



NEW BEGINNINGS AND SURPRISING LASTS

WHY WE CELEBRATE THE MILESTONES

A few weeks ago, my family moved into our new home. We spent months renovating the house, and now it looks beautiful, thanks to Nicole, who designed everything immaculately — right down to choosing just the right new furniture!

Up until the move, Nicole and I had been using the same furniture we each brought into our marriage. Some of the pieces had been with Nicole for at least 15 years! But when we got married seven years ago, we knew we wouldn't be staying in the place we were at for very long. We wanted to wait until we were settling into our permanent home so we could really make it a fresh

start. I'm glad we waited, because it was pretty cool to go through all the mementos of our life so far and decide what we would bring into the next chapter.

It's crazy how much stuff you accumulate! We threw away at least eight dumpsters' worth of stuff we couldn't get rid of or donate, and we still found ourselves keeping things we don't really need anymore. Nicole held onto one box labeled "A ton of baby clothes I'm too sentimental to let go of." I certainly don't blame her. There were plenty of things I wanted to keep around just for the memories. For example, we finally had to donate our baby carrier because we couldn't remember the last time we had Harlow in it.

Packing and moving our entire life made Nicole and me realize how many milestones our family has been through that we didn't even notice, like Harlow growing out of the baby carrier; or the last diaper we ever changed; or the fact that, at some point, Finn stopped calling flamingos "flingalingos." I mean, I'm proud of him for learning how to say the word correctly, but his mispronunciation was so cute!

As parents, we anticipated a lot of firsts, like the first words or the first day of preschool, but what about the lasts? Moving into our new home signaled a great new chapter in our lives, but the truth is that we're

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entering new stages as a family all the time. Change happens every day as my kids grow up in ways that are big and small. There are a lot of lasts we don't get the chance to memorialize because they happen in the blink of an every happen in the blink of an every last and the stages.



I love Nicole so much, and this move reminded me that we have such a beautiful life together. Now we're in the home where our kids will spend their whole childhoods, and I am so excited for the milestones to come.

bed." You can bet we celebrated that milestone.

-Case Barnett



Finn checking

big boy bed on

move-in day!

out his new

MAKELIKE A TREE

The Best Fall-Themed Leaf Crafts

Summer is over, and when there's a chill in the air, it's tempting to stay inside all day. Don't let your family hibernate in front of a screen for the next six months. Get active with these fun crafts, using the most abundant resource of the season: leaves!

A Craft for Kids: Leaf Critters

With this fun project, the leaves in your backyard transform into works of art featuring your kids' favorite animals.

Materials

- Paper
- Glue
- Lots of leaves

Directions

- 1. This project works best with leaves of different shapes and sizes. Does that big, round leaf look like a squirrel tail? Is there a long, skinny leaf that would be perfect for a butterfly's body? Let your kids go through the leaves and think of what masterpiece they can create.
- 2. It helps to arrange all the leaves on a piece of paper first, then glue them down once your child knows how they want to piece their creation together. Cover the whole side of each leaf with glue and press it firmly onto the paper so that it lies flat. Repeat until all the leaves are glued down. Place the critter somewhere safe to dry before hanging it up for all to see.

A Craft for Grown-Ups: Clay Leaf Bowls

These simple little bowls bring an elegant touch of fall to the indoors and can be used to hold candles, keys — or pretty much anything!

Materials

- Air-dry clay
- Leaves
- Clay roller

- Clay scissors or craft scalpel
- Aluminum foil

Directions

- 1. Roll your clay out to a 1/4-inch thickness and place each leaf, vein side down, onto the clay. Run your roller over the leaf, pressing it into the clay and making your clay thinner at the same time.
- 2. Cut the excess clay from around the leaf to produce the desired shape.
- **3.** Create a small bowl out of aluminum foil to cradle the clay leaf while it dries into a bowl shape. Remove the tree leaf and let the clay dry overnight. Be sure to flip the clay over at some point so the underside dries too.
- **4.** Once the clay is dry, you can paint your bowls or coat them in a clear varnish to enjoy a minimalist look.

Who says the fun has to end with summer? With a little imagination and a whole lot of leaves, your family can create amazing works of art together!

SUCCESS STORIES

"From the very beginning, Case was extremely thorough and mindful of the fact that, as someone who had never been in trouble with the law before, I would need the entire process explained again and again. Case was compassionate about my situation to a degree not normally seen in any capacity, which very much helped to put me at ease during the various legal proceedings. After almost a year-long process and many difficult days in court, we went to trial. As a non-lawyer, I know that I can't accurately describe how impressive it was to witness Case in trial. What I can say is that he had a mastery of the facts down to the smallest detail, and that required a level of commitment not normally seen in any profession. The jury was out for less than two hours before we returned to hear the life-changing verdict. Case dedicated himself to understanding every facet of the case; because of that, my future remains intact. I owe my life to Case Barnett."

