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THINGS TO DO!

BEST OF AUGUST

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The Wilson County Fair + Tennessee State Fair happens Aug. 14 – 23 at the Wilson County Fairgrounds in Lebanon.

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8 august 2025

WIN ON #WINSdays!

(The Clues Are in Our Thursday Newsletters)

How can I get in on these prizes, you ask?! It's easy! Every Wednesday (#WINSday) we give away a prize on Facebook. Here's what you need to know:

HOW #WINSdays WORK

Subscribe to our Thursday newsletter to play #WINSday. We put a clue in each newsletter for the following Wednesday's #WINSday prize. We randomly announce the day's prize on Facebook, asking, "What day is it?" You answer with the clue from the previous week's newsletter and we shuffle for a winner!

WED., AUGUST 6

Four tickets to Nashville Zoo. A \$128 value.

WED., AUGUST 13

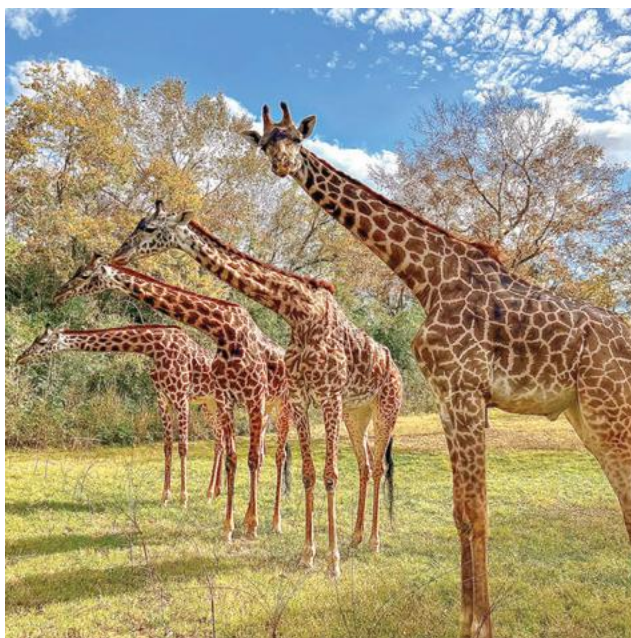
A gift certificate, early pass and launch party ticket for Aug. 28's Rhea Lana Consignment Sale. A \$40 value.

WED., AUGUST 20

A Nashville Children's Theatre Sapphire Membership (10 Anytime, Anyone Tickets). A \$250 value.

WED., AUGUST 27

Four tickets to Nashville Zoo. A \$128 value.



WIN ON #WINSday! Head out to see the giraffes and so much more at Nashville Zoo. Win tickets on Aug. 6 or 27!



ON THE COVER

Cover Kid, Campbell, photographed by Leila Grossman of Grannis Photography on location at The Carousel of Dreams by Ken Means. Located at The Factory at Franklin.

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Nashville, Rutherford and Williamson Parent magazines provide the community connection parents need. We help moms, dads and families navigate the uncharted waters of family life, and we work to weave bright threads of joy and opportunity into the daily lives of families.

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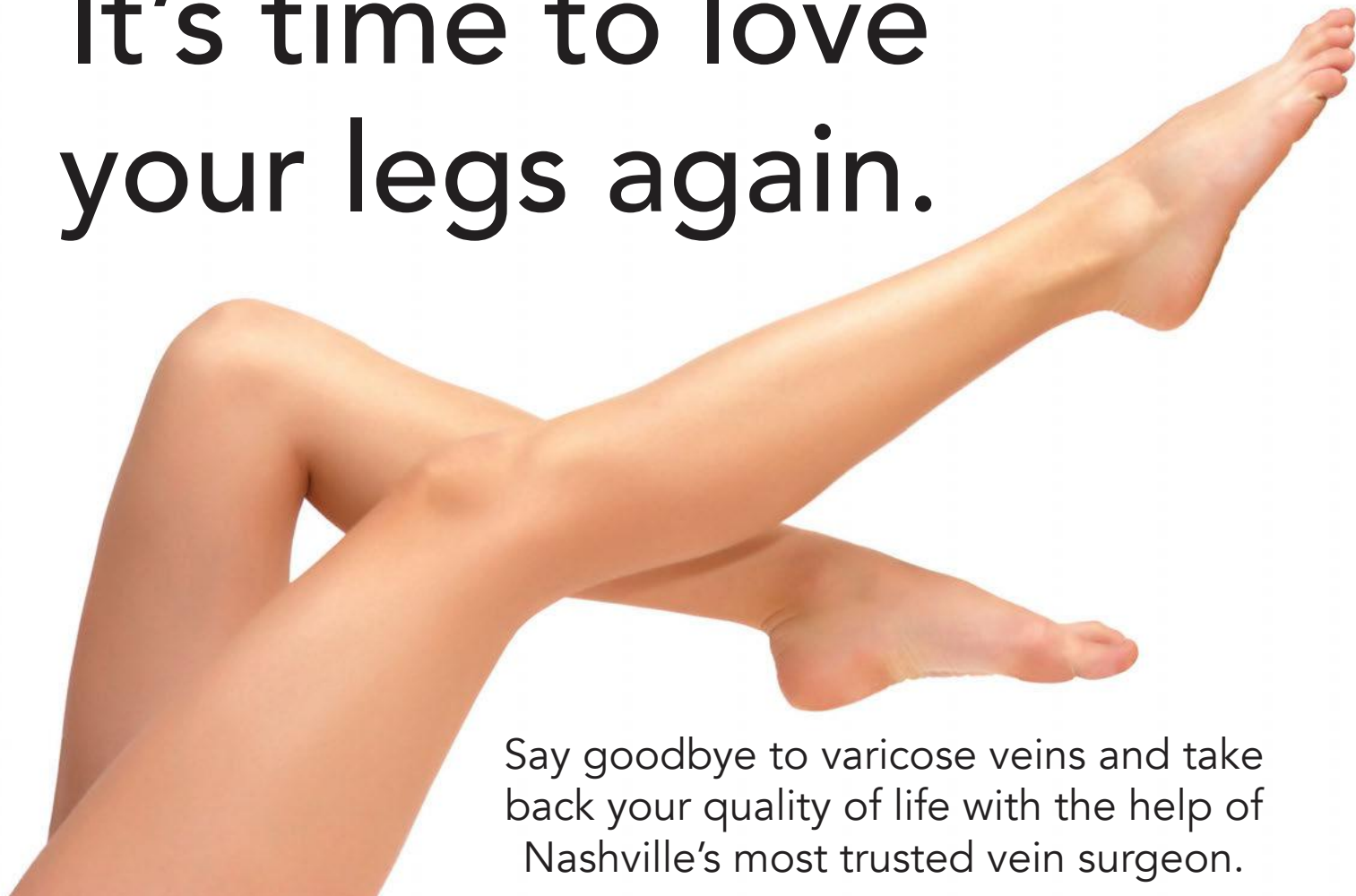
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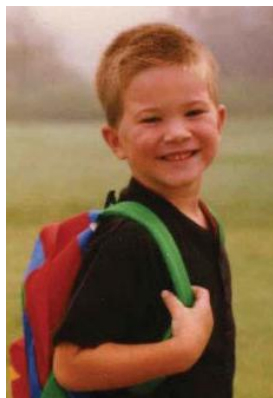
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DAD BEAT

BY MICHAEL W. ALDRICH

School's Back! Has Your Kid Picked Out Their Backpack?

It wasn't anything fancy — just a patchwork of red, green and blue nylon material with a few zippered pockets.

But I remember my first backpack. I remember filling it with crayons, No. 2 pencils and a *Star Wars* folder before my first day of kindergarten. I remember proudly wearing it on my back, feeling like a big kid and reluctantly putting it in my cubby that first day. Before too long, I remember it becoming a place for all my treasures (like Pokémon cards, Pogs, cool looking rocks, etc.).

Whether it's covered in superheroes or pink ponies, a kid's first backpack is a rite of passage — one of the first places they can call their own. So this month, as students of all ages go through a similar back-to-school ritual, I thought I'd bring up a name you've probably never heard of: Murray McCorry, a Washington native and avid outdoorsman credited with inventing and popularizing the lightweight backpack.

In 1967, McCorry founded JanSport, the company that produced the first backpacks to sell to college students across the country, then to high schoolers and grade schoolers, too.

While McCorry died last fall in Seattle at the age of 80, the backpack he created is still considered an essential accessory for students. It basically revolutionized school life for several generations of kids, including mine.

Even so, the backpack has carried a few controversies with it through the years.

As the bags got bigger and the loads heavier, there's evidence that they contributed to neck, back and shoulder pains in some children. Healthcare professionals warned that they could be a health risk to kids, especially if the cargo wasn't proportional to a student's size, and issued health guidelines for parents. The creation of wheeled backpacks was another response.

Nowadays, security concerns have been another challenge for backpacks and how they're used in schools. Some administrators require students to carry clear or mesh versions so they can't be used to transport weapons or drugs.

But for me, backpacks are both a practical tool and a nostalgic reminder of my schooling. To this day, the sight of a youngster toting one back to school conjures up memories of the array of packs I've carried — from a Michael Jordan model in my early years to a later version covered with doodles I did with a Sharpie.

The point is ... backpacks serve a bigger purpose than simply storage. They're a way for a kid to express themselves and show their personality. They're a way for a kid to bring a little bit of home with them to school. And they're a way for a kid to connect with other backpack-wearing, soon-to-be-friends at school.

So, does your kid(s) have their backpack(s) ready for the new school year? Did they pick it out? Will they be wearing it with one strap over their shoulder (that's how the kids used to do it in my day) or two?

My soon-to-be first grader has a navy blue and green backpack with yellow pockets on each side. I recently asked him if he wanted to pick out a new one and he said, "No, daddy. I want the one I have because it's mine and I love it."

Couldn't have said it better myself.

Michael

FEED BACK



Childhood is fleeting and we often don't remember a lot. So ...

“What do YOU recall about elementary school?”



What We Remember ...

READERS SHARE THOUGHTS

“It was easy. No responsibilities, no expectations, just being super chill. I miss being a kid.”

Wendy Test

“Spreading Elmer's glue on my hand, letting it dry and peeling it off ... so satisfying!”

Bram Johnson

“Fire drills.”

Brooke Swennson

“‘Criss cross applesauce. ‘Hand goes up, mouth goes shut,’ ‘You will give me your undivided attention,’ ‘In this special installment,’ ‘Heads up 7-up’ and boy/girl seating on the bus.”

April Morrell

“Going to the principal's office to take my Ritalin dose at lunch and the girl who went with me

always fake took her's. Also, riding my new bike to school after Christmas and this kid saying, ‘You think you're so cool but you're not.’ And in fifth grade, our whole long row at lunch (about 30 – 40) kids had to stay through recess because we had a food fight.”

Eugene Hiller

“When I was in first grade, I was missing my mom after lunch period. My teacher came to me and asked what happened. After that, I started crying and hugged her hip because I was short then. She just let me hug her and consoled me not to cry. She was the nicest teacher I ever had. I have never felt that warmth when crying and hugging someone at the same time that I felt during that day with my teacher.”

Bonnie Emilius

“The one kid who smelled like sour milk.”

Gerilynn Fish

“The smell of fresh copies that the teacher handed out. And they were warm, too, fresh from the copy machine.”

