

# **MY UNEXPECTED JOURNEY**

# HOW WE LEARN TO BE HUMAN

I'm a pretty well-rounded person.

And I don't say this to brag. I only mention it because it's so surprising to me. I, like many others, grew up in a generation where we were expected to be very good at just one thing. In school, we were expected to be either intelligent, creative, or athletic, and focus on what we were good at. Then, as adults, we were told to either be really good at our jobs or really good at caring for our family, but we couldn't be both.

The idea was, if you were good at one thing everything else would fall into place. But that place was usually last. Lawyers are especially guilty of this. Too frequently, we get so caught up in the law and the little details that we forget what it's like to be human. Over the years, I've come to realize it's possible to live a more balanced life. We don't have to sacrifice everything else in order to be good at one thing. In fact, the more well rounded you become, the better you are at everything.

This isn't to suggest we have to be "perfect" in everything. Life is a journey, and everything is a learning process. But when we make a point to be more attentive to our families, for example, it translates to being more attentive with our clients or coworkers. In high school, I took an ethics class where we discussed the idea of authentic human development. What does it mean to be truly human? Being human isn't about putting all our attention into one area of our life because to paraphrase Walt Whitman, we contain multitudes.

The journey I'm on doesn't just help me as a person. I can see how it helps us at the law firm. Attorneys are responsible for relaying their clients' stories of tragedy, triumph, and suffering. How well we tell these stories to a judge and jury will impact the outcome of the case for our clients. Understanding the human condition helps us better represent our clients, especially if we are telling stories that are completely different than our own experiences.

I don't know what it's like to lose a cherished family member, suffer a traumatic brain injury, or be betrayed by a nursing home. My clients have



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experienced real suffering that I know nothing about. It's difficult to tell stories you can't relate to, which is why attorneys need to be well-rounded people who don't forget how to be human.

Empathy is a powerful force. It can help us understand people no matter who they are or how different our personal experiences may be. Being well

rounded means connecting with ourselves and being honest about our own needs as people. When we achieve this, we're able to better relate to others.



-Case Barnett

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# SWITCH IT UP

# The Family Feud You Want to Be a Part Of

As one of the most popular gaming consoles, the Nintendo Switch draws the attention of gamers and nongamers alike. It offers hundreds of games for people of all different ages and preferences. If you're thinking about adding to your family's game collection, take a look at these five familyfriendly options everyone can enjoy.

# SUPER MARIO PARTY AND MARIO KART 8 DELUXE

If you're looking for fun multiplayer games, look no further. Super Mario Party and Mario Kart 8 Deluxe allow up to eight players to get together and play against each other, giving people the chance to race, fight, and compete in a friendly atmosphere. The games offer a number of terrains and game boards to play through, each with unique challenges for players to overcome.

# SUPER SMASH BROS. ULTIMATE

There's nothing like grabbing a group of friends to fight it out with your favorite video game characters. The Smash Bros. games have been around since 1999, making it possible for Link to fight head-on with Mario or Samus Aran to take on Fox McCloud. With Super Smash Bros. Ultimate, you can choose your favorite Nintendo, Sega, or Square Enix characters and see who comes out on top!

## POKEMON

The Pokemon franchise has

lasted for over two decades and continues

to be a source of entertainment for people of all ages. With

Pokemon Sword and Pokemon Shield, players can take on trainers, face gym leaders, or even play with other Pokemon trainers throughout the Galar region. Both games are capable of online connectivity to other real-world players, letting trainers battle and trade globally.

## **SPLATOON 2**

This game offers a fun and colorful twist on a typical shooter game. Up to eight players can battle it out with one another and attempt to paint the other players with their own colors. Splatoon 2 can also be played online, making it a great family game. No matter how far away you are from one another, you can always play Splatoon 2 together for as long as you'd like.

Video games are a great source of entertainment and relaxation, but it's important not to overdo it. Remember to take small breaks to stretch, get something to eat, and head outside for some fresh air.

# **OUR CLIENTS SAY IT BEST**

"Look no further! We all have preconceived ideas about lawyers, but when our child was involved in a traumatic accident in California, miles away from home, we needed help from someone who could help us to understand specific legal details and insurance issues involved in California. But even more importantly, we needed someone who would be an advocate for our child and help to get life back to normal. We were very fortunate to find Case Barnett. Case and his team were immediately there for our child, assisting in all of the details, big and small, that necessary to dealing with the difficulties following an accident. Our relief was immediate that we'd found someone who cared about our child's well-being first and foremost and who was going to help us 'make it right' again.

*"If you're in need of an outstanding and caring legal team in Southern California to help you ... you'll have found them with Case Barnett."* 

–Terri H.

Thank you.

