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Welcome Jodie and Skye to the MLG Staff!



Jodie, her daughter Madison, dog - Kato and cat - Milo

Name: *Jodie Whaley*
Position: *Intake Specialist*

Family Info:

I have 3 children and 5 grandchildren.
Education: *Graduated from Liberty High School*
Where Do You Live: *Live in Bridgeport, grew up in Clarksburg*
Favorite Indoor/Outdoor Activity: *I love to swim.*
One Thing You Cannot Live Without: *My family is the most important thing to me.*
What is One Thing You Cannot Resist (food or otherwise): *The beach, I love it and like to go every chance I get.*
Best Place You Traveled to and Why: *The Bahamas. The beaches are amazing, the water is clear blue and the residents are warm and friendly.*
What is the Best Gift You Ever Received? *The best gift I ever received are my five grandchildren. Each and everyone is very special to me and I cherish the moments I get to spend with them.*



Skye outside MLG offices

Name: *Skye Feather*
Position: *Legal Assistant*

Family Info:

Husband- David (Active duty- United States Navy)
Daughter- Haley (8 years old)
Education: *2001 Graduate of East Fairmont and Associate in Paralegal Studies from Pierpont Community and Technical College*
Where Do You Live: *Fairmont*
Favorite Indoor/Outdoor Activity: *Traveling mostly around the state. I love exploring the eccentric little wonders of West Virginia.*
One Thing You Cannot Live Without: *Sunglasses, I wear them year-round.*
Best Place You Traveled to and Why: *Toronto, Canada - saw Phantom of the Opera at the Princess of Wales Theatre*
What is the Best Gift You Ever Received? *A perfect replica of the snow globe I had when I was a child. That snow globe was my favorite thing, and when it broke I was devastated. Last Christmas my siser replaced it with a perfect duplicate.*



The Miley Legal Group would like to thank everyone that provided referrals to our office this past month:

Josh G.
Mark H.
Nancy S.
Janeen R.
Kassi E.





MLG and WBOY Celebrating Volunteers

Elizabeth Sorensen of Learning Options, Inc.



“Education is the foundation that will move our state forward,” states Tim Miley. That’s not just a political mantra, it is something that not only is supported by action, but is encouraged through recognition of organizations and volunteers throughout our community.

Organizations like Learning Options, Inc., whose mission is to “promote and expand in-depth study and exploration focused on the needs and interests of learners in our region,” place focus on Arts and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) principles in education. Through unique and diverse programs, Learning Options provides many resources to not only further the education of children in our region, but also resources to parents and educators that assist students that need additional educational support.

Through their programs, Learning Options makes opportunities available that offer hands-on experiences for students in our region. Through programs like the Lego Leagues, Zero Robotics, and Art in the Park, children gain

knowledge and experience in the STEM and Art areas. This not only encourages immediate educational growth but provides an outlook for future opportunities and potential career choices. Students that may not have had these experiences otherwise see what is available to them and what they can potentially accomplish later in life.

This dedication to the STEM, Arts, and our children require hours and hours of volunteer work. Learning Options volunteers provide instruction for classes, workshops, camps and also provide resources for schools, agencies, and families. They offer referral resources for tutoring, assessment, curriculum, and other programs. Volunteers are utilized to deliver a majority of their programs that are financially supported through grants and fundraisers.

Learning Options, Inc.

come grow with us!



Elizabeth Sorensen is one of Learning Options volunteers. She has dedicated her work to the organization for many years, working to assist in the development of the programs offered and even serve as an instructor for some. This hard work and dedication is why The Miley Legal Group and WBOY-TV has selected her as this month’s Celebrating Volunteers winner.

“Some of our programs that we offer provide education through hands-on experiences like Lego Leagues and Zero Robotics,” stated Elizabeth Sorensen. “Children come to us for an experience that impacts them for years. I have seen students come through our programs that have led them to go to college or learn a trade. The impact that Learning Options has reverberated throughout our community.”

Recent Victories

- ✓ We assisted a local family get back to normal after a serious accident that resulted in a number of injuries.
- ✓ An accident claim that we had been working on for several months ended recently when the insurance company finally agreed that their insured was at fault.

Recent Google Review:

★★★★★ “We came to The Miley Legal Group after a car hit my husband. [Keith] treated us with dignity and respect and our case was dealt with seriously. We were very happy with the outcome of our case. We highly recommend The Miley Legal Group”

-Danielle J.

