

The Morning Moulden

LONG BEACH, CA

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2022

#### VOL. MMXXII



# THERE'S A FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING

### FEB 15 · LONG BEACH, CA

Agatha Christie wrote "The first time you do a thing is always exciting." Well, this year was very exciting for us as Olivia had many firsts!

We kicked off 2022 by celebrating Olivia's 1st trip around the sun. She may not remember it, but the cupcake stains in her onesie will last forever! In April, Olivia took a plunge into the big world when she started going to Bixby Oaks Children's Center. After a couple of rough transitional "ramp up" months, she now can't wait to get out of the car and play. She loves to carry basketballs around the playground, go down the slide on her belly, fingerpaint, and of course, enjoy snack time! With daycare comes cooties! Olivia (and consequently us as well), FIRSTS CONTINUED ON PAGE 4





#### NOV 7 · GARDENA, CA

Summer brought us inflated gas prices and questionable startup job security, thus sending Kristina on a mission to find a new (and preferably stable) job. Luckily, the perfect hybrid job posting popped up. In November, Kristina INSIGHTS CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



# **KEEP OFF GRASS**

### OCT 31 · LONG BEACH, CA

Just because we're in a drought and your grass may or may not be dying, doesn't mean you can't spice up your yard. Long Beach locals, Kristina and Shelby, recommend a friendly garden gnome, a lovable flamingo, and perhaps a potted plant or two to give you that curb appeal.

### The Morning Moulden



# TAKE A BOOK Leave a book

### NOV 24 · LONG BEACH, CA

This November was the grand opening of the newest Little Free Library in the neighborhood. This charming book nook was hand-painted by steward, Kristina Moulden (Charter #155257) and can be found in Long Beach, CA. "I can't wait to see what books pass through our library and to show my daughter just one, simple way we can share with others."

Download the Little Free Library app to find a library near you or stop by to take a book or leave a book!

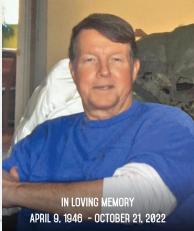


# ONWARD HE SAILS

While there were many happy beginnings this year, it also brought us a sad ending. We said goodbye to a wonderful husband, father, friend, veteran, and all-around goofball.

In October, Shelby's stepdad, Gary, passed away at 76. He will be remembered for wearing too short of shorts, coming up with silly games like "who can hold a log over their head the longest", growing the best squash in town, and only listening to Enya in the car.

Gary loved to read (everything), boss us around on his sailboat, teach us random facts on hikes,



eat turkey necks, and chat on the couch while drinking wine with his wife, Sue. Gary left a huge impact on this world and our family. We will miss him dearly.

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### The Morning Moulden

# **RAIDERS OF THE LOST PARK**

Olivia Moulden here, playground hunter and connoisseur, reporting to you from Long Beach, California. This year I began my quest to uncover all 169 Long Beach parks. Almost every weekend I venture to a new park. Here are some of my findings:



## CLASSIFIEDS THE NEW BABY SITTERS CLUB

Are you in need of a "reliable" baby sitter? Look no further! With over 22 months of experience, Praline has truly embraced her role as a big sister. Her skills include:

- · Guarding baby's doorway
- Thorough cleaning of high chairs and floors
- Volunteering as baby learns how to properly pet a dog
- · Being a good nap time pillow

\*Praline accepts kibbles, human food, and belly rubs as payment. She sleeps 14+ hours a day so her hours are limited.



# JUST SOLD





3134 woodruff ave long beach



2 BED • 3 BATH • 2 WFH OFFICES SPACIOUS YARD FOR FROLICKING DINOSAUR WALLPAPER WALK-IN PANTRY WITH LABELS RENOVATED CRAFT WORKSHOP

### The Morning Moulden

### **FIRSTS CONTINUED**

had our fair share of sick days. But by now, Olivia is now quite proficient at getting her temperature taken, using the syringe to take infant Tylenol, and wiping her nose!

Besides building our immune systems, we also made a few new friends this year:



1<sup>ST</sup> GYMNASTICS CLASS MARCH 2022

Once a week Olivia gets to tumble and climb at The Little Gym in Lakewood.



1<sup>st</sup> WORD - "I DID" JULY 2022

After a cute burp or fart, a polite "I did" follows!



Olivia enjoyed a weekend getaway at her grandparent's house while we went to a friend's wedding in Camarillo.



1<sup>ST</sup> DENTIST VISIT SEPTEMBER 2022



1<sup>ST</sup> LIBRARY CARD OCTOBER 2022

Every Wednesday we check out new books for the week!



DECEMBER 2022

1<sup>ST</sup> TRIP TO THE SNOW

We're wrapping up 2022 with a very exciting first - Olivia's first trip to the snow when we visit grandma for Christmas!



# **2022: DIFFERENT BUT THE SAME**

We definitely aren't ending the year the way we started it, but we couldn't be happier. We've officially settled into our new home and we're enjoying the extra counter space and playtime in the backyard. Shelby is still kicking butt at Sidecar Health with Peanut and Praline as his loyal wfh office mates. Kristina hit the ground running at her new job and is loving it! And Olivia (22 months) has grown so much this year. She's gone from wobbly steps to an eager scamper. Her hearty chuckle and silly baby-banter fill our house with joy. She is gentle, super observant, resilient, and loves to learn new signs! Oh, and let's not forget Hans and Zimmer are still swimming (and growing) strong.

Despite the changes in our routines and address, one thing remained the same: Olivia's appetite... just kidding, our thankfulness. We are grateful to share 2022's adventures with all of you and hope you have the merriest of holidays!

### **INSIGHTS CONTINUED**

joined the creative team at Educational Insights, an award-winning toy and game company - makers of Playfoam, Kanoodle, and the Sneaky Snacky Squirrel Game. Every day she gets to do work that she loves and ultimately share some of her creations with Olivia.