Dori Jean Warren

“My class was in the gym playing freeze tag. I was running with my best friend when the tagger ran right in front of us. I'm not sure what happened to my friend, but I fell forward and smacked my head on the hard, cold floor. I was pretty out of it for the day and remember my gym teacher asking if I've ever done a somersault before. That was probably a concussion, but nobody did a thing.”

Elizabeth Jackowitz

“I remember using overhead projectors, chalkboards, paste in little glass baby food jars, and them playing ‘The Star-Spangled Banner’ over the intercom every morning. Today is a whole different world.”

Carrie Tuft

“I remember liking Field Day. It was a once-a-year event which had a bunch of events like a 50-yard dash, long throw, soccer dribble competitions, jump rope competitions, etc. You'd get a ribbon for first through third place and everyone would compare how many they got at the end of the day. It was a lot of fun.”

Sarah Stolberg

“Mrs. Deckler rolling chalk between her hands and it click, click, clicking against her ring. Just mesmerizing.”

Kelly McPherson

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Valerie, Zach's Mother



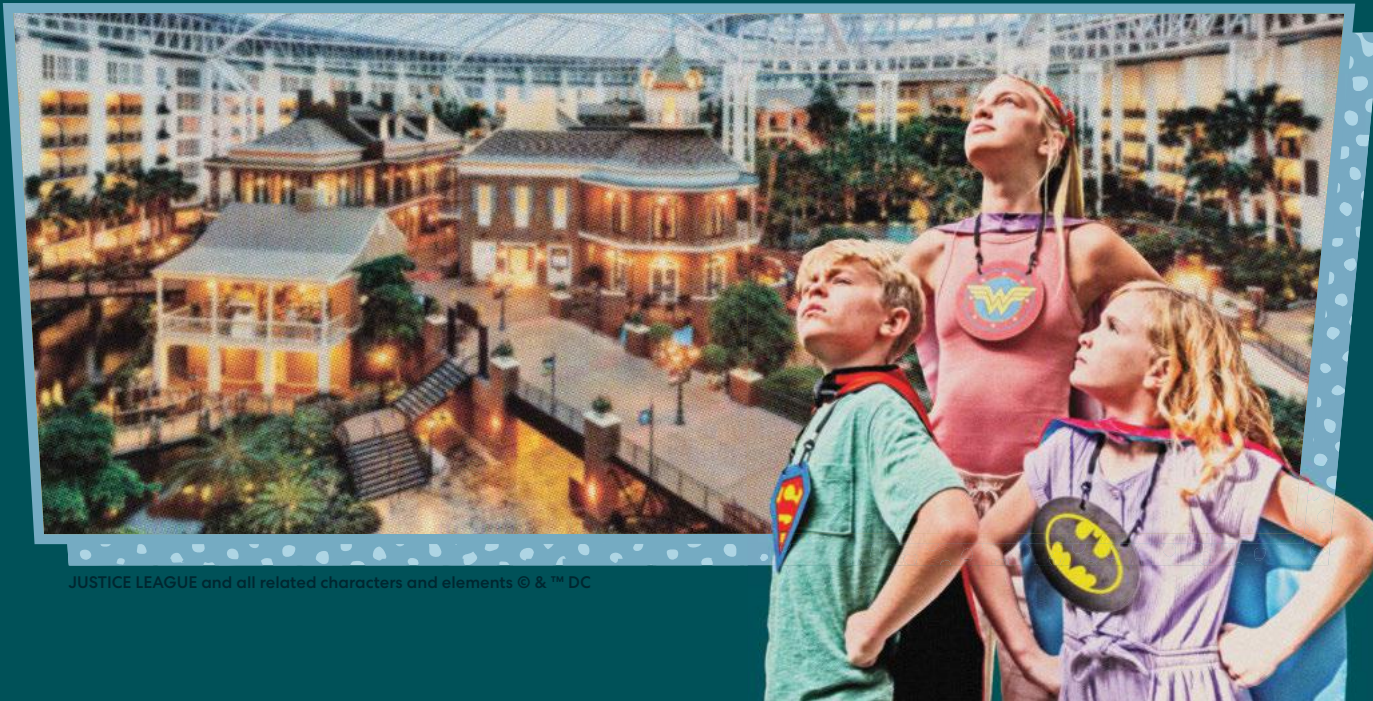
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Vote Now for the 2025 Best of Parenting!

Now through August 31, cast your votes for who you think is **TIP TOP** for Best-of-Parenting recognition in Davidson, Rutherford and Williamson Counties



Do you think your child is in the BEST childcare center around? Are you wild for Jets pizza, sort of "meh" for Dominoes? What about your pediatrician? The Best of Parenting nominations are in and now it's time to VOTE!

Now through August 31, you can go online to cast your votes for who YOU think should win in numerous categories. You can vote for the area you live in: Davidson, Rutherford or Williamson County.

Categories include: Best Eats / Best Parties / Best Destinations / Best of Our City/ Best Shopping / Best Appearance / Best Early Learning / Best Pets / Best Enrichment and Best Health and Fitness. Subcategories fall underneath the headers for more specific entries.

Winners will be posted on nashvilleparent.com on November 1, 2025 and be printed in the November, 2025 issue. Go online now and make your choices known!

(please turn the page)



2025 Fall Kid's Consignment Sales in Middle Tennessee

Get ready to save big on school clothes at the following events and find more fall consignment sales on nashvilleparent.com. Search "consignment."

Floods Of Duds

**First United Methodist Church
of Hendersonville**

217 East Main St., Hendersonville

Wednesday, Aug 20 | 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Thursday, Aug 21 | 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Friday, Aug 22 | 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. (50% off)

Saturday, Aug 23 | 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. (50% off)

Otter Creek Kids' Consignment Sale

Otter Creek Church Gym

409 Franklin Road, Brentwood

Friday, Aug. 22 | 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 23 | 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. (50% off)

Rhea Lana's of Franklin

Former Toys R Us Location

1735 Galleria Blvd., Franklin

Sunday, Aug. 31 | 12 – 6 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 1 | 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 2 | 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 3 | 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. (50% off)

Thursday, Sept. 4 | 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. (50% off)

Scout's Consignment

Studio615 in East Nashville

272 Broadmoor Drive, Nashville

Friday, Sept. 5 | 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 6 | 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 7 | 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. (50% off)

Reruns are Fun Consignment

Williamson County Ag Expo Park

4215 Long Ln, Franklin

Friday, Sept. 5 | 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 6 | 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 6 | 7 – 9 p.m. (50% off)

Hooked On Consignment

162 Imperial Blvd., Hendersonville

Tuesday, Sept. 9 | 9 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 10 | 9 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 11 | 9 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. (50% off)

Oak Hill School Consignment Sale

The Oak Hill School Enrichment Center

4815 Franklin Pike, Nashville

Wednesday, Sept. 24 | 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 25 | 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 26 | 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. (50% off)

Encores Consignment

Former Toys R Us Location

1735 Galleria Blvd., Franklin

New Moms Sale: Aug. 11 | 7:30 p.m.

Grandmother Shopping: Aug. 12 | 8 a.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 12 | 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 13 | 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 14 | 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 15 | 9 a.m. – 7 pm (50% off)

Saturday, Aug. 16 | 9 a.m. – 3 pm (50% off)

Sunday, Aug. 17 | 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. (dollar dash)

QuickBits

• LOVE BLIPPI?!

He's coming to the Adventure Science Center! The wildly popular children's entertainer will be at the ASC in person on August 27 on a timed-release-ticket-entry basis. He'll sing-along and interact with the kids. And then, from Aug. 28 - Sept. 1, families can also come to ASC for "Blippi Pop-Up Week" where kids can dance, sing and take selfies.

For more information, visit ASC at adventuresci.org.

• Nashville Ballet invites local children, ages 8-18, to audition for roles in this December's production. **NASHVILLE'S NUTCRACKER YOUTH CAST AUDITIONS** will be held on Sunday, August 24 and Sunday, September 7, 2025 at The Martin Center for Nashville



Kids can meet Blippi!

Ballet. (3630 Redmon St., Nashville). Open to all skill levels, auditions are fun, welcoming, and require no prior dance experience. **For inquiries, contact youth-cast@nashvilleballet.com or visit Nashvilleballet.com/youth-cast-information.**

• THE BABY FAIR – RUTHERFORD IS COMING!

Got a baby on board or expecting? Register now to attend Nashville and Middle Tennessee's longest-running FREE annual event for new and expectant parents: . LIVE and IN-PERSON, the Baby Fair takes place at Ascension Saint Thomas Hospital Rutherford (1700 Medical Center Parkway, Murfreesboro) on Saturday, September 13 from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. The fun and informative fair features great giveaways (like a new fancy

stroller!), vendors and booths with excellent resources for new parents, networking opportunities, a variety of games and more. **For more information, visit nashvilleparent.com/babyfair25rp.**

• This fall, a **NEW FRANKLIN VISITOR CENTER AT THE FACTORY** will be unveiled in Suite 11GG (next to The White Alligator and directly across from Honest Coffee Roasters). This location will serve as a satellite location of the existing Franklin Visitor Center, located in downtown Franklin. It will provide the same level of service to visitors, connecting them with all that Franklin and Williamson County have to offer. **For updates and opening details, follow @TheFactoryatFranklin and @VisitFranklinTN.**

• **CHUKKERS FOR CHARITY**, the annual event that supports the

Rochelle Center and Saddle Up! takes place on Saturday, Sept. 6 at Riverview Farm (1475 Moran Road, Franklin). This polo event features the Regional U.S. President's Cup, qualifier for the National President's Cup. This year's theme, "Fiesta on the Field," encourages attendees to come in the colors of Mexico for fashion, decor, lively music and fare — and polo! The opening ceremony happens at 2:45 with the match starting at 3. **Tickets and more information can be found at chukkersforcharity.net.**

• **FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL'S MARCHING BAND** is raising funds with the hopes of participating in the 2026 Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, Calif. They start a fruit sale in September. **To support the band's efforts to march in the Tournament of Roses Parade, visit thefranklinband.org.**

THE DADSIDE

BY NOAH DAY

What We Mean to Them

I will never forget when I first held my daughter. It was an intense experience, overall. When she finally arrived after 27 hours of induced labor, the administered medication was still causing contractions for my wife, and as a result, she was in immense pain, even after delivery. So, after nine grueling months of daily morning (or all day) sickness, aches, pains and a plethora of other symptoms, our baby was here. But my amazing wife, filled with joy, couldn't hold her newborn baby. Sheesh.

This meant that I was called into action quicker than I anticipated. I can still hear the nurses speaking those strange and wonderful words: "Alright, Dad, we're going to give her to you now."

It was hard to keep up with all the changes happening so suddenly, but I do remember thinking, "Uh-oh, you're talking to me? Me as in Dad? Oh yikes, you are. I guess I am the only dad in the room!" And sure enough, they placed the tiniest human being I'd ever seen right on my bare chest.

This brand new baby girl was screaming (as is very common) and I didn't know what to do. "Hey, hey, hey, it's OK – it's OK, it's OK." Almost instantly, she stopped.

"Do you know why she stopped crying?" asked the nurse. "She knows your voice."

Sure enough, as I looked down, all I could focus on was this little face with her mouth wide open staring curiously up at me, as if lost in wonder. Her tiny hand gently grasped my chest and then, it hit me: I spent the past nine months (and even longer) thinking about how much this baby would mean to me and it never really occurred to me just how much I would mean to her.

