

Treasures

MatthewNoyes.com

727-796-8282

September 2016

Noyes Treasure

Don't worry, the summer heat is almost over! School is back in session and Christmas is less than four months away. OK, you can worry!

Great things are happening with the Noyes family! My lovely bride, Marti, celebrates her 25th birthday for a second time in September. Our son, Jacob, made the JV baseball team at St. Cecelia School. And . . . I will soon be a grandpa! Yes, Krystal and Dan are expecting their first child in March. What a blessing!

Family is a precious treasure. Yes, in some families, the coins may tarnish a bit, but with a little hard work, those coins will shine bright as new. If there is a coin in your family that needs polishing, take a moment to try to polish it before it is too late. I have represented too clients who lost a family member in a car accident or other accident and regret never being able to say good-bye. I have a "good-bye" rule both at home and at work. No one is allowed to leave without saying good-bye – just in case.

Polish your family treasures and stay tuned for updates on our new treasure coming in March 2017!

Classroom Treasure



School is back in session and all the hard working teachers are back serving their community. One such teacher deserving a spotlight is Chris Boulanger. Mr. Chris Boulanger is on the

Instructional Resource Team at Eisenhower Elementary School in Clearwater. His duties include monitoring student performance data to ensure all students are receiving the support they need to be successful as well as playing a role on the school's leadership team.

Mr. Boulanger has been teaching for Pinellas County Schools for over 13 years and Eisenhower Elementary has been lucky to have him for this whole time. Originally from Connecticut, Mr. Boulanger escaped the cold to attend Florida Southern College and later obtained his Master's degree from the University of Florida.

While some teachers try to take a break from kids during the summer, not Mr. Boulanger. Personally, I know Mr. Boulanger through his dedication as summer camp director for Camp Crusaders at St. Cecelia School in Clearwater. For the last four years, Mr. Boulanger has worked hard to create an environment that encourages fun, learning and creativity at Camp Crusaders. My son, Jacob, and all the kids love him and the parents know that with "Coach Chris" in charge, their kids are safe (and often exhausted after camp). In the past several years, there hasn't been a time that I have not seen Mr. Boulanger engage with the kids in a way that teaches the kids about respect and appreciation for others.

When not in the classrooms at Eisenhower Elementary or in the gym at St. Cecelia School during the summer, Mr. Boulanger enjoys time with his wife, young daughter and their loyal dog. As a small token of our appreciation for Chris Boulanger's dedication to teaching, we recently presented him with a Target gift card.

Thank you, Chris, and all the teachers who are treasures to our kids and our community. If you know a teacher or student who deserves spotlighting, please let me know at matt@matthewnoyes.com.

Jewel of Law Enforcement

Officer Janie Staples of the St. Petersburg Police Department is clearly a jewel in law enforcement. In fact, the State of Florida recently recognized it when she was named Police Explorer Advisor of the Year for the second time.



Officer Staples started as a Police Explorer when she was 14 years old and has been in law enforcement ever since. She became an officer in 1997 and worked patrol and the DUI Enforcement Unit. She also became a DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Officer in 2003. In 2009, Officer Staples became the Lead Police Explorer and proudly filled the shoes of the retiring Officer Mark Martini who was Officer Staples' advisor when she was a Police Explorer.

Officer Staples was named Police Explorer of the Year for 2012 and again in 2016. "I could not have earned either award without such great kids and support of other advisors," Officer Staples tells me. "The Explorer Program has turned out great officers throughout the country and I would not change anything. I could not have received both awards without the support of the police department and other advisors who assist our program. I plan on continuing to give back to the Explorer Program." This is truly a dedicated community treasure!

For those unfamiliar with the Police Explorer Program, this program allows young adults from ages 14-19 to discover what policing is really like. The program gives them the chance to work directly with police officers, go on ride-alongs, receive police training, and help out in the community.

Thank you, Officer Janie Staples for making a difference in the life of the kids in the Police Explorer Program and dedicating your life to make St. Petersburg and its surrounding communities a better place. As a token of our appreciation, I presented an Outback gift card so she can take her husband (who she met when she was an Explorer and who is now also in law enforcement) out for dinner.

If you know of a member of law enforcement who deserves extra recognition for their dedication to our community, please let me know so we can spotlight him or her in a later edition of *Treasures*.