Learning Options as a 501(c)(3) organization raises funds through the United Way in both Harrison and Marion Counties. All of their funding is provided through public and private sources, and they heavily rely on contributions from the community.

“The programs offered by Learning Options have a significant impact on our kids,” stated Marisa Matyola of WBOY-TV. “I have seen a few of the programs first hand and know the excitement and intrigue it creates with each participating student. Sparking an interest in STEM programs or the arts allows for our kids to make educated choices for their futures.”

“Elizabeth, through her work with Learning Options, provides a service to the community that fills a void. With ever-increasing reductions in public education funding which leads to cuts in Art, Music and even some STEM classes, Learning Options is attempting to fill a void that is desperately needed by our kids,” and her facility provides a service that is not found in other areas of the state,” stated Tim Miley, owner of The Miley Legal Group. “As I have stated hundreds of times, education is the key to the development of our region and the state as a whole and Learning Options further assists in that endeavor.”

To learn more about Learning Options, Inc. and their programs visit their website at LearningOptionsInc.org or “Like” their Facebook page at facebook.com/learningoptionswv.

The Celebrating Volunteers awardees receive public recognition for not only themselves but their organization. They also receive a \$500 contribution to the organization they represent in their name. Learn more at MileyLegal.com

Recipe of the Month:

Old Fashioned Gingerbread

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 egg
- 1 cup molasses
- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 tsp ground ginger
- 1/2 tsp ground cloves
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 cup hot water



Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour a 9-inch square pan.
2. In a large bowl, cream together the sugar and butter. Beat in the egg and mix in the molasses.
3. In another bowl, sift together the flour, baking soda, cinnamon, ginger, and cloves. Blend into the creamed mixture. Stir in the hot water. Pour into the prepared pan.
4. Bake 1 hour in the preheated oven, until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean. Allow to cool in pan before serving.

Recipe & Picture Courtesy of Allrecipes.com. Submit recipes to mlg@mileylegal.com

Holiday Words of Encouragement

"I bring you the most joyful news ever announced, and it is for everyone! The Savior, yes the Messiah, the Lord, has been born tonight in Bethlehem"
- Luke 2:10-11

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."
- John 3:16

"Christmas is the season for kindling the fire of hospitality in the hall, the genial flame of charity in the heart."
- Washington Irving

December Cases of Interest

Pedestrians Struck in Local Parking Lot:

Parking lots are one of the more dangerous areas when it comes to accidents and injuries. In fact, one out of every five car accidents take place in a parking lot. This statistic has hit close to home for two of our clients, who were struck by a truck in the local Goodwill parking lot. Unfortunately, the impact was so hard that one victim was thrown approximately five feet from the initial impact site. Each victim received extensive injuries, including a broken wrist, fractured pelvis, strained muscles, and bumps and bruises that could require possible surgery and painful physical therapy.



Drunk Driving Leads to Car Accident on I-79:

Interstate driving is always dangerous, especially when you consider the higher rate of speed that most vehicles are traveling, but when you add drunk driving to the mix, disaster is inevitable. Our client met a disaster when traveling through our area from out of state. Specifically, when she was driving through the Interstate 79/68 interchange, she was struck by a drunk driver from behind.

As her vehicle was being pushed into more traffic, our client's primary concern was her daughter who was in her car seat in the back of the vehicle. The Monongalia County Sheriff responded to the accident and both our client and her daughter received treatment for a number of injuries. The driver of the other vehicle was arrested and charged with DUI. The criminal process for her is currently underway, as our client continues to sort through the aftermath.

The greatest compliment we can receive is the referral of your family and friends.

Pet Peeves: Holiday Time!

Hello Friends! It's the holiday season, and there will probably be a lot of visitors at your home for get-togethers. We wanted to help out our fellow furry friends and give them some advice on dealing with these home-intruders!



- #1 Not all strangers appreciate kisses.
- #2 Be nice, even if the intruders sit on your favorite spot on the couch!
- #3 Do not eat off the buffet table or coffee table or kitchen counter....
- #4 Feel free to beg for goodies, but do it in a subtle way.
- #5 A big man in red might show up and be very loud, don't bite him.
- #6 Have fun and enjoy the holiday season with your family!



Love Mia & Dexter



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*Check out our blog at
 MileyLegalBlog.com*



*Merry Christmas
 & Happy New Year!*

Give this newsletter to a friend. They will thank you for it and so will I.

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2018 Annual Harrison County Toy Run



“Thank you to all who participated and made this event a wonderful success!”

- Cara Miley,
 Organizer