As I got more and more comfortable holding her, she eventually stopped looking up at me, surrendered herself and put her head down to sleep against my chest. I was accepted as "Dad," and euphoria set in. The weeks and months soon to follow would be long nights and sleepy days — but for just a second, the world stopped (thankfully, the contractions stopped for my wife, too) and our relationship bloomed.

I've thought about that moment quite a bit in the two-and-a-half years since. I'll never forget the way our baby looked at me knowing that I'm her superhero — an unstoppable force who knows everything and does the impossible. Soon (though I'm not quite sure when), she'll find out the truth, which is that I'm not a superhero and am simply piecing it together as best as I can as I go. We'll cross that bridge when we get there.

I am convinced that throughout every step in life, our kids will never know just how much they mean to us and all the more, we'll never fully know just how much we mean to them.

Noah Day is a graduate of The University of the South and an avid baseball fan. He lives in Nashville with his wife and two children.



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“Mom! Will You Bring Me My Chromebook, Please?”

... and Smart Considerations for a Successful New School Year Launch

That text message was sent by my eighth-grade son. Out of my three kids, he wasn't even the worst offender for forgetting things. His twin sister easily won that prize by texting me to bring her homework, lunch or gym clothes twice as often as he did. “I'm on my way,” I would respond. My twins will be 14 soon, and as much

as I hate to admit it, this had to end. I knew I needed to devise a plan to wean them (and me) off of their “mom butler services.”

The reason I use the word “wean” is because I'm not the type of person who can just jump into a cold pool. I'm the one who wades in gradually while my three kids yell in unison, “Just dunk your body into the water! Go in, already!” Despite their cajoling, I always waded in at my own moderate pace.

When my twins were in first grade, the school phone number popped up on the

caller ID. And I did what any parent does when they see the school phone number — I panicked. Are they hurt? Are they sick? Are they in trouble? I expected to hear the voice of the principal or a teacher or any type of authority figure but instead, the sound of a 6-year-old girl's voice emitted through the speaker.

“Mom, Can you please bring me my homework?”

“Of course, sweetie, I'll be right over.” And so it began.

BACK TO SCHOOL

Before I drove to the school that first time, my husband said, "Don't bring it to her."

Really? He was the "yes man". The one who allowed our kids to climb up that steep, wobbling ladder attached to an equally steep slide. He's the guy that buys them more than \$50 worth of movie theater candy because he doesn't want to say, "No, you can't have all of that". Does he really want me to say, "No" to something that seemed pretty benign to me?

"She needs to learn to remember to bring it and you bringing her homework doesn't help her to do that," he said. "If you bring it to her, she learns that her mom will always bail her out," he added sagely.

My first reaction to this was, "What is wrong with her thinking her mom will always bail her out?" But then after giving it some more thought, I knew he was right.

I just couldn't say, "No" though. Instead, my mama-bear instinct kicked in and I had to protect her from getting into trouble, so I brought her homework to the school. And I continued to do so when any of my three children called because they forgot their jacket, lunch or gym clothes. I couldn't let them freeze, starve or not participate.

Two years ago, I read an article about how a Catholic boys' school posted a sign on the door that read:

"If you are dropping off your son's forgotten lunch, books, homework, equipment, etc., please TURN AROUND and exit the building. Your son will learn to problem-solve in your absence."

My initial thought was, *I wish our school posted that sign because then it would absolve me of my guilt if I didn't bring it.*

But at the same time, I wanted to be able to help my kids when they asked me for help.

The school my kids attend allowed them to use the phone to call me when they were younger (before they had phones of their own). If I chose to not to bring an item, I felt like I was not being supportive of the school.

Now that my twins are in eighth grade, my husband's sentiments are resonating stronger

SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITY PLAN!

- You are entitled to three passes for the whole school year, so choose wisely.
- If you choose to use a pass I will bring your forgotten item to school for you.

• STOP!

Before you go, did you remember to bring:

Your Homework
Your Books
Your Chromebook
Your Lunch
Your Gym Clothes
Your Practice Gear
Your Instrument

with me.

In five years, they may be going to college. Unless they live at home, I won't be able to bring their forgotten item to class for them. So, I created my own sign and taped it to the front door (see above).

I'm cautiously optimistic that my new plan will enable my kids to be more responsible and facilitate an early retirement for "Butler Mom." I realize it is a growing process for all of us that I need to do at my own moderate pace. There will likely be setbacks when they ask for a forgotten lunch (a mom's worst fear is to have a starving child), but hopefully, we will be able to stay the course.

With any luck, by the time they are in college, I will only have to drive there to see their smiling faces. Unless of course, they text me from an unknown number saying, "Mom, can you please bring me my phone?"

I would respond immediately, "I'm on my way."

After all, I need to be able to call them.

Cheryl Maguire holds a Master of Counseling Psychology degree. She is married and is the mother of twins and a daughter. Her writing has been published in The New York Times, Parents Magazine, Upworthy, Chicken Soup for the Soul: Count Your Blessings and Your Teen Magazine.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL CHECKLIST

Believe it or not, it takes a lot of planning to make school days run smoothly ... or, you'll spend more hours in the car than you already do. Here are great ideas for smooth sailing during the busy fall months:

- **Make a list of lunch and dinner ideas** and stock up.

- **Set up a homework/study spot** whether it's at the kitchen table or a nook in the living room.

- **Have school supplies** on hand that your child needs.

- **Start a filing system for yourself** (for each of your kids) for event flyers, pictures, awards, etc. This will make storing and finding items simple.

- **Review the school calendar** and add important dates to your personal calendar. This way, you'll know when you need to take PTO for work or need additional childcare.

- **Work out weekly schedules**, pick-up/drop-off needs with your kids, keeping sports and extra curriculars in mind.

- **Review school safety protocols** with your kids.

- **Attend the teacher meet-and-greets.**

- **Plan weekly outfits with your kids.**

- **Work on meeting other parents** who may be able to get into a carpool with you if your schedule is crazy.

- **Discuss applying yourself in school** with each child.

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The notion that education prioritizes academics and athletics is being challenged by the rapid advancement of artificial intelligence. Now, a greater focus on creativity, critical thinking and adaptability for kids brings the human edge — that only the arts can provide — to the foreground.

If I have observed one thing after a decade of having a school-age child, it's that arts-motivated kids perform better in school. Sure, my daughter comes from an artsy family already. Her mom is a writer and her dad is a theater director, but she's not an extension of us; she is uniquely herself, and her exposure to a wide variety of arts helps her discover her own passions, proclivities and personhood.

The more types of arts my daughter engages in, the happier and more motivated of a student she becomes overall, even in her most challenging academic classes. But don't take my word for it. Check out the messages broadcasted prolifically by Sir Ken Robinson, author of the book, *Finding Your Element: How To Discover Your Talents & Passions and Transform Your Life*. One of the most popular TED speakers and a creativity and education expert, Robinson asserts that the job of education is to teach children to become creative thinkers rather than merely good workers.

In addition to Robinson's theory that a child's exposure to a steady stream of their talents and passions leads to finding future work right in their element, we must remember something else: The greatest challenges faced by civilization are going to be solved by our kids one day. Do we want them to behave like well-behaved workers or do we want them to become the creative thinkers, problem-solvers and innovators they were born to be?

Participation in the arts is just as important to raising well-rounded children as participation in academics and athletics. The arts awaken personal power in children by helping them discover their talents and passions organically. I know this is true because my daughter loves to sing, dance, act and draw already. Recently, she's also started reading Shakespeare, watching historical documentaries, playing the piano and taking hip-hop classes.

I am not bragging. But I am keenly aware that I may have been inadvertently putting imagined limits on just how creative my daughter could become. Now, thanks to her example, I am beginning to think that there isn't anything she can't do. And isn't that exactly what I want her to believe?

Why do we put limits on our kids' creative impulses when creative activities clearly benefit real-world performance? My daughter

EVERY *NEEDS*



THEY WILL NOT BE ROBOTS: *Fine arts, music, theater and dance and perspectives in ways that artificial intelligence cannot. The arts fosters*

has got the rest of her life to discover and pursue creative activities that light her up from the inside and inspire her to be the best she can be. My job as her mom — between now and the day she ventures out into the world — is to make sure she never runs out of opportunities to practice being her multi-faceted self. She can sift and sort through what she likes best and doesn't prefer for herself. She doesn't need me for that, except to remind her that how she spends her time and energy in life is her choice.

When I leave this world some day, I want to depart knowing I exposed my daughter to as much personal enjoyment of life as I could. And the arts will have played a leading role in this endeavor. I don't want my daughter's focus in life to be on survival or drudgery; I want her life to be a celebration of being herself. And, in order to

CHILD *the ARTS*



allow kids to explore and express feelings, experiences emotional intelligence and a deeper understanding of the world.

do this, she has to explore and assess her talents and abilities in her own ways.

If you deny your kids access to the arts — or don't see them as valuable for them — maybe because you think creativity is less important or less valuable than, say, football, I hope you are planning to stick around for a few more decades to witness for yourself the important role creativity will play in the evolution of our future.

If you are, as I was, inadvertently capping the amount of creative activities your kids participate in to levels deemed reasonable, I hope you will stop. Instead of cutting the arts out of your kids' schedules, we need to allow access to as much arts activity as a child's schedule permits. They can set the bar to a level that feels right from there.

FIND ARTS FOR KIDS ONLINE!

Go to Nashvilleparent.com's online "Directories" (in the menu bar) to search "Classes and Programs" for Your Kids.

25 CREATIVE ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

Please don't be confused about whose job it is to expose kids to the arts. Arts engagement is YOUR job first, before teachers or instructors get involved. Engage your children in the arts and watch the magic happen. They will thank you for your encouragement today and in the future with smiles and feelings of contentment.

IN SCHOOL

- 1. Fine arts (drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking)**
- 2. Photography, video and multi-media arts**
- 3. Choir and vocal performing**
- 4. Band and orchestra**
- 5. Theater arts**
- 6. Film (fictional and documentary)**
- 7. Yearbook/School newspaper**
- 8. Dance**
- 9. Creative writing**
- 10. Leadership**
- 11. Robotics**

OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

- 12. Animation**
- 13. Architecture and design**
- 14. Opera**
- 15. Ballet**
- 16. Crafts**
- 17. Cooking**
- 18. Decorative arts**
- 19. Fashion**
- 20. Woodcrafts**
- 21. Graphic arts**
- 22. Jewelry**
- 23. Junk, trash and found art**
- 24. Gardening**
- 25. Performance art**

Journalist, author and writing coach Christina Katz is not afraid to get schooled by her teenage daughter. In fact, it might be something that happens more often than she would like to admit.



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KIDSVILLE

KIDSVILLE AT THE PARTHENON

Select Saturdays in August – 10:30 AM
 Join us at the Parthenon for storytime, arts & crafts, music and special guests. Free admission included for the whole family with kids 12 and under

KIDSVILLE AT MUSICIANS CORNER

Fridays, August 29-September 26
 Kidsville is the outdoor destination at Musicians Corner for parents to bring their little ones to enjoy fun, fitness, crafts, educational Musical Meet & Greet guests and activities. Kidsville takes place during each Musicians Corner event.

