daryl Layson, who works as a Marketing Assistant at Boyk Law. He helps to care for his grandmother on top of going to school full-time and working for our office.

“My grandma is one of my biggest and lifelong supporters,” Daryl said. “She is always willing to lend a helping hand and offer encouragement in any situation. She means the world to me and I’m blessed to have her!”

Loretta was a 1946 graduate of Jesup W. Scott High School, and recalls the school being beautifully diverse.

“Today, Scott High School has predominantly African American students, but back when I was in attendance, Scott had an extremely

diverse pool of students,” she said. “It was interesting to be surrounded by so many individuals from different races, nationalities, and cultures.”

Even though she is now a retired government employee, Loretta still keeps herself busy. She devotes much of her time to the Rose of Sharon Holiness Church of God where she has served as the Assistant Pastor for nearly 53 years, and until recently, worked as the Kitchen Site Manager at the Renaissance Apartments through the Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio.

Mrs. Tucker has seen a lot of things in her day, but one change that really amazes her is how fast-paced life is now.

“Growing up there were nowhere near as many cars on the roads as there are now,” Loretta said. “And one thing is for sure, people seemed to be a lot calmer and slower paced compared to the ‘speedy gonzales’ generation of today.”

But fast or slow, Loretta's life all boils down to her family.

“I enjoy spending quality time with my loving family,” she said. “I’m getting up in age and each day I’m able to spend with my family becomes more of a blessing. Truly, I am grateful.”

# BEWARE OF THE IRS SCAM THAT COULD COST YOU THOUSANDS

By Fred Boyk



Attorney Fred Boyk

Tax season is stressful enough without the added fear of getting scammed.

If you get a call from an individual claiming that he or she is an IRS agent and there is a warrant out for your arrest for unpaid taxes, the caller is most likely an imposter.

This exact scenario happened twice to two of my clients this year. They were told to load money onto a prepaid debit card from Wal-Mart, and warned that they only had a couple of hours to do so. An "agent" would call back to get the debit card information, and claim that a federal officer would be taking them into custody if the transfer was

not made. These calls would come in over the weekend and outside of the IRS's normal business hours, so that the victims would not be able to contact the IRS to verify the agent's story.

Here are some important facts about the IRS to help the same scam from happening to you:

- The IRS alerts taxpayers of unpaid taxes in writing, not over the phone
- The IRS does not accept debit card numbers or wire transfers over the phone
- The IRS will never contact you by phone without your permission, and never on the weekends

In general, it is imperative to be very careful when dealing with an unknown person on the telephone. Authoritative, official-sounding voices may really be attempts to fraudulently induce you to turn over your hard-earned funds.

If you are not sure of the validity of a call demanding payment for a tax debt, contact your local police, the FBI, or the IRS at 1-800-829-1040.

## START HIGH SCHOOL'S STUDENT & TEACHERS OF THE MONTH



Corey Latimer and Mary Mandley

When English teacher Mary Mandley learned that she had been nominated by Freshman Corey Latimer for Teacher of the Month, she threw her hands in the air, gave Corey a big hug, and exclaimed, "I won! Yes! Corey, thank you so much! How sweet!"

We caught the heartwarming exchange on video, along with Corey's nomination video, so we could highlight how wonderful Ms. Mandley is.

"I wanted to nominate Ms. Mandley because she is fun, I love her class, and she is just amazing," Corey said. "She makes us all laugh."

Ms. Mandley took home a \$250 Visa gift card for being named Teacher of the Month, and Corey earned a \$50 gift card for his nomination.



Brandon Bowling and Todd Abbott

Senior Brandon Bowling was so in awe after learning that he had been selected as February's Start High School Student of the Month, and thus the recipient of a \$50 Visa gift card, that he wasn't quite sure if the award was real or a hoax.

"That is pretty cool," Brandon said. "Are you pranking me?"

Brandon beamed from ear to ear while nominating Electrical Trades teacher, Todd Abbott, shook his hand and thanked him for being a great asset to his class and to Start High School.

