

# Treasures

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## A Business Gem



Homemade mozzarella. Homemade sausage. Yummy homemade desserts. These are just a few of the delicious items you can find at this Treasures edition's Business Gem – Felice's Italian Deli & Catering.

Felice's is a family owned business which just celebrated their 38th year in Pinellas County. They have two locations – Felice's Italian Deli & Catering at 29263 US 19 N. in Clearwater (near the Driver's License office) and A&N Italian Pork Store and Deli at 17960 US Hwy 19 N in Clearwater (just south of Bellair Road). Stop by either location and you will not be disappointed!

Mamma and company make the most delicious dishes. From sandwiches (the Romeo & Juliet - Felice's famous homemade sausage with grilled onions & peppers, light marinara sauce, mozzarella, romano and parmesan cheese - is my favorite) to dinner entrees (Penne alla Vodka being my favorite while Jacob loves the Stuffed Shells) to amazing balsamic vinegars that even have Mamma's face on it, you won't be disappointed. Let's not forget about desserts – with sfogliatella, cannoli, tiramisu, cheesecakes and much more, it's hard to choose a favorite!

Papà Felice and Mamma Nunziata came to America in 1967 from a town called Contursi Terme, a Province of Salerno near Naples, Italy and have worked hard and continue to work hard to make their American Dream come true! They and their family are truly treasures in our community who have blossomed by putting love into their food. If you haven't tried them yet, do it today. Check them out on Facebook to see photos of their yummy treats!



## Classroom Treasure

While some of us were worrying about our own social isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic, Ryan Day was thinking of others.

Ryan Day – a senior at Clearwater Central Catholic High School – was thinking about his grandfather and other lonely senior citizens in facilities. Ryan wanted to remind the residents that they were not forgotten so he created Senior Smiles, a non-profit organization aimed at easing the isolation faced by many senior citizens living in facilities.

Ryan's Senior Smiles sends weekly messages to residents at senior living facilities all over the United States. The messages are intended to let seniors know that they are being thought of during these times of isolation during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

In addition to brightening the residents' day, Ryan and Senior Smiles sends weekly messages to staff at senior living facilities all over the United States. The messages express gratitude for the dedication and care given to seniors to keep them healthy and safe during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Ryan, his younger brother and sister, and other students at CCC started creating artwork to accompany uplifting messages sent weekly to local seniors and their caregivers. In just a few short months, Ryan developed a network of over 1,700 facilities all across the country that receive his messages.

Ryan is truly a blooming seed who used the COVID-19 manure to make a difference in total strangers' lives. He also laid the seed in his younger siblings and his classmates for them to think of others. Ryan is truly a treasure in our community!

As a token of our appreciation to Ryan and his Senior Smiles, we are proud to present him with a gift certificate to Michael's Arts and Crafts so they can continue the great work they are doing.



## Dixie Dee's Diamond Advice

Happy Birthday to Dixie Dee who recently turned 8 years old! She and Lorrie had a little birthday celebration with one of her favorite treats – a Blueberry Muffin.

Speaking of treats, Halloween is coming next month. Although Halloween 2020 will likely be quite different from past Halloweens, Dixie Dee wants to give some advice on how to keep Halloween safe. Here are a few things that can be done for Halloween 2020 to still be fun:

1. Stick to outside trick-or-treating and go with a few people as opposed to bigger groups.
2. Wear a mask – Dixie Dee is sure that isn't the first time you heard that in the last few months.
3. Keep the swords, wands and tiaras from being passed around if you can. Ask each of your children to hold onto their own candy bags.

4. If you hand out candy, wear a mask. Be creative, but cover your nose and mouth and lick your paws (I mean wash your hands) frequently to ensure you're not accidentally bringing germs back into your house. It might be good to also disinfect your doorbells, buzzers or other high-touch surfaces outside your home.

Most importantly, drivers need to watch out for treat-or-treaters. Sadly, too many kids are injured on Halloween night. Although her "momma" is a car accident attorney, Dixie Dee doesn't want Lorrie to have to help families injured in Halloween car accidents.