KIDSVILLE FAMILY FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 27 – 10 AM-3 PM
 A fun fall day filled with activities including: live music, arts & crafts, musical meet & greets, lawn games, and more!

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more details at
KidsvilleOnline.org






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A NIGHT UNDER THE STARS: A fundraising concert for the Episcopal School of Nashville with (left to right) Dr. James Jordan, Drew Holcomb, Ellie Holcomb, Ketch Secor and Charlie Worsham.

Q & A: Dr. James Jordan

As the Episcopal School of Nashville approaches its 10th anniversary, Head of School Dr. James Jordan reflects on a decade of growth and looks ahead to what's next.

Nestled in the heart of East Nashville lies the Episcopal School of Nashville (ESN). Known for its inclusive Episcopal identity, urban setting and commitment to nurturing curiosity and character, ESN offers families a unique school experience rooted in academic excellence and emotional intelligence. With Head

of School Dr. James Jordan at the helm for nearly five years, ESN has continued to carve out a special place in Nashville's education scene.

Now in preparations for celebrating 10 years of ESN, northern England native Dr. Jordan sat down with *Nashville Parent* to share more about the school's mission, milestone moments, future challenges and the exciting path that lies ahead.

(please turn the page)

NP: What sets ESN apart from other schools in the area?

JJ: There is no other Episcopal school in Nashville. We are unapologetically Christian, but we are not trying to indoctrinate anybody. We have Catholics, Methodists, Congregationalists and students of no faith tradition. All are welcome under the umbrella of an Episcopal School. We focus on academics, social justice, and inclusion in a place where everybody is welcome.

Our baptismal covenant demands of us to strive for justice and peace among all peoples and to respect the dignity of every human being, period. And this is not something that we made up here in Nashville. It is a tradition that goes back centuries to England. You can come here and you can be yourself. We have all kinds of family structures, socio-economic backgrounds, races, and countries where students are from. The cool thing about ESN is that you don't have to check any of that at the door.

In terms of our academics, we're very hands on. We're very careful about technology. We believe that interaction and hands-on experiential learning is really important, especially for young children. And a screen is not a solution. A screen can be a tool to help you achieve an educational objective, but it's not the end. It's a means to an end.

NP: What is a common misconception that people have of Episcopal schools?

JJ: Faith-based schools get a hard rap. People growing up may have had certain feelings or been made to feel a certain way, like, "Hey, if you don't believe exactly these things, then you're less than." The Episcopal tradition seeks to tear down those barriers. Like I said before, you don't have to be a Christian to come to this school. You don't have to be an Episcopalian to come to this school. We believe that diversity is our strength, and diversity can take many forms. We're socioeconomically diverse, and we put our money where our mouth is, with a lot of need-based financial aid. We want to be racially diverse. We want to be diverse with ideas and perspectives. We want our students to be critical thinkers. The Episcopal way is the middle way, so there is truth on all sides.

NP: Looking back on nearly a decade of ESN, what key milestones has the school achieved, and what are your goals for the future?

JJ: We started with 16 students in two trailers in the parking lot of a church in 2016 with literally a wing and a prayer. Today, we are in the Ross Elementary building. Our target is 140 students for this upcoming year, and each year we've grown.

Our theme for year 10 is "Purpose, Promise and Possibility." We started out as that young, scrappy school, and now we're in the phase of really thinking big. We're embarking on a strategic planning process that will set the course for the next three-to-five years. What we've done really well in the last year or so is creating the shared understanding of, "What does Episcopal actually mean, and how does that tie into what we do?"

We are working to make our academic program as rigorous as

“I was in an AI workshop recently, and oh my goodness. In the elementary sphere, it's a little easier for us to double down on social, emotional and academic skills and less on technology.”

possible. This year, we're implementing a new math program. Next year, we're going to really dive into language arts. As an independent school, we get to determine our own mission, and how to carry out that mission. We can teach what we want — no book bans here. There's no, "You must do this. You can't do that." We're a community of choice and values, and we want our curriculum, people, programs and practices to reflect those values. We're really dedicating ourselves to the mind, body and spirit of every young person, so that when they leave us after sixth grade,

they're prepared to go to any of the great public or private schools in Nashville and thrive, and people will say, "That's an ESN kid." That'll make us proud.

We're also looking at a permanent facility. I would love to have a soccer field, a gym, a chapel — in the longer term, we're looking at a campus for ESN.

NP: Where do you see education going for this next generation of learners; how are you addressing that at ESN?

JJ: I was in an AI workshop recently, and oh my goodness. In the elementary sphere, it's a little easier for us to really double down on social, emotional, and academic skills and less on technology. Education is relational, right? We serve students as young as 3, and they're learning to take their turn, play nicely and respect others. As they get a little bit older, they're learning to use their words instead of their hands or their bodies, which a computer will never replace. We believe in the concept of community, and that will not change.

In terms of the future of the country, we want to educate our students for the world that we want to live in. In 10 plus years, we want people to be able to disagree and still feel that they're friends. We don't want to live in a polarized society. It all comes back to relationships and being able to articulate oneself, receive feedback and reflect. To create a space for students to do that in communion with others who value them as a human being, and maybe disagree with the idea that they have about one thing or another, but are a part of this community of humanity. My hope is that we build on that, rather than getting into a more transactional model of education where it's a factory. Education is personal and it's interpersonal, and especially for this age group of elementary and early childhood, it needs to be in a loving environment where every single child is known, valued and loved with the opportunity to be themselves.

NP: What excites you most about leading this community?

JJ: It's the type of school I wish I'd gone to growing up. It's the type of community that I would want my children to go to, because regardless of who they are or what they're interested in, they're going to be valued as a human being. They're going to have that sense of self. We're intentional about relationships and community building, and it's only going to get stronger.

Ally Roden is a graduate of Belmont University. She has a diverse portfolio with experience in public relations, digital media, and freelance writing. Her work has been featured in a range of online and print publications across multiple industries.

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to vote for your favorites!





August THINGS TO DO

BEST OF THE MONTH



WILLIAMSON COUNTY FAIR

Friday, Aug. 1 – Saturday, Aug. 9

AgExpo Park, Franklin

Page 30

Enjoy rides for littles and bigs plus favorites like Little 1's Farming, the Chick Hatchery, Robocars, the Butterfly Garden, the "Letters to Soldiers" Post Office, competitions, pageants and more.



SUMMER SPLASH DAYS

Saturdays through Aug. 23

Nashville Zoo, Nashville

Pages 31, 35, 41 & 44

Beat the heat as Nashville Zoo transforms into a water wonderland on its "Festival Field," complete with slip 'n slide fun, a bubble zone and splash pools for littles.



TOMATO ART FEST

Friday, Aug. 8 – Saturday, Aug. 9

Five Points, East Nashville

Page 35

So many juicy events to sink your teeth into — the parade, kids art show, tomato storytime, a musical petting zoo and tomato-tastic crafts.

30 DAILY EVENTS

Events in day-by-day order. Find fireworks easily for July 4th:

30 DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL

Be one of the first to see Dolly's new musical at Belmont's Fisher Center through Aug. 31.

33 CLOUDED LEAPORD DAY

Join Nashville Zoo on Aug. 4 to celebrate one of the world's most elusive cats.

34 DOG NIGHTS OF SUMMER

Bring your furry friend out to Cheekwood's Thursday Night Out series every Thursday in August.

35 FULL MOON PICKIN' PARTY

Live bluegrass, food trucks and plenty more at Percy Warner Park in Nashville on Friday, Aug. 8.

37 FAMILY NIGHT RACING

Kids 12 and younger get in FREE Aug. 10 for a special night for families at Nashville Fairgrounds Speedway.



WILSON COUNTY FAIR + TENNESSEE STATE FAIR

Thursday, Aug. 14 – Saturday, Aug. 23

James E. Ward Agriculture Center, Lebanon

Page 40

Livestock shows, motorsports events, music on six stages, all kinds of exhibits, demonstrations and more than 60 carnival rides for kids and adults.



NASHVILLE SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

Thursday, Aug. 21 – Sunday, Sept. 21

The Yard at oneC1TY, Nashville

Page 42

This comedic Shakespearean romp finds Sir John Falstaff wooing two married women at the same time. Come out to see *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and relish in the chaos.



NASHVILLE STAMPEDE DAYS

Friday, Aug. 15 – Sunday, Aug. 17

Bridgestone Arena, Nashville

Page 41

"The toughest sport on dirt" will fill Bridgestone for Nashville's PBR (professional bull riding) team, the Nashville Stampede.



KIDS FUN CONSTRUCTION & FARM EQUIPMENT FESTIVAL

Saturday, Aug. 30

Lucky Ladd Farms, Eagleville

Page 46

Kids can climb on excavators and lots of other farm and construction equipment.



FALL ZZZOOFARI SLUMBER

Saturday, Aug. 30

Nashville Zoo, Nashville

Page 47

Join Nashville Zoo for a unique overnight camping experience as you sleep under the stars just a short distance away from the snoozing animals. Kids can enjoy a variety of activities during the evening plus breakfast in the morning.

41

MUSEUM FUN DAY

Vault tours, rides in select vehicles and demonstrations on Aug. 16 at Nashville's Lane Motor Museum.

43

FATHER-SON ADVENTURE WEEKEND

Dads and sons can make memories Aug. 22 – 24 at Deer Run in Thompson's Station.

44

MAURY COUNTY FAIR

Carnival rides, exotic animals, science shows and more Aug. 28 – Sept 1 in Columbia.

46

HOT WHEELS MONSTER TRUCKS LIVE

See 12,000-pound, glowing monster trucks Aug. 29 - 30 at Bridgestone Arena.

47

ON YOUR RADAR

Mark your calendars for next month's select outings.



SCAN HERE TO VIEW "THINGS TO DO" ON YOUR PHONE!

DAILY EVENTS

FRI 1

FREE RUTHERFORD COUNTY FARMERS MARKET

rutherford.tennessee.edu
A producer-only farmers market at Lane Agri-Park (315 John Rice Boulevard #101, Murfreesboro) open every Tuesday and Friday through October 31, from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

TODDLER TIME WITH THOMAS

615-895-5040
murfreesborotn.gov
Bring littles 5 and younger to Sports*Com (2310 Memorial Blvd., Murfreesboro) for a class on Friday mornings from 10 – 11 a.m. The focus is on body part recognition and cognitive skill development. Cost is \$3 for non-members.

FREE BABY AND ME PLAYTIME AT NOLENSVILLE LIBRARY

615-776-5490
wcpltn.org
Join in on Fridays at Nolensville Public Library (915 Oldham Drive, Nolensville) for this interactive storytime for parents, caregivers and babies (0 to 18 months) at 10 a.m.

BOOT SCOOTIN' COWBOY BOOTS

615-416-2001
countrymusichalloffame.org
Inspired by fashionable footwear in the museum galleries, young designers will create boot patterns to reflect their own personalities today through Aug. 3 at the Country Music Hall of Fame (222 Rep. John Lewis Way S, Nashville) from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Included with admission; free to members.

SPLASH DAYS AT LUCKY LADD

615-274-3786
luckyaddfarms.com
Splash Days are water-filled at Lucky Ladd Farms (4374 Rocky Glade Road, Eagleville) Thursdays – Sundays through Aug. 3 (and on weekends Aug. 9 – 31). Kids can play on the splash pad, foam in the bubble blast or zoom down inflatable water slides. Pack the essentials: kids swim wear, swim diapers, and plenty of towels. Cost is \$18 for ages 2 and older.

