

The **BOYK** BULLETIN

CHARLES E BOYK
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Our 9th Bikes for Kids Summer Giveaway Has Concluded! Check Out Our Final Six Winners!

Each year, Boyk Law's Bikes for Kids program provides one bicycle to a deserving child each week of summer. We are so lucky to have such outstanding kids in our community who continue to make a positive impact in the lives of their parents, teachers, friends, family, and the community they live in. We received so many fantastic nominations that it was truly a challenge to choose our 11 winners this year. These final six winners received a free bicycle from Wersell's Bike Shop, compliments of Boyk Law, along with a free helmet and lock courtesy of Jill Wersell.



Week #6 – Cassie Paige, age 16, nominated by her parents Ray and Stacey Paige

Cassie is an amazingly brave young lady who has battled a rare autoimmune disease that she was diagnosed with in 2014. She needed a kidney transplant in 2015 and received her life saving kidney from her father, who was her organ donor. Ray says, "she is a true inspiration to so many in our community for her bravery, strength, determination and positive attitude through all that she has been through, she never gives up."



Week #7 – Timothy Porter, age 10, nominated by his mother Charlene Campbell

Timothy has overcome so many obstacles due to his Autism. His biological mother left when he was only four years old. With hard work from agencies, school, and family, he is a thriving boy and an "A" student. Charlene says, "We are totally blessed to have him in our lives."



Week #8 – Raeanne Schwiering, age 9, nominated by her mother Katie Katich

Raeanne's mother suffered a traumatic brain injury when she was involved in a tragic car accident that left her blind. Katie's condition requires daily sessions of repetition, memory, math and spelling cognitive "games." Raeanne takes on this "teacher" role with much pride to help her mother improve her condition. Katie says, "There is nothing sweeter in my life than to see my daughter stand up and take [my] hand and begin each day with encouragement and love."

Week #9 – James Merren, age 15, nominated by his sister Casey Merren

James is a hardworking kid who has been a main caretaker of his father who underwent major heart surgery that left him unable to walk or take care of himself. James has been the strongest link throughout all of this and never complains. He does all the yard work, cleaning up around the house, and taking care of their father. He also excels in all academics and plays baseball. His sister says, "Being 15, you should be able to have no worries, but he has been through many and is so deserving of this bike."



Week #10 – Alexis and Mercedes Fox, age 9, nominated by their grandmother Mary Jane Neumann

Alexis and Mercedes spend their summers selling lemonade and bracelets to raise money to donate to the Cancer Services of Erie County to help families who are battling cancer. They were initially impacted by the organization because of the assistance it provided their family during their grandma's battle with cancer. In addition to their lemonade and bracelet sales, the girls asked that their friends and family donate the money to the organization in lieu of gifts for their birthday, and also held a garage sale where they sold their toys and donated the proceeds. This year alone, they've raised over \$3,000. Mary Jane says, "I am so proud of Alexis and Mercedes, they have hearts of gold."



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Meet Boyk Law's Newest Attorney, Andrea R. Young



Boyk Law is excited to introduce its newest attorney, Andrea R. Young. Andrea was born and raised in Toledo and graduated from Roy C. Start High School. She received her undergraduate degree in Paralegal Studies from the University of Toledo before continuing on and earning her law degree

there as well. Andrea graduated magna cum laude in the top ten percent of her law school class and earned membership in the Order of the Coif.

Andrea has been drawn to the law since she was in college. She initially planned to work in the medical field but found she did not feel a passion for it. Once she signed up for an Introduction to Law class, she knew she had found the perfect match for her. Andrea worked for several years as a paralegal, including while she attended law school. She joins us now after becoming a licensed attorney in 2017 and spending the first years of her career at another firm. Asked why she chose this kind of work, Andrea says, "I chose to become a plaintiff's attorney because I know it's often a difficult and scary time for those injured and they need someone to guide them in the right direction. I am honored to be an advocate for those who require assistance."

Andrea lives in Waterville, Ohio and has three children. In her spare time, she enjoys bike rides with her family, rollerblading at the

local trails, or playing softball in the Greater Toledo Legal Community Softball League.

We are thrilled to have Andrea joining us here at Boyk Law. We know she will provide fantastic representation to our clients, and we can't wait to have her on our team!