-Edward S.

"I highly recommend Case and his staff for any personal injury lawsuit. Case understands that the insurance companies use delay tactics to frustrate the client into settling for less than their case is worth. Case will fight as long as it takes so that you get a fair settlement."

-Anthony G.



Reminder About Our Firm's Communication Policy: Our promise to you is that we don't take inbound calls or emails while we are working on your case. Case Barnett takes no inbound unscheduled phone calls whatsoever. It makes him much more productive and helps get your case resolved faster. You can always call the office at 949-861-2990, and schedule an in-person or phone appointment, usually within 24-48 hours. This is a lot better than the endless game of "phone tag" played by most businesses today. Remember, too, that email is "quick," but is checked no more than twice a day. Replies are then scheduled into the calendar. So, if it's really important, don't email — call the office instead.



A Surprise at Our New House



I'm Finn Barnett, and my family recently moved into our brandnew house! This is the house where our olive tree has been living since we picked it out in the spring, and I'm happy it doesn't have to live alone anymore. My mom and dad worked on putting our new house together for a very long time, and right from the start, I could tell living there was going to be an adventure.

The morning after we first moved in, we woke up to

discover we suddenly had an indoor waterfall. I guess there was something wrong with the plumbing because pipes started leaking over the garage.

It looked really cool. I've never seen so much water raining down from the ceiling. I was excited to go to school and tell all my friends and teachers about the waterfall in my garage! My mom and dad weren't as excited about the waterfall as I was. We'd just moved a whole bunch of boxes into the garage, and a lot of stuff got really wet. Luckily, we were able to get some great big blowers to help dry everything off before mold could start growing. It took a little time, but it's all cleaned up now.

I was a little sad we couldn't keep the waterfall, but there are a lot of other cool things about the new house, like my new bedroom! I got to move out of the crib and into my very own big-boy bed. It's so cool. I'm basically a grown-up now. And I get to decorate my new room, too — with my mom's help, of course.

Even though my sister still has a crib, I think Harlow likes the new house too. It's a great place to explore and play hide-and-seek. I think we're going to have a lot of fun there. After waiting for so long, I'm happy to finally be at our new house!



Inside-Out Grilled Ham and Cheese

Ingredients

- 8 slices of bread (Pullman works best)
- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1/2 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese (preferably Parmigiano-Reggiano)
- 8 ounces ham, thinly sliced
- 1/2 pound Swiss cheese, sliced
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 1/4 cup apricot preserves

Directions

- 1. Butter each slice of bread on the outsides and sprinkle with Parmesan.
- 2. Layer ham and cheese evenly on top of 4 slices of bread.
- 3. Spread apricot preserves and mustard across the other 4 slices. Press sandwiches together.
- 4. In a cast iron skillet or large sauté pan over medium heat, grill sandwiches until golden, about 3 minutes per side.
- Cut in half and serve.

am and cheese

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Page 1

Milestones We Miss

Page 2

Fall Fun for the Whole Family

Hear From Our Clients

Page 3

Finn's Indoor Waterfall

Inside-Out Grilled Ham and Cheese

Word Search

Page 4

Falsities You've Been Told About Jury Duty



SUMMONED TO COURT JURY DUTY MYTHS

There are so many rumors about jury duty that it can be difficult to know which ones are true. Here are three of the most popular speculations, debunked.

ADMITTING BIAS WILL ENSURE YOUR DISMISSAL

If you admit that you are biased when you serve jury duty, it does not guarantee your dismissal. In fact, a judge cannot dismiss you for being biased — but an attorney can. In addition, attempting to portray yourself as a biased person can put you in a troubling situation. Attorneys and judges have been selecting jurors for a long time and know when someone is lying to them. Your best bet will be to give honest answers to the questions they ask.

NO VOTING, NO JURY DUTY

According to another circulating myth, if you aren't registered to vote, you don't have to serve jury duty. Many people believe this myth because voting enters you into the jury duty pool, but there are other

means by which citizens are chosen. Other ways you're entered into the pool include buying a home, paying taxes, and getting a driver's license. Even if you aren't registered to vote, you're still liable to be summoned.

SERVING JURY DUTY WILL GET YOU FIRED

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Costa Mesa, CA 92626

If you're worried about getting fired for serving jury duty, you can breathe easy. Your employer cannot fire you once you've been selected for jury service. In fact, if your boss threatens to fire you for it, they will face the penalties, which include fines and even jail time. Many employers know and understand this, but if yours doesn't, you can submit a file of complaint to the trial court administrator, and they will take care of the rest for you.

The system to select jurors has been around for a while, and those involved know what they're doing. It's best to go in with an open mind and be completely honest. After all, it is your civic duty to do so.