FREE THE SCIENCE GUYS PRESENT COLOR OUR WORLD!

Through experiments and interactive demonstrations, young scientists can learn about light sources, prisms and rainbows at the Nashville Public Library Madison Branch (610 Gallatin Pike S, Madison) at 10:30 a.m.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY FAIR

williamsoncountyfair.org
Nine days of fun for all ages includes great food, music, rides and games at the AgExpo Park (4215 Long Lane, Franklin) starting Friday, Aug. 1 through Saturday, Aug. 9. In addition, enjoy the return of fair favorites like Little 1's Farming and daily entertainment like Robocars, the Butterfly Garden and more! Hours are Monday – Friday from 6 – 10 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.; and Sunday from 12 – 10 p.m. Tickets are \$14 for adults; \$7 for kids ages 6 – 12; and free for kids 5 and younger. Unlimited ride hand stamps are \$25 Monday – Friday; \$35 on Saturday; and \$30 on Sunday. New attractions this year include: Agri-Golf, K9s in Flight, K9s in Flight, Lady Houdini, Extreme Illusions & Escapes, MythiCreatures, Ventriloquist Kevin Horner and more.

FREE HIP DONELSON FARMERS MARKET

hipdonelsonfarmersmarket.org
A local, producer-only Farmers Market every Friday through October from 4 – 7 p.m. at Two Rivers Park (3130 McGavock Pike, Nashville).

FREE VIP POOL PARTY AT GALLATIN CIVIC CENTER

friendsofgallatinmiraclepark.org
People with disabilities can join for this special event at the Gallatin Civic Center outdoor pool (210 Albert Gallatin Ave., Gallatin) from 6 – 8 p.m. Register online.

ALABAMA STORY BY PULL-TIGHT PLAYERS

615-791-5007
pull-tight.com
The civil rights movement is rising. A children's book about two rabbits stirs the passions of a state senator and the protective instincts of a librarian in 1959 Montgomery, Alabama. It's a page out of history brought to life on the stage. This show runs Aug. 1 – 16 at the Pull-Tight Theatre (112 2nd Ave. S, Franklin). Performances are on Wednesdays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Cost is \$18 – \$22.

STORIES BY THE THEATER BUG

thetheaterbug.org
Originally premiering as a web series in 2021, *Stories* follows the lives of five young people through their online and real-life "stories" that shape them. The show addresses navigating the world, growing up with a parent with mental illness, the lives of LGBTQIA+ youth and the impact of police brutality and racism. Performances are at Nashville School of the Arts' Roxy Theater (1250 Foster Ave., Nashville) through Aug. 3. Cost is \$20 general admission, \$15 children 12 and younger. NOTE: mature themes and language, and the death of child.

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL

615-460-2255
thefishercenter.com
Dolly: A True Original Musical takes us on a journey through the life of this rhinestone in the rough, from her barefoot beginnings in the Smoky Mountains of East Tennessee to performing in platform heels under the bright lights of Hollywood. Featuring all of her hits, this new show will take you inside Dolly's rags-to-riches story give new insights into her triumphs, trials and trailblazing. The show runs Tuesdays – Sundays through Aug. 31, at Belmont's Fisher Center for the Performing Arts (2020 Belmont Blvd., Nashville). Tickets start at \$40.

SMYRNA FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT: A MINECRAFT MOVIE

615-459-9710
townofsmyrna.org
Bring blankets and join in at the Smyrna Outdoor Adventure Center (100 Sam Ridley Pkwy. E, Smyrna) for an outdoor family movie night starting at 7:30 p.m. They'll be showing *A Minecraft Movie*, and there will be yard games before the movie starts around 8:15 p.m.



FREE MT. JULIET MOVIES IN THE PARK: GHOST-BUSTERS

615-758-6522
mtjuliet-tn.gov
Bring blanket to see *Ghostbusters* (1984) at the Charlie Daniels Park Amphitheater (1075 Charlie Daniels Pkwy., Mt. Juliet). Film starts around 8:40 p.m. and concessions are available.

SAT 2

FREE MURFREESBORO SATURDAY FARMERS MARKET

mainstreetmurfreesboro.org
This weekly farmers market on the Murfreesboro square happens on Saturdays from 8 a.m. until noon.

FREE ROBERTSON COUNTY FARMERS MARKET

615-684-2941
Browse produce, meats and more on Saturdays from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. at Robertson County Fairgrounds (635 Highway 41, Springfield).

FREE SMYRNA FARMERS MARKET

carpeartista.com
The Smyrna Depot Farmers Market (98 Front St., Smyrna) hosts an array of farm/food vendors, artisans, crafters and live music every Saturday through Sept. 20 from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

FREE HENDERSONVILLE FARMERS MARKET

streetsofindianlake.com
Shop for in-season produce from 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. every Saturday through Sept. 27 at The Streets of Indian Lake (300 Indian Lake Blvd., Hendersonville).

FREE GALLATIN FARMERS MARKET

gallatintn.gov/249/Farmers-Market
Find fresh produce and more on Saturdays from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., through September, across from the Gallatin Fire Department (160 W Franklin St., Gallatin).



"Dolly: A True Original Musical": This show — heading to Broadway in NYC, 2026 — chronicles Dolly's life and is premiering now at Belmont's Fisher Center for the Performing Arts, Tuesdays through Sundays through Aug. 31.



Musical Instrument Petting Zoo: Bang a drum, pluck a guitar and strum a ukulele at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum on select Wednesdays and Saturdays this month.

FREE FRANKLIN FARMERS MARKET

factoryatfranklin.com
Browse fresh and local produce and lots more every Saturday at The Factory at Franklin (230 Franklin Road, Franklin) from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

FREE HOME DEPOT KIDS WORKSHOPS

homedepot.com
Kids can head in to their local Home Depot to build a "Space Odyssey" with staff in this workshop from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Reserve your spot online.

FASHION FOR A FRACTION

fashionforafraction.com
Don't miss the Summer edition of Fashion for a Fraction at the Factory at Franklin's Liberty Hall (230 Franklin Road, Franklin). Shop massive discounts on apparel, handbags, jewelry, accessories and more from your favorite boutiques! With 25+ boutique vendors offering up to 75% off, BOGO deals and \$15 clothing racks, you're guaranteed to find something you'll love. General admission tickets (\$10) get you access to all the deals and entry at 1 p.m. VIP tickets (\$35) get you in the door at 12 p.m. (before the general public) to beat the crowds and get first dibs on all the latest fashions.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT PETTING ZOO

615-416-2001
countrymusichalloffame.org
Bang a drum, pluck a guitar and strum a ukulele at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum (222 Rep. John Lewis Way S, Nashville) on select Wednesdays from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. and select Saturdays from 1 – 3 p.m. Instructors will offer guidance as you try your hand at all the instruments at the zoo. Included with admission; free to members.

FAM JAM AT COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME

615-416-2001
countrymusichalloffame.org
Sing, dance, and play as a family at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum from 9:30 – 10:15 a.m. Included with admission. Free to members.

TOTS! AT CHEEKWOOD

615-356-8000
cheekwood.org
Tots and a caregiver can enjoy drop-in hands-on activities and storytime (10, 10:45 and 11:30 a.m.) in the Bracken Foundation Children's Garden at Cheekwood (1200 Forrest Park Drive, Nashville) on Tuesdays and Saturdays, through August 31, from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Included with general admission or membership.

FREE BLUEY STORYTIME & PAJAMA PARTY

615-953-2243
parnassus-books.net
Join Parnassus staff for a special Bluey storytime and pajama party at Parnassus Books (3900 Hillsboro Pike Suite 14, Nashville) from 10:30 – 11 a.m.



FREE SATURDAY STORYTIME AT BRENTWOOD LIBRARY

brentwood-tn.libcal.com
Families can join the Brentwood Library (8109 Concord Road, Brentwood) in the Story Room for stories, songs and crafts on Saturdays from 10:30 – 11 a.m. For ages 3 and older.

BABY GOAT CUDDLING

noble-springs.com
Head to Noble Springs Dairy Farm (3144 Blazer Road, Franklin) to spend time goat cuddling between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Join a guided educational tour at 11 a.m. Cost is \$12 per person. Children 2 and younger are free.

DROP-IN KIDS ART CLASSES

littlearthousestudios.com
Young artists can create works of art on Saturdays at Little Art House (338 46th Ave., N Nashville)! Each week brings a new art project resulting in a work to take home. Happens at 9:30 and 10:15 a.m. for littles (\$20) and then at 11 a.m. for ages 4 – 10 (\$25).

SUMMER SPLASH AT NASHVILLE ZOO

615-833-1534
nashvillezoo.org
Every Saturday this month through Aug. 23, Nashville Zoo (3777 Nolensville Pike, Nashville) transforms into a water wonderland! From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the Festival Field, enjoy slip 'n slide fun, animal-themed sprinklers, a bubble zone and splash pools. Today, there are also watermelon eating contests at 11 a.m. and 12 p.m.

FREE KIDSVILLE AT THE PARTHENON

kidsvilleonline.org
Families with children ages 12 and younger can enter the Parthenon (2500 West End Ave., Nashville) on select Saturdays each month. Register at the entrance beginning at 10:30 a.m. Weekly storytelling or special guest programming begins promptly at 11 a.m. in front of Athena.

LANE MOTOR VAULT TOURS

lanemotormuseum.org
The Lane Motor Museum (702 Murfreesboro Pike, Nashville) has more than 580 cars in its collection, but only space to display about 150. Vault tours takes place on Saturdays and Sundays at 11:30 a.m. and again at 2 p.m. Cost is \$10 (in addition to museum admission, \$3 for kids and \$12 for adults); tour lasts 45 minutes.

FREE JAZZ ON THE HILLSIDE / BLUEGRASS AT THE BARN

615-395-0102
arringtonvineyards.com
Come out to Arrington Vineyards (6211 Patton Road, Arrington) for live jazz and bluegrass bands on Saturdays starting at 3 p.m. and Sundays starting at 1 p.m. Food will be available. No reservations required. Find out who's playing on specific dates at the website.

THINGS TO DO

FREE BE A CREEK SCIENTIST AT BEAMAN PARK

beamanpark.nashville.gov
Join Beaman Park Nature Center at Henry Creek (4111 Little Marrowbone Road, Nashville) to learn about life in the creek from 10 – 11:30 a.m. Bring water shoes. Call to register.

FREE BUBBLE BLAST FOAM PARTY IN BELLEVUE

Celebrate the end of summer at the Nashville Public Library Bellevue Branch (720 Baugh Road, Nashville) at 10:30 a.m. with a foam party! Bring towels and wear clothes that can get wet.

GLOW IN THE PARK

615-610-9500
myadventurepark.com
Let's Gloopwww! Zipline through trees lit up by glow attire, colored LED lights, music and more at The Adventure Park at Nashville (801 Percy Warner Blvd., Nashville) beginning at 5 p.m. Your ticket includes 30 minutes for a safety briefing and self-harnessing session plus two hours of self-guided climbing in the trees. Cost is \$47.