Client Crystal

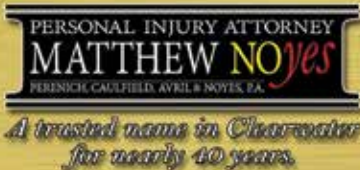
Our Social Security Disability Department helps clients at some of the roughest times of their lives. They are in pain, unemployed and often have difficulty making ends meet. The Social Security Disability process is a lengthy process and gray skies that loom over our clients often turn into dark stormy clouds before their SSD hearing is finally scheduled and heard. So, it is great when storms clouds give way to a brighter day.

This recently happened to two of our Social Security Disability clients. Laverne and Shirley (not their real names) worked hard for many years. Unfortunately, injuries occurred that forced them out of work. Both, for different reasons, were forced to apply for Social Security Disability benefits. "Laverne" worked in a factory for years. Before that, she worked at Wal-Mart and tended bar. Social Security Disability denied her claim thinking that she could return to bartending. We opened a file and began the battle. During

the battle, "Laverne" went without power for four months and almost had to live in her car. Then, Social Security Disability benefits were awarded. Laverne found out of the award when she went to deposit \$25 into her checking account to avoid an overdraft and found that Social Security deposited her back pay directly into her account. "I wanted to cry!" Laverne told our office.

Shirley's storm clouds were also erased after we battled for her Social Security Disability hearing. "Shirley" worked as a manager at bed & breakfast establishments. Sadly, she developed fibromyalgia which took her out of the work force. Social Security denied her claim, but we gathered the proper documentation and argued at the hearing. The Judge ruled in our favor and awarded back benefits and future Social Security Disability benefits to her. "I no longer dream at night about living in a box on the side of the road," Shirley tells us.

It is an honor to represent good people during dark times. Whether it is a SSD claim, car accident injuries, slip and fall, or work comp injury, my team and I get to meet wonderful people and we treasure the opportunity to help them.



MatthewNoyes.com
USALAW.com

727-796-8282



PERENICH, CAULFIELD
AVRIL, NOYES
Injury Attorneys Since 1955

Legal Nugget

After a car accident, three things that should be done:

1. Take photographs of the property damage and people involved. The more photos, the better.
2. See a doctor. If you wait more than 14 days to see a doctor, you will not get your PIP benefits.
3. Don't give a recorded statement without talking to a lawyer.

Focus on Community Riches

Thank you for taking some time out of your busy day to read this edition of *Treasures*. Our community has so much goodness in it, I feel it is important that we hear more about it. With the national and state news being so negative and politicians fighting for votes by being nasty to each other, we can sometimes become jaded. May this edition of *Treasures* remind us all that good people do great things every day. Their actions may not sell newspapers, but they do touch the people around us.

In this edition of *Treasures*, you will read big news about a little treasure. Don't skip over the big news!

I want to spotlight those you see making a difference in the community. It doesn't have to

be something spectacular because ordinary things done by good people make our community better. For example, one of my legal assistants was in Publix a few weeks ago to buy a sandwich for lunch when some stranger unbeknownst to her paid for her lunch. In turn, the next day, my legal assistant paid for the groceries of the little elderly lady behind her in the check-out line. That's what making a difference is all about!

Let's share these stories between us instead of the nastiness online and on the news. Share your story with me at matt@matthewnoyes.com and I will share it with others. Enjoy this edition of *Treasures* and all the treasures in your life and throughout Tampa Bay!

Matt

Recipe Riches

Halloween Cookie Pizza

(If it has cookie and pizza in the title, it has to be good!)

Ingredients:

1 roll (16.5 oz) Pillsbury™ refrigerated sugar cookies	½ cup chocolate chips or raisins
½ cup creamy peanut butter	¼ cup vanilla ready-to-spread frosting (from 1-lb can)
1 cup candy corn	

1. Heat oven to 350°F. Line 12-inch pizza pan with foil; grease foil with shortening. Cut cookie dough into 1/4-inch-thick slices; arrange in pan. With floured fingers, press slices to form crust.

2. Bake 15 to 20 minutes or until deep golden brown. Cool completely, about 30 minutes.

3. Use foil to lift crust from pan. Carefully remove foil from crust; place crust on serving platter or tray. Spread peanut butter over crust. Sprinkle

candy corn and raisins evenly over top.

4. In small microwavable bowl, microwave frosting on High 10 to 15 seconds or until thin and drizzling consistency. Drizzle frosting over cookie pizza. Cut into wedges or squares.



You Are Our Treasure

Your referrals continue to be one of the best ways for clients to find our firm.

As you may know, our firm helps those involved in the following:

- Car Accident
- Work Comp Claim
- Social Security Disability

I would be honored to assist your friends and family in any of these areas.