

# Treasures

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## Community Chest

It is a tradition for our office to decorate our halls each Christmas season. My team strives to be the best decorated wing in the office (I must say we win every year!). This year's theme was Christmas Books. Each office window was decorated in a different Christmas book theme. We had a Frosty the Snowman window, Polar Express, The Grinch, Charlie Brown's Christmas, Rudolph, the Nativity Story, and others. It has looked wonderful and joyful for many weeks.

At my legal assistant, Tisha's suggestion, we added something more to this year. Keeping with the book theme, we encouraged the attorneys and staff to donate books to give to deserving children. We were able to collect over 100 books which we presented to Eckerd Raising Hope (for children in foster care) and Family Resources (for runaway and homeless



children). My team and I loved giving back to our community.

Family Resources was a suggestion from one of my prior clients who works there (Thanks, Jennifer!). If you have suggestions on how to give back to the community, please email me at matt@matthewnoyes.com and I can share them with others.

## Client Crystal

As a personal injury attorney, I get to meet a lot of wonderful people. Unfortunately, usually after something bad happens to them. It is very rewarding to help everyone, but there are some clients who make our job even more special.

Helen is one of these clients. I represented her son in the past so he asked me to help his mom after a car accident. In our initial meeting, Helen was scared and uncertain about the process of a car accident claim. I remember her saying, "I just want someone to look out for me." We have done that and Helen has been so sweet throughout the process. She was nervous about her recorded statement, but handled it like a



trooper. She was so appreciative when we helped her with her property damage. Along the way, she has very good questions and is always so thankful to get the answers (even when they may not be the answers she wants to hear). After every conversation my legal assistant has with Helen, she tells me how sweet this client is.

Helen is still actively treating and we are not done with her case, but her genuine thankfulness every time we talk with her about her case deserves recognition. I am sure that if I asked her son, he would tell me that his mom is like this to everyone she meets. That makes her a true treasure!

It was an honor to represent your son and is an honor to represent you, Helen! Keep shining!

## Noyes Treasure

The last two months in the Noyes home was probably as crazy as it was at your home. The holiday season is such a wonderful time for family. We love Christmas (especially 10 year Jacob)! I hope your holiday season was full of happiness. If not, may 2017 bring you the happiness everyone should strive for.

As you will read in the Community Chest section, we always deck the halls in our office. My staff teases me that I have a little something from many of the past years' decorations hanging in my office year round. I tell them that they are reminders of the joy we feel during the Christmas season - that those feelings shouldn't just

be two weeks of the year, but should continue. Next time you are in my office, see if you can spot some of these reminders. Also, I encourage you to keep out one of your small decorations to remind you to have the Christmas spirit throughout the year.

In about eight weeks, things will certainly be different in the Noyes family. Our daughter, Krystal, and son-in-law, Dan, will have their first child - my first grandchild -- in early March. I cannot wait to welcome my granddaughter, Makenzie, to the family. Trust me, the next newsletter will have at least one photograph of Makenzie.

Happy New Year! Here's to 2017 being even better than 2016!

## A Business Gem



With New Year's resolutions fresh in our heads, I am sure some of us have the goal to eat healthier in 2017. This Treasures' Business Gem can help you with that.

Life Farms is a Christian organic method farm located in the heart of Pinellas County - off Sunset Point Road just east of U.S. 19. They have been growing nutrient dense vegetables, fruit, herbs and more since 2013 by using a wide range of organic fertilizers to grow food as nutrient-dense as possible. These nutrients are absorbed by you as you enjoy these foods - hence satisfying your new year's resolution.

Life Farm grows their veggies using organic methods and procedures operating as a CSA, Community Supported Agriculture. This is a member based organization. They have 2 levels of membership -- the half share, (2-3 adults) and the full share (4-5 adults). As a member, you pick up your veggies every week at the farm. So what you eat tonight was picked this morning.

Check them out at [www.lifefarms.net](http://www.lifefarms.net) or Like them on Facebook. Each week, they update the website as to what veggies are available. Even if you are not a member, check their farm out. It is located at 2759 Woodring Drive, Clearwater, FL 33759. Their telephone number is 727-754-2901.

If you know of another business gem, email me at [matt@matthewnoyes.com](mailto:matt@matthewnoyes.com) so I can share it with others.

## Legal Nugget

Fighting for Social Security Disability benefits is a long process. In St. Petersburg area, the average wait time for a hearing is 16 months (Florida's average is 19.8 months). In our area, there is a 50% approval rating (the average for Florida overall is 45%).

If you know someone who needs help obtaining SSD benefits, call us at 727-796-8282. We are here to help!

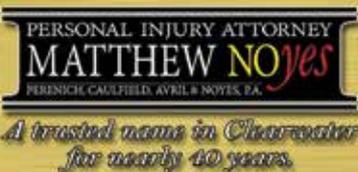


## Know a Treasure?

I am on the search for more local treasures. Do you know a treasure in your family or in our Tampa Bay community? If you wish to share by having me spotlight your treasure in an upcoming newsletter, send me the information through MatthewNoyes.com or email me at [matt@matthewnoyes.com](mailto:matt@matthewnoyes.com).

If I use your treasure in an upcoming Treasures newsletter, you will receive two tickets to a Tampa Bay Rays game.

Have fun finding those treasures!



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# Focus on Community Riches

I hope your holidays and New Year's were wonderful. Although we are back to the routine, I encourage you not to forget the good you may have experienced over the past few months. To me, it seems that the store clerk is nicer during the holidays, the waiter or waitress have a pep in their step, and people are generally kinder. May this behavior continue throughout 2017.

The New Year brings resolutions. My business resolutions include finding tastier recipes, more star students and teachers, and more unique businesses that can be highlighted in upcoming Treasures. Your help would be greatly appreciated. If you know a treasure in your family or community, please send me an email at [matt@matthewnoyes.com](mailto:matt@matthewnoyes.com) so I can share with others. Another resolution is to take steps to better serve my clients -- to be more accessible to my clients

and to show them that not all attorneys are unapproachable.

I truly hope you enjoy this edition of and the future editions in 2017. I hope my Treasures reminds you to look around our community and search for hidden treasures. There are many other avenues to tell you about the law or what's wrong with the community. I hope this year's Treasures provides an escape from all that. (If you want legal advice and answers, I am happy to give that to you outside of Treasures.)

Enjoy the articles inside this edition of Treasures and all the treasures in your life and throughout Tampa Bay!

Matt

## Recipe Riches

### 3-Ingredient Mini Heart Cherry Pies Perfect for Valentine's Day and Easy to Make!

#### Ingredients:

- 1 box Pillsbury™ Refrigerated Pie Crust, softened as directed on box
- 1 can (21 oz) cherry pie filling
- 1 egg
- 1 tablespoon water

- Heat oven to 400°F. Unroll pie crusts; use rolling pin to slightly roll dough out.
- Use 3-inch diameter round cutter to cut 12 circles from dough. Use small heart-shaped cutter to cut 12 hearts from remaining dough, rerolling scraps as needed.
- Press circles into 12 ungreased regular-size muffin cups; fill with pie filling. Top each with heart-shaped cutout.



- In small bowl, beat egg and water. Brush over crust on each.
- Bake about 20 minutes or until golden brown and bubbly.

## 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.