KIDS NIGHT OUT AT BOOST GYMNASTICS

boostgymnastics.com
Drop the kids off at Boost Gymnastics (11 Vaughns Gap Road, Nashville) and have a date night from 6:30 – 10 p.m. Kids can enjoy flashlight tag, obstacle courses, games, gymnastics and more. Cost is \$40 (with registration), \$35 per additional sibling.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY FAIR

See Friday, Aug. 1.

FREE BIG BAND DANCES

conservancyonline.com
A live big band provides the music while you and your kids learn a different dance style every Saturday through Aug. 9, at Centennial Park's Band Shell (2500 West End Ave., Nashville). Food trucks will be on site, or you can bring a cooler. There's a free lesson at 7 p.m. The big band takes over at 7:30 p.m.

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL

See Friday, Aug. 1.

FREE SUMMER STAR PARTY WITH WARNER PARKS

wpnc.nashville.gov
Join local astronomers to view the night sky through telescopes at Warner Parks Special Events field (61 Vaughn Road Nashville) from 9 – 11 p.m. The summer sky features the Milky Way, looking at the center of our galaxy just above the "teapot" of Sagittarius. Mars will still be hanging low in the west, the stars of the Summer Triangle overhead. They'll also have the just-past first quarter Moon! Email wpnc@nashville.gov to register.

(please turn the page)



The Baby Fair

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SAINT THOMAS
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10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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**Games &
Door Prizes!**

Learn more and register online!

nashvilleparent.com/babyfair25rp

email **stewart@daycommmedia.com** for Vendor Booth Information





International Clouded Leopard Day: Join Nashville Zoo on Monday, Aug. 4 to celebrate one of the world's most elusive cats with hands-on activities, keeper chats and more.

STORIES BY THE THEATER BUG
See Friday, Aug. 1.

NASHVILLE SC HOME GAMES
nashvilleesc.com
See the "Boys in Gold" face off at GEO-DIS Park (501 Benton Ave., Nashville) at 7:30 p.m. Children 3 years or older require a ticket to attend matches. Ticket cost varies per game.

SUN 3

WILLIAMSON COUNTY FAIR
See Friday, Aug. 1.

FREE COW CUDDLING AT THE GENTLE BARN
gentlebarn.org/visit
Enjoy a self-guided tour at the Gentle Barn (9295 Christiana Fosterville Road, Christiana). Donations are \$20 for adults, \$10 for kids ages 2 – 12 and free for kids 2 and younger. Timed entries happen between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m.

FREE COMMUNITY APPRECIATION DAY AT LUCKY LADD
615-274-3786
luckyladdfarms.com
Community Appreciation Day is Lucky Ladd Farms's (4374 Rocky Glade Road, Eagleville) way of saying, "Thank you" to the Tennessee community while also helping the local food bank. The farm offers free admission to each Tennessee Resident who brings in select nonperishable food items to donate.

HOUSE OF CARDS FAMILY BRUNCH & MAGIC SHOW
hocnashville.com/
brunch
Come out to House of Cards (119 Third Ave. S, Nashville) for Sunday brunch and a family-friendly magic show each week, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Cost is \$60/person and \$40 each for kids 12 and younger.

LANE MOTOR VAULT TOURS
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

STORIES BY THE THEATER BUG
See Friday, Aug. 1.

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL
See Friday, Aug. 1.

FREE JAZZ ON THE HILLSIDE / BLUEGRASS AT THE BARN
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

DUDE PERFECT HERO TOUR
bridgestonearena.com
See YouTube sensations Dude Perfect at Bridgestone Arena (501 Broadway, Nashville) at 6 p.m.



MON 4

WILLIAMSON COUNTY FAIR
See Friday, Aug. 1.

EARLY EXPLORERS
615-862-5160
adventureesci.org
Preschoolers and parents can enjoy all the exhibits, attend story time and participate in an activity. Happens in the Eureka Theatre on the second floor of the Adventure Science Center (800 Fort Negley Blvd., Nashville) from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. Plus, meet other parents, arrange a play date or just enjoy having a special time with your curious little one! Cost is \$18 for non-member adults and \$14 for non-member youth; free for members.

FREE MONDAY STORYTIMES AT NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
library.nashville.org
Age-appropriate songs, activities and lots of early literacy fun on Monday mornings at multiple Nashville Public Library branches. Participating branches include Bellevue, Donelson, East, Green Hills, Inglewood, Looby and Richland Park. Call ahead to make sure there are open spots.

MADISON LIBRARY'S 25TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
615-862-5868
library.nashville.org
Celebrate 25 years of the Nashville Public Library Madison Branch (610 Gallatin Pike S, Madison). They're partying like it's 1999. There's a foam party at 10:30 a.m., a magic show with Rodney Kelley at 2 p.m., aY2K Dance Party (with cake) at 3:30 p.m., and Family Bingo at 6 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL CLOUDED LEOPARD DAY
nashvillezoo.org
Join Nashville Zoo at the HCA Healthcare Veterinary Center and clouded leopard habitat for fun and learning from 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Included with membership or zoo admission, this special event celebrates one of the world's most elusive cats with hands-on activities, keeper chats and more.

WETLAND WALKS AT THE DISCOVERY CENTER
615-890-2300
exploredhdc.org
The Discovery Center's Wetland Walks — held every Monday at 2 p.m. at the Murfree Spring Wetlands (502 SE Broad Street, Murfreesboro) — offer a nature experience through the wetland habitat. Explore the ecosystem, observe local wildlife and learn about the importance of wetlands in the environment. Included with admission.

MAKE FRIENDSHIP BRACELETS
615-416-2001
countrymusichalloffame.org
Make custom friendship bracelets at the Country Music Hall of Fame in the Taylor Swift Education Center from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Included with admission; free to members.

OWL DAY AT THE DISCOVERY CENTER
615-890-2300
exploredhdc.org
Fly in for a full day of fun and discovery at the Discovery Center (502 SE Broad Street, Murfreesboro), featuring owl-themed stations, crafts, and a live show with Pemberton the Owl (1 p.m.). Included with admission; free for members.

TUE 5

FREE TUESDAY STORYTIMES AT NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
library.nashville.org
Age-appropriate songs, activities and early literacy fun on Tuesday mornings at multiple Nashville Public Library branches. Participating branches include the Bordeaux, Donelson, Green Hills, Hermitage, Richland Park and Thompson Lane branches. Check online for specific times. For ages 0 – 5, call to make sure there are spots.

FREE TODDLER STORYTIME AT NOLENSVILLE LIBRARY
615-776-5490
wcpltn.org
Caregivers and little ones ages 18 months to 3 years can join in at Nolensville Library (915 Oldham Drive, Nolensville) at 10:15 or 10:45 a.m. to sing, hear stories, shake shakers and have fun.

FREE TODDLER TIME AT THE FAIRVIEW LIBRARY
615-224-6087
wcpltn.org
Join on select Tuesdays at the Fairview Library (2240 Fairview Blvd., Fairview) for stories, songs, and activities designed especially for toddlers ages 1 – 3 starting at 10 a.m.

TOTS! AT CHEEKWOOD
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY FAIR
See Friday, Aug. 1.

TASTY TUESDAYS AT THE DISCOVERY CENTER
615-890-2300
exploredhdc.org
Kids can enjoy this flavor-filled experience in the kitchen at the Discovery Center's (502 SE Broad St., Murfreesboro) on Tuesdays at 4 p.m. Use math and science knowledge to whip up yummy food while gaining basic cooking skills. Included with admission; while supplies last.

(please turn the page)

THINGS TO DO

FREE 12 SOUTH FARMERS MARKET

12southfarmersmarket.com
A weekly community farmers market with live music and food trucks every Tuesday from 4 – 7 p.m., through October at Sevier Park (3000 Granny White Pike, Nashville).

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL

See Friday, Aug. 1.

NASHVILLE SOUNDS BASEBALL

615-690-4487
milb.com/nashville

Let's play ball, y'all!
Swing on over to First Horizon Park (19 Jr. Gilliam Way, Nashville) to see minor-league baseball team, the Nashville Sounds on select Tuesdays through Sundays through Sept. 14. Tickets start at \$15.



THU 7

FREE TOT TIME AT BORO BEACH

615-895-5040

murfreesborotn.gov

This swimming time at Boro Beach (2310 Memorial Boulevard, Murfreesboro) from 10 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. is reserved for tots and caregivers. The playground and spray pad will be open during this time, but the rest of the pool will be closed. Cost is \$12 adults, free for kids 4 and younger.

BELT BUCKLES AND BOLO TIES

615-416-2001

countrymusichalloffame.org
Bring the kiddos out to Country Music Hall of Fame (222 Rep. John Lewis Way S, Nashville) to make your own belt buckle or bolo tie to show off your style from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Included with admission; free to members.

FREE PRESCHOOL STORYTIME AT NOLENSVILLE LIBRARY

615-776-5490

wcpltn.org

Join in at the Nolensville Public Library (915 Oldham Drive, Nolensville) for stories, songs and a craft for ages 3 – 5 on Thursdays at 10 or 10:45 a.m.

FREE STORYTIME AT THE FAIRVIEW LIBRARY

615-224-6087

wcpltn.org

Join in at the Fairview Public Library (2240 Fairview Blvd., Fairview) on select Thursdays for a story followed by a simple craft starting at 11 a.m. Perfect for preschoolers (recommended for ages 3 – 5) and caregivers.

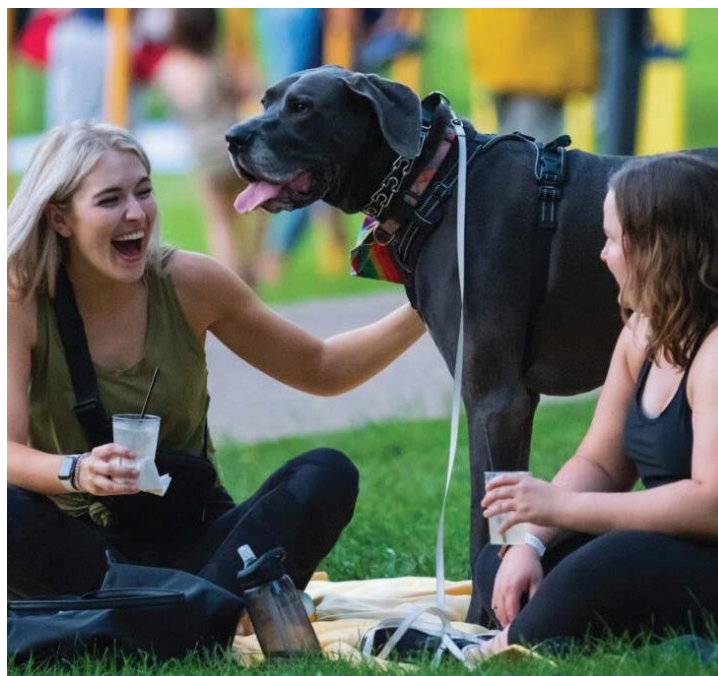
DESIGN TIME AT THE DISCOVERY CENTER

615-890-2300

exploredc.org
Step into the Discovery Center's (502 SE Broad St., Murfreesboro) art studio to explore fun, hands-on art projects on Thursdays at 4 p.m. Programs are subject to change. Today, kids can enjoy "Wooden Car Painting." Included with admission while supplies last.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY FAIR

See Friday, Aug. 1.



