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DIEHL & HUBBELL, LLC

304 E. Warren Street Lebanon, OH 45036-1854



Phone: 513-932-2121 Fax: 513-932-3355



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Please join us in congratulating Waynesville Elementary's Denise Hartzell on her selection as our Diehl & Hubbell Teacher of the Month for February 2023!

Marical Joy who was Denise's former student and became Denise's adopted daughter, told us that Denise is "literally an angel" who "changed the course of my life". Marical also made the statement "Thank you for recognizing her and all the amazing things she has done for not only me, but so many others. I'm merely a representation of the hundreds of lives she has touched over the years. Well done, mom Denise Hartzell. I love you!!" It doesn't get any better than that! Congratulations, Denise!



Pictured L to R: Teacher of the Month Denise Hartzell, Donna Diehl of Diehl & Hubbell, and Waynesville Elementary Principal Anna Garafolo.

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Pictured L to R: Son Carson, grandchildren Bella, Jax and Denise, Marical and daughter Bailey.

As always, you may nominate the most amazing teacher you know at:

www.diehlhubbell.com/monthly-teacher-appreciation-contest, or scan the QR code with your phone's camera and tell us why your favorite teacher stands out!

Maybe he or she will be our next winner

We Rise to the Challenge

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work for you.



Volume XVII Issue 3

A note from Tom . . .

DIEHL & HUBBELL, LLC

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304 E Warren Street Lebanon, OH 45036-1854 Phone: 513-932-2121 Fax: 513-932-3355

HOURS Mon-Fri 8am - 5pm



We also have additional locations to meet with clients including:

30 Garfield Place Cincinnati, OH 45202

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We will also come to you! diehlhubbell.com





Attorney Thomas J. Diehl

Happy Spring!

So Ohio's new "hand's free" cell phone law just went into effect on April 3. While it will be interesting to see how the Ohio courts interpret and



enforce the law, hopefully, it will have the desired effect of keeping Ohio drivers and passengers safer on the roads. See article inside for more information on the rules and exceptions to this new law.

We also look at how Black Box data is used in some of our

recent cases and the origin of the word bankruptcy. I hope you enjoy!

A special thank you to Karen Kress for contributing this month's recipe! In appreciation of her recipe's selection, we are sending her a \$50 gift card to her favorite grocery store! Keep those recipes coming—we know you all have great recipes to share! Remember, if we publish yours in our newsletter, we will send you a \$50 grocery gift card!

Tom











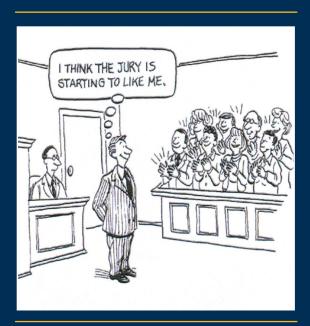
For Your **Recipes!** Submit your favorite recipe including all the ingredients and step-by-step instructions and if we publish it in our newsletter, Diehl & Hubbell will send you a \$50 grocery gift card.

JOKES AND PUNS

LOSING A CASE

A man sued an airline company after it mislaid his luggage. Sadly, he lost his case.

What did the judge exclaim when the skunk arrived in the courtroom? Odor! Odor in the court please!



WORDS: A LAWYER'S **STOCK IN TRADE** "BANKRUPTCY"

How the word bankruptcy became part of our language has a very interesting history. Obviously, bankruptcy is used now to describe a company or a person whose debts or obligations far exceed their ability to pay. But how did we get there?

The word bankrupt comes from the Italian banca rotto, which roughly means broken bench. In ancient Italy, money dealers worked from tables, or benches. When a money dealer ran out of money, his bench would be broken to signify that he was no longer allowed to deal money.

WHAT WE HAVE BEEN **WORKING ON:**

HOW WE ARE PRESERVING EVIDENCE AND MAKING SURE WE CAN PRESENT THE **BEST CASE POSSIBLE**

We are involved in a case right now in which our client, driving late at night, on a rural road, crashed into a semi that was backing up from one road onto another. Our client was badly injured in this accident. The state patrol cited our client for failing to allow an assured clear distance ahead. (This is what you get charged with, if you run into the rear of another vehicle.) We are convinced that the semi-tractor was illegally backing up across the road and was in violation of a number of commercial carrier regulations. Promptly after being retained on this case, we obtained, analyzed and secured the event recorder data from our client's car and will be able to show that our client was, in fact, operating at a safe speed at all times during this encounter with the semi-trailer.