**New Firm Communication Policy:** We now have an attorney answering our phone! That's right, we have done away with the traditional legal secretary role, and we have our managing attorney, Rachelle Staley, taking your calls. We want you to have access to an attorney whenever you need it. Now, if your attorney is in court or at a deposition, you can still chat with our managing attorney, who knows all of the details of your case. Of course, you can still call your attorneys and paralegals directly on their individual phone lines as well. Main Office: number on this newsletter. Case: 949-861-2990 Jamal: 949-234-8131 Dena: 818-269-1302 Paige: 949-891-0279 Gio: 949-482-1414

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# I'M WEARING GREEN.

YOU CAN'T PINCH ME



## Hey there!

This is Finn, and I want to tell you about this really cool holiday I just learned about. It's called Read Across America Day. It's held on March 2 because that's Dr. Seuss' birthday! The whole holiday is about reading and getting people to read more books. I don't know why anyone needs to be reminded to read. Reading is so much fun!

We read *a lot* at our house. We read at every meal or snack, so that's at least five times a day. Of course, we also read at school and before bed. Harlow and I go to the library every week to get new books. Our mom has a library card, which lets us check out 50 books each week! We read them over and over again, and then we get 50 more books the next week.

I love checking out Dr. Seuss books. They're my favorites! I also really like chapter books. My mom and dad started reading chapter books to me when I turned 4. Have you heard of Roald Dahl or E.B. White? Their chapter books are really good. Right

now I'm reading a series called "The World According to Humphrey" by an author named Betty G. Birney. It's about a hamster who lives in a school classroom. I love animals, and reading about Humphrey's adventures is a lot of fun.

Harlow also likes books. She still loves her picture books, and her favorites have babies or other girly things in them. They aren't my kind of books, but Harlow really likes them. She's a real girly girl. Harlow likes it when our mom reads to her before bed, but she *really* likes it when Mom sings to her. I like that, too, but it's called bedtime *stories*, not bedtime *songs*.

I'm really excited to celebrate Read Across America Day. We'll get to read even more books that day! What are you going to read?



# Easy Irish Soda Bread

### Ingredients

- 4 cups all-purpose flour
- 4 tbsp white sugar
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tbsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 cup margarine
- 1 1/4 cups buttermilk, divided
- 1 egg
- 1/4 cup butter, melted

## Directions

- 1. Heat oven to 375 F, and lightly grease a large baking sheet.
- In a large bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking soda, baking powder, salt, and margarine.
- 3. Stir in 1 cup buttermilk and egg, and mix until dough comes together.
- Knead dough on a lightly floured surface. Form dough into a round before placing it on baking sheet.
- 5. In a small bowl, combine melted butter and remaining 1/4 cup buttermilk.
- 6. Brush the raw loaf with this mixture and cut an "X" into the top.
- Bake loaf for 45–50 minutes, or until a toothpick comes out clean after being inserted into center of loaf. You may need to continue brushing the loaf with the butter mixture while it bakes.

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This publication is intended to educate the general public about personal injury and elder abuse. It is not intended to be legal advice. Every case is different.



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# **GIVING BACK TO LOCAL COMPANIES**

ON NATIONAL MOM AND POP BUSINESS OWNERS DAY

March 29 is National Mom and Pop Business Owners Day, which is huge for small businesses everywhere. Mom-and-pop businesses are the backbone of the U.S. economy; Small Business Trends reports that mom-and-pop businesses account for 64% of gross domestic product (GDP) and generate 78% of all new jobs. Furthermore, no matter what turns the economy takes, small-business owners are less likely to lay off their employees than big corporations. Mom-and-pop businesses support all communities, and you can support them by celebrating this unofficial holiday!

# GIVE YOUR LOCAL ECONOMY A BOOST!

Shopping locally has a massive impact on your community. Local businesses return three times the amount of money to the local economy than larger corporations do. With that big of a returned investment, your community can support even more small businesses that generate a wealth of jobs and keep the cycle going.

In addition to the economic boost, products from small businesses are usually higher quality, which makes them a better value for your dollar. Take this day to shop for birthday and holiday gifts for your loved ones that will bring them great joy and last a lifetime.

# GET SOCIAL AND SPREAD THE WORD!

While small businesses utilize every form of marketing available, social media is essential for their success and growth. After shopping at your favorite mom-and-pop business, share that experience on your social media! When you write a post on Facebook or take a picture for Instagram, be sure to tag the business and use relevant hashtags so your friends, family, and everyone else in your community can shop there too.

Writing reviews on Google Reviews and Yelp helps establish validity for the company. When another potential customer looks for reviews, they know they're getting quality products and services from a well-established pillar of the community. The local businesses that are active on social media may post deals and sales for that day only, so keep your eyes peeled and be sure to follow all your favorite businesses!

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