"Congratulations, Brandon," Mr. Abbott said. "Thank you for all of your hard work."

Mr. Abbott's nomination form also included some especially motivating words: *Brandon works every night from 4-11pm or 5-12pm, yet he comes to my class with unbridled enthusiasm. I think that this kind of determination and dedication to a goal should be rewarded. Brandon is a fine young man who will contribute greatly to the electrical trades and to society as a whole. He has a strong moral compass that guides him in all endeavors.*

Make sure to visit our YouTube channel, Charles Boyk Law Offices, and click on "Start High School" to view videos highlighting the students' and teachers' reactions to the nominations and winning.

## RECIPE: Katie's Kick-Butt Buffalo Chicken Dip

*Every time there is a potluck in the office, the Boyk Law staff begs Paralegal Katie Day to make her infamous dip. While we prefer it with tortilla chips, it can also be served with veggies or pita.*

### INGREDIENTS:

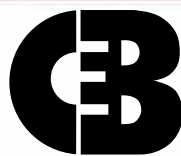
- 2 cans chunk chicken (10oz each), drained
- 2 packages cream cheese (8 oz each), softened
- 1 cup ranch dressing
- ¾ cup hot pepper sauce, like Frank's Red Hot
- 1 ½ cups shredded cheddar cheese

### INSTRUCTIONS:

Combine all ingredients in a medium saucepan and heat until melted and bubbly. Can also be added to a crock pot and cooked on Low for 3 hours.







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*First family photo: Norah, Emily, Josh, and Armani smiles during their baby shower thrown by Boyk Law*

## NORAH NAGEL BECOMES TINIEST MEMBER OF BOYK LAW FAMILY

As Boyk Law's video guru, Multimedia Designer Josh Nagel is used to being on the other side of the camera, not in front of it. But as he and girlfriend Emily welcomed their new baby girl into the world on March 5th, friends and family couldn't help but take lots of photos of him with beautiful Norah Rhyan Nagel.

Little Miss Norah was born at 8:47pm, weighing in at five pounds, nine ounces and she was just shy of 18 inches long.

Five-year-old big sister Armani can't get enough and constantly wants to hold Baby Norah.

"Armani kept telling people at the hospital that they were not allowed to keep Norah because she was her baby sister," Josh said. "It was pretty funny. We are so excited to finally have Norah here. Emily did absolutely amazing and is a great mom so far!"

**New address or phone number? Help us stay current by letting us know!**

Call Anneke at (419) 241-1395 or e-mail her at [marketing@charlesboyk-law.com](mailto:marketing@charlesboyk-law.com)

# CASES OF INTEREST: APRIL 2014

## Young Woman Is Transported By Lifeflight To Hospital After Accident With Semi-Truck

When a semi-truck pulled out in front of our client and caused a serious accident, the impact caused her to temporarily lose consciousness before she was life-flighted to a local hospital. Our client sustained a traumatic brain injury, as well as injuries to her knee, ankle, ribs, and finger, and she is currently treating with an orthopaedic surgeon. In addition to the physical problems she is facing, being trapped in the car after the accident caused post traumatic stress syndrome.

## Bicyclist May Need Surgery After Being Struck By SUV That Failed To Yield

What started out as a typical bicycle ride turned into near-tragedy when our client was hit while riding his bicycle by a driver of an SUV that failed to yield at a stop sign. Our client suffered a fractured ankle that required a cast and physical therapy, but failure to fully heal may mean that surgery could soon be required.

## Falling Cabinet At Hospital Leaves Visitor With A Traumatic Brain Injury

Our client was visiting a loved one at a local hospital when a supply cabinet fell, striking him on the head. He was treated at a different hospital for a traumatic brain injury and has had to undergo repeated MRIs and CT scans of his head, neck, and spine. The accident has caused severe headaches and the need for repeated follow-up treatment with a neurologist, as they are trying to assess the level of permanent damage.