We are also involved in a case in which our client was badly injured in a highway motor vehicle accident and suffered significant lower leg injuries, requiring multiple surgeries. We are preserving evidence, and making sure we can present the best possible case for a client by utilizing the services of an experienced litigation videographer who is recording important milestones in our client's treatment and recovery. The videographer is recording our client's physical therapy visits and examinations with orthopedic surgeons and recording normal typical daily living activities. We will have powerful video evidence of our client struggling with activities like going up and down stairs, getting in and out of a car and just trying to handle every day normal living requirements.

We hope this recipe will help make busy weeknights a little bit easier! A healthy, spring-inspired dinner baked in under 30 minutes! All can be made on a single sheet pan, with very little fuss and even less cleanup! Recipe submitted by Karen Kress.

Ingredients:

- 4 salmon fillets
- 1 lb asparagus 2 lbs baby red or gold potatoes - quartered
- Veggies of choice 3 Tbs olive oil
- salt & pepper to taste 2 tsp Italian herb blend 1 tsp garlic powder
- 2 Tbs butter melted 2 Tbs honey

1 tsp dijon mustard ½ tsp Italian herb blend ½ lemon - thinly sliced



CHANGE IN OHIO TRAFFIC LAW: AM I BREAKING THE LAW BY DRIVING WITH AN APPLE WATCH?

Ohio recently enacted a law prohibiting the use of handheld electronic devices while driving. Ohio Revised Code Section 4511.204 provides "No person shall operate a motor vehicle on any street, highway or property open to the public for vehicular traffic while using, holding or physically supporting with any part of the person's body an electric wireless communication device." This is a primary offense which means that the police may stop and detain you if they believe you are violating this law. The police officer must actually see you violating the law before they can stop you. This offense it is

considered to be an unclassified misdemeanor. The first offense can result in a fine of up to \$150 with two points assessed. Points and fines go up after each conviction. A third conviction in two years can result in a fine of up to \$500, a license suspension for ninety days and four points.

It is interesting to note that the law applies to more than just cellphones. Any electronic wireless device such as a laptop or a computer tablet applies. Would an Apple Watch be considered a handheld electronic device? A strict reading of Ohio Revised Code Section 4511.204 would lead one to say yes because an electronic wireless device is defined as any device capable of displaying a video, movie, broadcast image or visual image or any wireless device designed to communicate texts or initiate or receive communications. A person driving while wearing an Apple Watch would technically be violating the law.

A person violates this new texting law if they use a wireless device and that device is touching any part of their person while they are driving. There are a few exceptions. You are allowed to use the device while you are in a car to contact law enforcement or to call a hospital or healthcare department during an emergency. Additionally, you may use a wireless device if your vehicle is stationary and outside the lanes of travel or if you are at a red light or stop sign.

Ohio drivers are allowed to use the handheld device for navigation purposes but they may not manually enter letters, numbers or symbols into the device or hold or support the device with any part of their body while they are driving. Swipe only!!

It will be interesting to see how Ohio courts interpret and enforce this law designed to prohibit texting and driving.

CAR ACCIDENTS-WHAT TO DO-TIP#16 CONSIDER **RETAINING 'BLACK BOX DATA"**

Most vehicles now have "black box" similar to aircraft flight recorders. These are called event data recorders (EDR). The National Highway traffic safety administration, defines an EDR as a device installed in a motor vehicle to record technical, vehicle, and occupant information for a brief period of time before, during and after a crash. Every new vehicle manufactured after September 1, 2014 must be equipped with an EDR.

Typical data being recorded on these devices, include vehicle, speed, throttle position, airbag deployment times, brake, application and seatbelt, use, engine, speeds, steering angles, and more. IF the black box is retrieved promptly the data can be analyzed. Of course, the data comes at a cost — hiring automotive technology

experts to retrieve all the data entries, interpret the data, and to draft an expert report. Typical charges for this type of service are \$2000-\$10,000. However, the technology is becoming cheaper and cheaper as it becomes more ubiquitous.

In cases where determining what party is responsible for the car accident will be an issue, our office is routinely retrieving the black box data for evidentiary purposes. In the "How We Are Preserving Evidence" article opposite this page, we discuss the use of black box data in two cases we are working on.

Sheet Pan Salmon & Veggies

- Bake for 15 minutes until asparagus and potatoes are fork-tende and salmon is cooked through. Serve immediately.

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Toss potatoes and veggies (bell pepper, onion) with 2 Tbs olive oil, salt & pepper to taste, garlic powder, and 2 tsps Italian herb blend. Arrange on a large parchment lined sheet pan and bake in preheated oven for 10 minutes.

Arrange salmon fillets and asparagus on the sheet pan. Whisk together melted butter, honey, dijon mustard, and 1/2 tsp remaining Italian herb blend. Brush onto salmon fillets.

Drizzle asparagus with remaining 1 Tbs olive oil, season with salt & pepper to taste and place lemon slices between the asparagus