## Jewel of a Joke

A family had twin 10-year-old boys. One was an optimist and the other a pessimist. The parents decided to do an experiment. They put the pessimist in a room full of the latest toys and gadgets and told him he can do whatever he wants. Then they closed the door. They put the optimist in a room full of horse manure and told him he has to stay there. Then they closed the door.

After an hour, they open the door on the pessimist

and the poor boy was rolled up in a fetal position, eyes red from tears. They asked him, "Why are you crying? You have everything here." The boy says, "I don't know how to play with all of them, and one of them may hurt me," and he starts crying some more.

Then they open the door on the optimist, and the boy is covered in manure, digging away with his bare hands, grinning from ear to ear. They asked him, "What are you so happy about?" The boy just smiled and said, "With all this horse poo, there's gotta be a pony in here somewhere!"



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## Bookshelf Treasures

Did you know that we have written a book on car accidents and two books on social security disability? If you would like a free copy of any of the books, avoid Amazon and send me an email at matt@usalaw.com.

## Focus on Community Riches

Thank you for taking time to read this edition of *Treasures*. There are some real good people spotlighted inside. I hope you enjoy it!

As a personal injury attorney, I meet a lot of good people after bad things happen to them -- a car accident, a work injury, a disability that prevents them from working. Their life had just been hit by a pile of manure. Likewise, during these uncertain and trying times, many people feel like manure is thrown on them and throughout our communities. It amazes me how

people deal with this manure. Some get down and feel trampled by the manure in their lives while others are like seeds that use the manure to blossom.

In this edition, I spotlight two seeds who blossomed by turning challenging times into opportunities. A high schooler who despite the manure caused by the COVID pandemic brightens the life of senior citizens. A family business who continued to stay open despite the pandemic's manure. Every day, I see clients who don't let their crash, injury or disability (the manure) take control of their life.

Sometimes life stinks, but I encourage you to not sweat the stinky stuff. Instead, use it to fertilize your life

to come out stronger, healthier, better than you were before. Who knows, maybe you will find that pony (see Jewel of a Joke inside). We all have fertilizer in our lives, but follow the words of advice found in Casting Crown's song, *Thrive*:

*It's time for us to more than just survive  
We were made to thrive*

Plug your nose because the stink will stop, but the treasures in your life and in your community will continue to grow with your support. Take time to look for treasures and find ways to be a treasure!

Matt

## Recipe Riches

### Leftover Halloween Candy Brownies!

NOT SURE WHAT TO DO WITH LEFTOVER HALLOWEEN CANDY? USE THIS RECIPE TO MAKE YUMMY, SOFT, BLONDE BROWNIES FILLED WITH TREATS YOU RECEIVED OR DIDN'T PASS OUT ON HALLOWEEN! FEEL FREE TO USE ANY VARIETY OF CANDY!

#### INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¾ cup packed light brown sugar
- ½ cup butter, softened
- ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 large egg

- ½ cup candy-coated milk chocolate pieces (such as M&M's®)
- ½ cup chopped peanut butter cups (such as Reese's®)
- ½ cup chopped chocolate-covered crispy peanut butter candy (such as Butterfinger®)
- ½ cup chopped milk chocolate candy bars (such as Hershey's®)

#### DIRECTIONS

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease a 9-inch square baking pan.
- Whisk 1 cup plus 2 tablespoons flour, baking powder, and salt together in a bowl. Beat brown sugar, butter, and vanilla extract together in a separate large bowl using an electric mixer until creamy; beat in egg.
- Gradually beat flour mixture into butter mixture until batter is just combined; fold in candy-coated milk chocolate pieces, peanut butter cups, chocolate-covered crispy peanut butter candy, and milk chocolate bars. Press batter into prepared baking pan.
- Bake in the preheated oven until golden brown, 20 to 25 minutes. Cool in pan for 10 minutes on a wire rack.