RECIPE: Wanda's Weed Wacker Recipe

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 Gallon White Vinegar
- 2 Cups Epsom Salt
- ¼ Cup Dawn Dish Soap (The Blue Original)

INSTRUCTIONS:

Mix all the ingredients and shake it up. On a dry, full sun day, spray on weeds and walk away. A few hours later you will see your weeds fading.

This mixture is cheaper than any weed killer you can buy, and it is pet and kid friendly.

Safe Alternative to Roundup

Although Roundup was marketed and advertised to be safe and harmless to users, more and more research is coming to light that the herbicide Roundup is far more dangerous and toxic than the company led everyone to believe. Numerous research studies have found links between Roundup's active chemical – glyphosate – and certain cancers such as Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. There have also been recent discoveries that Monsanto, the maker of Roundup, orchestrated, guided, and funded political efforts to defund cancer research and intimidate and/or influence researchers investigating their controversial chemical compound. Bayer, which took over Monsanto last year, has recently announced plans to invest \$5 billion on developing new, safer ways to combat weeds over the next decade. In the meantime, try this vinegar, salt, and dish soap weed-killing "recipe."

The acid of the vinegar and salt work together to kill the weeds, while the soap helps in allowing the mixture to stick to the plant. Its effectiveness can be improved with stronger vinegar concentrations. Like with all herbicides, apply wearing protective clothing.





ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

Agreement by and between _____ of _____ of _____ in and to a ce

Q&A – Nursing Home Arbitration Agreements

Helping a family member through the nursing home admissions process is a stressful and emotional process. To take away some of the guesswork and stress, Attorney Katie Harris is here with a Q&A to answer a few questions about nursing home arbitration agreements and how they can take away a patient's legal rights:

Q: What is an arbitration agreement?

A: It's a contract where people agree in advance that if any dispute comes up between them, they will waive their right to have a jury decide who wins and instead go to an arbitrator.

Q: What does this mean in nursing homes?

A: When a patient or authorized representative signs an arbitration agreement, the patient loses their day in court in front of a jury if they are injured by the nursing home's negligence.

Q: When would this contract be presented?

A: The arbitration agreements are often included in admissions paperwork. They're easy to overlook and are often signed if someone is quickly going through papers and signing next to the "x" on a lot of different forms.

Q: Do I have to sign it in order for my mom or dad to be admitted to the nursing home?

A: Absolutely not. These arbitration agreements are voluntary, and you cannot be forced to sign one in order to get your loved one admitted.

Q: What else should I know?

A: You have a constitutional right to a jury trial if the nursing home injures you. Nursing homes do not want negligence cases in front of juries. They use these agreements to try to avoid it. When signing admissions paperwork, be alert for any document that says "arbitration" or talks about giving up legal rights. You do not have to sign it.

Benfield Wines Opens Tasting Room in Downtown Swanton

Boyk Law's very own nurse paralegal Julia Benfield and her husband of 20+ years, Rob, have opened a wine tasting room in Swanton! Benfield Wines originally started as a gesture of love, with Rob making wine for Julia and their friends about 15 years ago. After much encouragement from friends and family, the Benfields decided to turn their pastime into a family business. After initially selling online and privately, they operated at the corner of State Route 295 and Shaffer Road to be closer to their customers. Having quickly outgrown that space, they are excited to announce that they have opened a new tasting room at 102 N. Main Street in Swanton, Ohio. "We are proud to be part of the Swanton community and look forward to expanding our operations," says Julia Benfield, who adds that the small, veteran-owned business is "honored to be part of the amazing things happening in downtown Swanton!"

The new Benfield Wines tasting room will have room for small parties and events, art classes, and, of course, plenty of space for enjoying the wine selection, with plans and the space to grow even more in the future. It is a dream come true for Julia and Rob, and we can't wait to support them in their new location! Benfield Wines will continue to offer tastings Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, and to join us in supporting a member of the Boyk Law team, we hope you will make plans to check out the tasting room. You can visit www.benfieldwines.com and find them on Facebook and Instagram to learn more!