Dog Nights of Summer at Cheekwood: *Bring the whole fam (pup included!) for dog-friendly fun Thursdays in August at Cheekwood. These special Thursday Night Out editions feature live music and local vendors for pooches.*

FREE GOODLETTSVILLE FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

goodlettsville.gov

Shop fresh produce on Thursdays through October from 3 – 7 p.m. at Moss-Wright Park (705 Caldwell Drive, Goodlettsville).

DOG NIGHTS OF SUMMER AT CHEEKWOOD

615-356-8000

cheekwood.org

Bring your pup for an evening of dog-friendly fun on Thursdays in August at Cheekwood (1200 Forrest Park Drive, Nashville) from 5:30 – 9 p.m. These special editions of Nashville's favorite Thursday Night Out concerts feature great music and a chance to explore the *Enchanted Castles* installation. Enjoy dedicated drink stations for those with paws and libations for their owners. Visit local vendors offering treats and apparel for pups. Tickets are \$10 for members and \$21 for non members; \$5 for member youth and \$14 for nonmember youth. Advanced reservation required.

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL

See Friday, Aug. 1.

NASHVILLE SOUNDS BASEBALL: THROWBACK THURSDAYS

615-690-4487

milb.com/nashville

Head to First Horizon Park (19 Jr. Gilliam Way, Nashville) to see the Nashville Sounds play at 6:35 p.m. Every Thursday, the Sounds wear their 1978 uniforms to commemorate the team's original uniform style.

FREE HENDERSONVILLE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

streetsofindianlake.com

Bring lawn chairs, blankets or enjoy ample seating throughout the plaza for a summer concert under the stars at the Streets of Indian Lake (300 Indian Lake Blvd., Hendersonville) every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. through Sept. 4. Tonight, here the "Mark Anthony Ensemble," followed by "Revelry Country" on Aug. 14; "CHIPS & SALSA" on Aug. 21; and the "Down South Band" on Aug. 28.

FREE FULL MOON HIKE AT SHELBY BOTTOMS

615-862-8539

friendsofshelby.org

Join for a stroll around the one-mile Greenway loop at Shelby Bottoms Nature Center (1900 Davidson St., Nashville) under the full moon from 7:30 – 8:45 p.m. This is a chance to see the park like never before with an experienced guide, and a great way to beat the heat in summer.

FRI 8

FREE WILLIAMSON COUNTY FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK SALE

wcpltn.org

Friends of the Williamson County Public Library will host its book sale today through Sunday, Aug. 10 at the Williamson County Public Library (1314 Columbia Avenue, Franklin). Shop for books, music, movies and more to support your local library! Sale hours are Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday is the Bag Sale.

THINGS TO DO

FREE RUTHERFORD COUNTY FARMERS MARKET

See Friday, Aug. 1.

TODDLER TIME WITH THOMAS

See Friday, Aug. 1.

FREE BABY AND ME PLAYTIME AT NOLENSVILLE LIBRARY

See Friday, Aug. 1.

BELT BUCKLES AND BOLOTIES

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

FREE HIP DONELSON FARMERS MARKET

See Friday, Aug. 1.

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL

See Friday, Aug. 1.

NASHVILLE SOUNDS BASE-BALL: FOX17 (FIRE-WORK) FRIDAYS

Grab your peanuts and head to First Horizon Park (19 Jr. Gilliam Way, Nashville) to see the Nashville Sounds starting at 6:35 p.m. Every Friday, watch the Nashville sky light up with postgame fireworks.

FREE FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE CONCERTS IN MURFREESBORO

mainstreetmurfreesboro.org
Summer nights are filled with music as Main Street Murfreesboro throws a musical party on the courthouse square from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. There's always room in front of the stage to cut a rug. Tonight, hear the band, "Rubiks Groove."

FULL MOON HIKES AT OWL'S HILL NATURE SANCTUARY

615-370-4672

owlhill.org

Pack dinner and arrive early to picnic on the grounds, then explore Owl's Hill (545 Beech Creek Road, Brentwood) at sunset and enjoy listening for owls, coyotes and night-singing insects. When the stars come out, look for constellations, planets and even meteors. No flashlights. Ages 12 and older (minors must be accompanied by an adult). Program begins promptly at 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$15.



FREE GOODLETTSVILLE MOVIE IN THE PARK: WICKED

goodlettsville.gov

Bring a blanket or chairs and enjoy *Wicked* under the stars in Peay Park (200 Memorial Drive, Goodlettsville). The fun starts at 6:30 p.m. and the movie starts at sundown.

FREE FULL MOON PICKIN' PARTIES

800-619-4802

warnerparks.org

Fans from all over can come hear bluegrass in Percy Warner Park from 6 – 10 p.m. The ongoing event happens through September and includes live bluegrass, local food trucks, cold brews and plenty more. In addition, impromptu pickin' circles can be found around every corner.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY FAIR

See Friday, Aug. 1.

FREE TOMATO ART FEST

tomatoartfest.com

The annual festival features art, food, live music, contests and more dedicated to all-things tomato at Five Points in East Nashville (1106 Woodland St., Nashville). Festival hours are tonight from 5 – 10 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 9 from 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.



FREE PARNASSUS BOOKS STORYTIME

parnassusbooks.net

The family is invited to put on their finest pajamas and come out to Parnassus Books (3900 Hillsboro Pike Suite 14, Nashville) for a special storytime from 10:30 – 11 a.m. For ages 0 – 7.

FREE TOMATO ART FEST

See Friday, Aug. 8.

FREE SATURDAY STORYTIME AT BRENTWOOD LIBRARY

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

SUMMER SPLASH AT NASHVILLE ZOO

615-833-1534

nashvillezoo.org

Every Saturday this month through Aug. 23, Nashville Zoo (3777 Nolensville Pike, Nashville) transforms into a water wonderland. From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the Festival Field, enjoy slip 'n slide fun, animal-themed sprinklers, a bubble zone and splash pools for littles. Each Saturday also brings a special event. Today, meet a real-life mermaid from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

LANE MOTOR VAULT TOURS

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE BIG BAND DANCES

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE COLLAGE WORKSHOP WITH THE NASHVILLE COLLAGE COLLECTIVE

615-862-8555

nashville.gov

Join in at Warner Park Nature Center (7311 Hwy. 100, Nashville) from 1 – 3 p.m. to work alongside the Nashville Collage Collective as you create an original piece of art. Supplies and light guidance/advice will be provided. This is a DIY project.

FREE COMMUNITY DAY AT GLEN LEVEN FARM

615-244-5263

give.landtrusttn.org

Discover the trees at The Land Trust for Tennessee's Glen Leven Farm (4000 Franklin Pike, Nashville) from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. The arboretum features a collection of mature and unique trees. Enjoy a self-guided tour at your own pace with a Glen Leven Farm steward, who can answer questions and share insights along the way. While you're there, use the field guide to hike the Nature Trail, see what's blooming in the Education Garden, and to greet the resident miniature donkeys.

WAY LATE PLAY DATE: CAMP JURASSIC

615-862-5160

adventuresci.org

The Adventure Science Center (800 Fort Negley Blvd., Nashville) is going back to a yearly summer camp celebration with a prehistoric twist. Adults 21 and older can mingle with fellow dinosaur enthusiasts while sipping on themed drinks, exploring interactive exhibits and digging into hands-on activities and camp crafts. Happens from 7 – 10 p.m. and costs \$40 for nonmembers; \$35 for members.

THE ODD COUPLE AT CENTER FOR THE ARTS

615-904-2787

boroarts.org

Neil Simon's revision of his successful play — *The Odd Couple* — sees the lead characters transformed into Olive Madison and Florence Unger. Produced by Murfreesboro's Center For the Arts, this all-female version of the play runs tonight through Aug. 17 at the Center for the Arts (110 West College Street, Murfreesboro). Thu-Sat at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Adults are \$25.

SAT 9

FREE MURFREESBORO SATURDAY FARMERS MARKET

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE SMYRNA FARMERS MARKET

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE FRANKLIN FARMERS MARKET

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE HENDERSONVILLE FARMERS MARKET

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

TOTS! AT CHEEKWOOD

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE WILLIAMSON COUNTY FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK SALE

See Friday, Aug. 8.



Full Moon Pickin' Parties: Get pickin' with live bluegrass, food trucks, cold brews and plenty more at Percy Warner Park in Nashville on Friday, Aug. 8.

(please turn the page)

STEP INTO THE SPOTLIGHT



FOR AGES 3-18 AND ALL SKILL LEVELS

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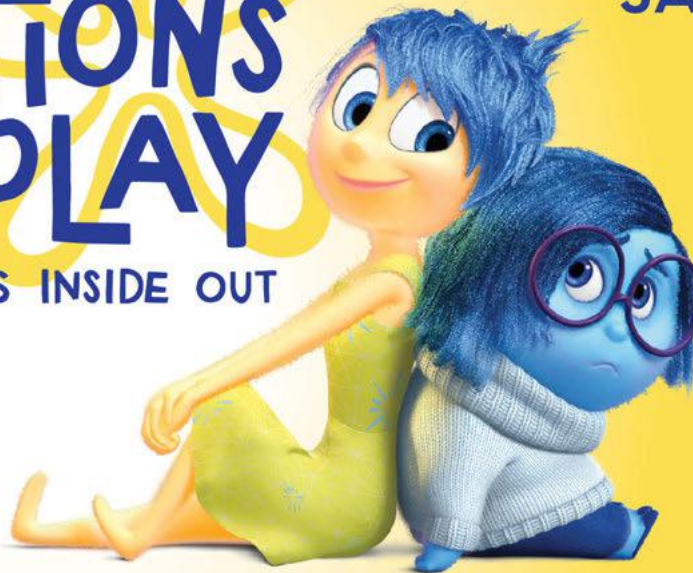
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The exhibition was developed by Children's Museum of Pittsburgh in collaboration with Pixar Animation Studios. © Disney/Pixar. All rights reserved. Used under authorization.



Family Night Racing: Enjoy a special night of racing featuring Pro Late Model 100 at the Nashville Fairgrounds Speedway on Saturday, Aug. 9. Kids 11 and younger get in free!

FREE DISCOVER INDIA DAY

615-890-2300
explorethedc.org
This cultural heritage day is packed with hands-on, family-friendly activities that bring India's vibrant culture to life from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the Discovery Center (502 Southeast Broad St., Murfreesboro).

FREE KIDSVILLE AT THE PARTHENON

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

MYSTIC MERMAIDS UNDER THE SEA BREAKFAST

615-514-3474
aquariumrestaurants.com
Come out to the Aquarium Restaurant (516 Opry Mills Drive, Nashville) today or Saturday, Aug. 23 for an "Under The Sea Breakfast" event with the Mystic Mermaids. Enjoy mermaids swimming to music and teaching on how to protect the ocean. Cost is \$28.61 for adults, \$22.26 for kids 3 – 10. Reservations required.

NASHVILLE HOME SHOW

nashvillehomeexpo.com
Browse exhibitors with home ideas at the Nashville Fairgrounds (625 Smith Ave., Nashville). Happens today from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 10 from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Cost is free with parking (\$10).

FAMILY NIGHT RACING AT THE SPEEDWAY

615-254-1986
nashvillefairgroundsspeedway.racing

Families can enjoy this special night of racing just for them featuring Pro Late Model 100 at the Nashville Fairgrounds Speedway (625 Smith Ave. Nashville). Racing starts at 5 p.m. Adult tickets are \$14.25. Kids 11 and younger get in free.

