

NEVER SETTLE FOR LESS

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Ant Bites and Bike Rides

My daughter recently learned how to ride her bike. If you've ever taught a child how to ride a bike, you know this is quite an accomplishment—for both the parents and the child. She's had a 'big girl bike' for quite some time now and half-heartedly tried riding a few times. Some people said it would "just happen," but we had a deadline coming up—a family trip to Edisto—and she needed to be able to cruise solo by then.

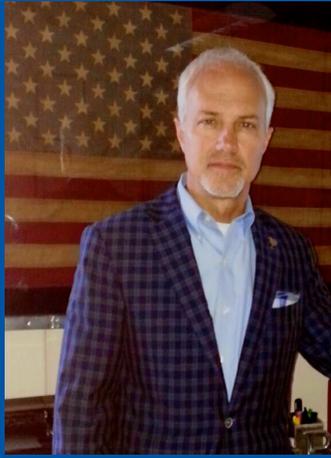
The first warm day after school, we walked out to the backyard. I decided I was mentally prepared to encourage her and be patient with her as we tackled this task. She decided she was ready to learn how to ride.

She hopped on her bike, I walked behind holding on, let go, and she fell. We did that again. We did that 500+ more times. There were tears. There were negative words, "I can't do it. I'm never going to learn." (MY GOSH—BIKE TRAINING IS SO MUCH HARDER THAN POTTY TRAINING!) Probably as frustrated as she was, but not crying because I'm a grown-up, I suggested we take a break. We sat down in the grass, and, in moments, began laughing and being silly. We both lie down in the grass and started to look at the clouds. In no time at all, we were covered in ants. We jumped up, brushed off the ants, and decided we better get back to work.

When she was back on the bike, I thought I needed to give her one last pep talk if we were going to make this happen. All I said was, "I believe you can do this. Get back on your horse and ride." (Pretty Hollywood sounding, right?) For some reason it worked. She pushed off, I let go, and she did it. Then she did it again. And again. And again. And again. Man, I was proud. So was she. Her daddy and sister cheered, she showed the neighbors, we called the grandparents. It was on.

That night, we were all exhausted. I'm not sure who was more proud, but I couldn't stop thinking about the day. I'm positive that my seven-year old girl would still lead a successful life had she never learned to ride her bike. But then I think about all she can enjoy now that she knows how to ride. Ain't life like that? You want something, but you get discouraged. And unless an ant bites you and gets you off your rear-end, you'd just lie there dreaming about what could've been. I hope you get your ant bites. And I hope you have an encourager in your life, too. **Some things in life don't "just happen," you gotta brush off the ants, believe in yourself, get back on your horse and RIDE.**
-Linzie Batchelor





What's David Doing?

It is SPRING and time for everyone to get outside, except for the 'jail birds.' You already may be thinking that 'jail birds' is a harsh label. Why? You and I know there is a simple way not to be labeled a 'jail bird' – Stop breaking the law.

Speaking of breaking the law, would you steal if that was the only way you could feed your kids? My business law class at USC–L debated this question and unanimously agreed that we all would. Does this make us bad people? Does it make those who have done this bad people? I don't know that answer, but I truly believe feeding, clothing, and sheltering children means more than going to jail.

Soon, I will be talking about a way to help these people so the kids will be fed and the ones taking care of them, even if they had to steal to do so in the past, won't have to be called 'jail birds' for that reason in the future.

The BEST Thing about Spring...

My favorite part about Spring is that it motivates me to stay in shape. -Dana Stogner

Hiding from the lawn mower. -Charles Deese

...the warm sun and the cool breeze! -Linda Blackwell

My favorite thing about Spring is the warmer temperatures so my elementary "kids" can go out to recess finally! ILE loves Spring!! -Beth Blum

Relaxing on the deck with my family, softball with my daughter, turkey hunting, fishing, and warms afternoon jogs -Tony Pope

I like the weather—not too hot, not too cold. -Kelly Thomas

Everyone is outside walking, talking, and cooking out, so you see and speak to more people and feel more connected. -David Blackwell

When Someone Else is to Blame for a Wreck

You have two choices:

1. Depend on the other driver to have enough liability insurance to fully compensate you for your injuries.

Many people have found out that this is not a good plan. Since the minimum liability coverage in SC is only \$25,000, it doesn't take much of a wreck to exceed this amount of coverage.

2. Buy the right amounts of coverage to protect your family and you.

My recommendation is that you buy enough uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage to protect you and your family. In addition, you may want to strongly consider Personal Injury Protection (PIP) coverage and GAP coverage. Want more information? Get a free copy of my new book. Stop by or email dana@davidblackwelllaw.com

Easter Pine Trees

Ever noticed the pine tree crosses on Easter Sunday?

Pine trees start their new growth in the weeks before Easter. If you look at the tops of the pine trees two weeks before, you'll see the yellow shoots. As the days get close to Easter Sunday, the tallest shoot will branch off and form a cross. By the time Easter Sunday comes around, you will see that most of the pine trees will have small yellow crosses on all of the tallest shoots.



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What's Up...

We enjoyed
Caroline Sizemore
spending the day with us
on Job Shadow Day!



A Lawyer's Look At

Buying Car Insurance

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR FAMILY AND YOURSELF



Includes Information on How To:

Protect Assets
Cover Medical Bills
Receive Full Compensation For an Injury & Your Car

David R. Blackwell

Scratching your head
about buying car
insurance?

Stop by and pick up a free
copy of our new book!
Can't get by the office?
email

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Springtime Hacks

Got a new pair of shoes that are hurting your feet? Put menthol rub on your feet before you wear them.

Boiling eggs for Easter? Place a wooden spoon across the pot and it won't boil over. Also, when finished boiling, quickly place the eggs in ice water before peeling--it makes the shells come off faster!

Clean the grill with an onion! While the grill's still hot, take a freshly halved onion, stick it on a fork, and use the cut side to scrub residue off the grate. The oils in the onion will take care of most, if not all, of the grit without the elbow grease. They'll also season the grill and add some flavor to your next meal, too.



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