CASES OF INTEREST: SEPTEMBER 2019

Graduate Student Seriously Injured in "Chain Reaction" Crash on U.S. 23

Our client was just days away from moving to North Carolina and starting his graduate program when he was seriously injured in a multiple vehicle crash on U.S. 23 near Milan, Michigan. Our client had stopped, along with other traffic, for an accident ahead, when he was struck from behind by another car. The force of the impact pushed his car into the vehicle in front of him and that vehicle into the car in front of it. Our client suffered multiple fractures to his skull and head trauma that has left him with hearing loss.

Dog Bites, Severely Injures Child in Findlay

A 9-year-old girl was transported to Blanchard Valley Hospital after being bitten in the face by a dog in her Findlay home. According to her father, the girl was bitten by a Dalmatian. The dog's owner is close with the family and the dog was familiar with the little girl. The incident occurred when the dog approached the child and she reached out to pet it. While the dog did not display an indication of aggression prior to biting, the family subsequently learned from the dog warden that the dog has a history of aggressive behavior and has bitten other children in the past.

Bicyclist Seriously Injured After Being Struck by Car

A 59-year-old Toledo man was taken to the hospital with serious injuries after he was struck by a vehicle at an intersection in Sylvania Township. The driver of the vehicle failed to yield the right-of-way and abruptly turned into the bicyclist as he crossed through the intersection. Our client was transported from the scene by EMS with internal bleeding and organ damage.



CASE FILE

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Open it! Read it! Share it!

IN THIS ISSUE

- Bikes For Kids
- Meet Boyk Law's Newest Attorney, Andrea R. Young
- Wanda's Weed Wacker Recipe
- Q&A – Nursing Home Arbitration Agreements
- Benfield Wines Opens Tasting Room in Downtown Swanton
- September's Cases of Interest

September's Raving Fan of the Month

"Charles Boyk and his staff were amazing! They went over my case in depth until I understood what was going to be happening!! The harassment calls from the 'find an injury attorney' people stopped immediately!! Every and any question that I had was answered, and I had a lot! They gave me piece of mind by taking care of any bills that I may have received in the mail! I loved being able to text or email a copy to them. Especially from being in a lot of pain, it made it so much easier!

His staff is another amazing quality of Charles Boyk's office! Everyone is extremely friendly and the office itself seems like a huge family! They made me feel a part of the family that would be taken care of!

Thank you to Charles Boyk, Katie and Corey and the rest of his staff!! They are an amazing group and I wouldn't ever go anywhere else for my legal needs!"

-Carrie Tinsley

New address or phone number?

Help us stay current by letting us know!

Call Kristen Johnson at (419) 241-1395

or e-mail her at

marketing@charlesboyk-law.com

Rescue Dog Becomes Therapy Dog

Before being rescued at 4-weeks-old, Axel lived tethered to a car axel in a dark alley. Axel's first owners bought him from a man selling a litter of puppies out of a shopping cart at a corner store in Southwest Detroit. They wanted a dog for protection and planned to raise him outdoors, keep him tethered, and not allow anyone to socialize with him. Lacking pet ownership education, the owners believed this would make the puppy grow up aggressive and to be able to protect them. Upon witnessing what was happening, a nearby neighbor began talking to the family and educating them on pet safety and anti-tethering laws. The neighbor then contacted Sarah, who was involved with a rescue program. Together, the neighbor and Sarah convinced the family to surrender the puppy and Sarah began fostering him. Immediately upon settling into his new home with Sarah, Axel became visibly sick. After being rushed to the vet, he was diagnosed with Parvovirus and spent five days in the animal hospital and on IV medication.

Having nursed Axel to good health, Sarah began to train him on basic puppy obedience. After graduating from intermediate and advanced obedience classes, Axel and Sarah continued to more advanced training with the goal of Axel becoming a certified therapy dog. After two years of intense dedication and training, Axel is now a member of AKC Canine Partners, Canine Good Citizen Certified, Community Canine Certified, a Certified Therapy Dog, and a Promedica Therapy Dog Volunteer.

Axel works with senior citizens, sick individuals, and children with emotional needs. Although he seems to enjoy all of his work, Axel shines the most when he is working with kids. We're proud of how hard Sarah and Axel have worked and look forward to hearing about all this good boy will be doing!