NASHVILLE SOUNDS BASEBALL: HIT CITY SATURDAYS

Head to First Horizon Park (19 Jr. Gilliam Way, Nashville) to see the Nashville Sounds starting at 6:35 p.m. On Saturdays, make the ballpark the place to be for the live entertainment.

NERF WARS AT MPACT SPORTS

615-377-3444
mpactsports.com

Come out for community Nerf Wars at Mpac Sports (121 Seaboard Lane, STE. 1, Franklin) twice a month from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. This event is open to members and non-members. Price is \$15. Pizza package options are available for purchase. Bring your Nerf Gun (extra are available to purchase) and bring protective eyewear/goggles, too.



THE BACON BROTHERS

tpac.org
Actor Kevin Bacon and his brother, Michael Bacon, (celebrated as an Emmy-winning composer) bring their band to TPAC's Polk Theater (505 Deaderick Street, Nashville). Show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets start at \$74.65.

GLOW IN THE PARK

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE JAZZ ON THE HILLSIDE / BLUEGRASS AT THE BARN

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

WILDERNESS STATION'S END OF SUMMER BASH

615-642-1103
murfreesborotn.gov
Finish your summer off the right way from 6 – 8:30 at the Wilderness Station at Barfield Crescent Park (401 Volunteer Road, Murfreesboro). Compete in archery tag and gaga ball, learn how to create your own shelter, try your hand at slacklining, enjoy up-close interactions with the Wilderness Station's animal ambassadors and more. Grilled cheese, refreshments and s'mores will be provided. Cost is \$3 per person or \$10 per family.

ELO LASER SHOW

615-862-5160
adventuresci.org
The Adventure Science Center (800 Fort Negley Blvd., Nashville) has some of that "Strange Magic" in laser lights inside the Sudekum Planetarium. Enjoy the songs you've heard over the decades, from "Telephone Line" to "Mr. Blue Sky" and more. Cost is \$11 for non-members; \$7 for members. Happens from 7 – 7:45 p.m. Recommended for ages 8 and older.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY FAIR

See Friday, Aug. 1.

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL

See Friday, Aug. 1.

THE ODD COUPLE AT CENTER FOR THE ARTS

See Friday, Aug. 8.

SUN 10

LANE MOTOR VAULT TOURS

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

BELT BUCKLES AND BOLO TIES

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

HOUSE OF CARDS SUNDAY FAMILY BRUNCH

See Sunday, Aug. 3.

FREE WILLIAMSON COUNTY FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK SALE

See Friday, Aug. 8.

NASHVILLE HOME SHOW

See Saturday, Aug. 9.

FRIST FAMILY SUNDAY

615-244-3340
fristartmuseum.org
The Frist loves families! On the second Sunday of each month head to the Frist Art Museum for kid-friendly programming, family tours, multisensory gallery experiences, and a visit to the Martin ArtQuest Gallery from 1 – 5:30 p.m. Tickets are required for all visitors 19 and older (\$15) either online or in person; admission is always free for guests ages 18 and younger.

NASHVILLE SOUNDS BASEBALL: FAMILY FUN SUNDAY

615-690-4487
milb.com/nashville
Head to First Horizon Park (19 Jr. Gilliam Way, Nashville) to see the Nashville Sounds play at 2:05 p.m. On Sundays, it's all about families with child-focused giveaways plus kids can run the bases after the game. Tickets start at \$15.

THE ODD COUPLE AT CENTER FOR THE ARTS

See Friday, Aug. 8.

FREE JAZZ ON THE HILLSIDE / BLUEGRASS AT THE BARN

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL

See Friday, Aug. 1.

MON 11

FREE BABY TIME AT THE SPRING HILL LIBRARY

931-486-2932
springhilltn.org/608/Library
Rhymes, songs, books and lots of bouncing for your little one at the Spring Hill Public Library (144 Kedron Pkwy., Spring Hill) at 9:30 a.m. For children from birth – 2 years old and their caregivers. A brief playtime follows.

EARLY EXPLORERS

See Monday, Aug. 4.

FREE MONDAY STORYTIMES AT NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

See Monday, Aug. 4.

WETLAND WALKS AT THE DISCOVERY CENTER

See Monday, Aug. 4.

TUE 12

FREE STORYTIMES AT THE BRENTWOOD LIBRARY

615-371-0090
brentwood-tn.libcal.com
Songs, puppets and more at the Brentwood Library (8109 Concord Road, Brentwood) on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Ages 18 months – 3 years can come at 10 a.m. and ages 3 – 5 at 11 a.m.

(Continued on page 40)

The Party Pages



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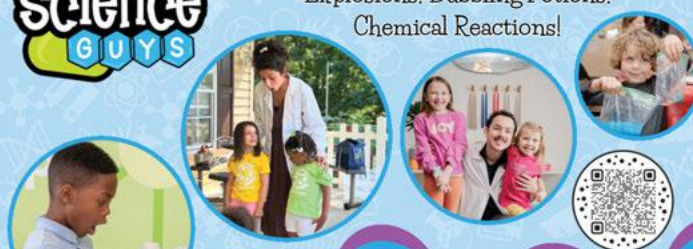
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dziadia@bricks4kidz.us

the science GUYS

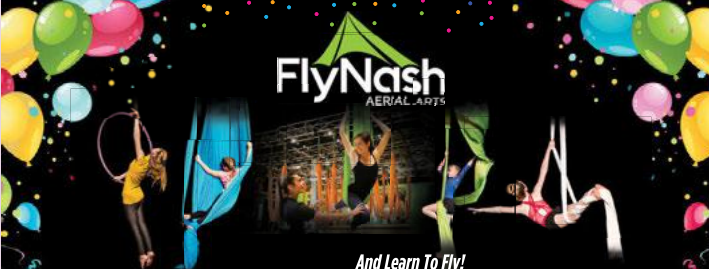
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mtjuliet.schoolofrock.com



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www.strikeandspare.com



THINGS TO DO

FREE STORYTIME AT THE SPRING HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY

931-486-2932
springhilltn.org/608/Library
Children's books, songs, fingerplays and a craft for preschoolers at the Spring Hill Public Library (144 Kedron Pkwy., Spring Hill) on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m.

FREE TODDLER STORYTIME AT NOLENSVILLE LIBRARY

See Tuesday, Aug. 5.

FREE TODDLER TIME AT THE FAIRVIEW LIBRARY

See Tuesday, Aug. 5.

FREE TOT TIME AT BORO BEACH

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

TOTS! AT CHEEKWOOD

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE TUESDAY STORYTIMES AT NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

See Tuesday, Aug. 5.

FREE RAPTOR RHAPSODY AT THE WILDERNESS STATION

615-217-3017
murfreesborotn.gov
Have you ever looked an owl in the eye or check out a falcon's wings? Here is your chance to learn about these master predators of the sky at The Wilderness Station (401 Volunteer Road, Murfreesboro) at 1 p.m. or Aug. 21 at 3 p.m. No registration required.

CLIMBING CLUB AT THE SMYRNA OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CENTER

Join staff on Tuesdays after school to try climbing on the indoor rock wall at the Smyrna Outdoor Adventure Center (100 Sam Ridley Pkwy. E, Smyrna). Climbers must weigh at least 50 lbs. and wear closed-toed shoes and clothing appropriate for climbing. Happens from 4 – 6 p.m. Cost is \$2.

FREE 12 SOUTH FARMERS MARKET

See Tuesday, Aug. 5.

THE WEEKND AT NISSAN STADIUM

nissanstadium.com
See Canadian singer/songwriter The Weeknd perform live at Nissan Stadium (1 Titans Way, Nashville) starting at 7 p.m. Tickets start at \$76.

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL

See Friday, Aug. 1.

WED 13

FREE WEDNESDAY STORYTIMES AT NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

See Wednesday, Aug. 6.

FREE STORYTIME AT THE SPRING HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY

See Tuesday, Aug. 12.

FREE STORYTIMES AT THE BRENTWOOD LIBRARY

See Tuesday, Aug. 12.

HOMESCHOOL DAY IN GOODLETTSVILLE

615-859-3678
goodlettsville.gov
Experience life on the frontier at Historic Mansker's Station (705 Caldwell Drive, Goodlettsville) from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. This tour will feature live history demonstrations and hands-on activities. Admission (\$9) includes access to the American Indian Exhibit, a short video, history demonstrations, hands-on activities and shared picnic space at Shelter #3 near the large playground. Reservations in advance are required.

HOMESCHOOL DAY: GUIDED TOURS OF CANNONSBURGH

615-801-2606
murfreesborotn.gov
Homeschool families, kick-off "Back to School" with guided tours of at Cannonburgh Village (312 S Front Street, Murfreesboro) today or Wednesday, Aug. 27 at 10 a.m. Program features a guided tour of the village and history of the buildings. Admission is \$3 per person and reservations are required.

WILD WEDNESDAY AT SMYRNA OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CENTER

615-459-9710
townofsmyrna.org
Join the staff at Smyrna Outdoor Adventure Center (100 Sam Ridley Pkwy. E, Smyrna) to discover something wild about the natural world on Wednesdays from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. You may meet a SOAC animal or enjoy a nature-based activity (weekly topics are posted online); look for information on the SOAC Facebook page.

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL

See Friday, Aug. 1.

RAINFOREST CAFE BACK-TO-SCHOOL BASH

rainforestcafe.com
Enjoy a special kid's buffet for \$19.99 at Rainforest Cafe (353 Opry Mills Drive, Nashville) from 5–8 p.m. Plus, meet Cha! Cha! and enjoy games, activities and giveaways.

THU 14

EARLY LEARNERS AT SMYRNA OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CENTER

615-459-9710
townofsmyrna.org
Little ones ages 2 – 6 can join the staff at Smyrna Outdoor Adventure Center (100 Sam Ridley Pkwy. E, Smyrna) from 1 – 2 p.m. Each lesson includes various activities, from crafts to games to storytime! There are different themes each week. Cost is \$2.

FREE PRESCHOOL STORYTIME AT NOLENSVILLE LIBRARY

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

DOG NIGHTS OF SUMMER AT CHEEKWOOD

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

TODDLER ADVENTURES: MOVING ON WHEELS!

615-801-2606
murfreesborotn.gov
Toddlers can race around toy cars, push a train along the tracks or create roads with chalk on the ground at Cannonburgh Village (312 S Front St., Murfreesboro) at 10 a.m. Admission is \$5 per toddler with reservations required. For ages 5 and younger.

FREE TOT TIME AT BORO BEACH

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

WILSON COUNTY FAIR + TENNESSEE STATE FAIR

wilsoncountyfair.net
The 2025 Wilson County Fair + Tennessee State Fair opens today through Aug. 23 at the James E. Ward Agriculture Center in Lebanon, better known as the Wilson County Fairgrounds. There will be livestock shows, motorsports events, music on six stages, all kinds of exhibits, the Fiddlers Grove Historic



Village (where you can step back in time and see demonstrations of years past), more than 60 carnival rides for all ages and all kinds of entertainment. New carnival rides this year include "Hulk," "Ice Jet" and "New York NY." Gates open Monday – Friday at 4 p.m., Saturdays at 10 a.m. and Sundays at 12 p.m. Gate admission is \$15 for adults, \$6 for children 6–12 and children 5 and younger are free. Carnival armbands are \$25 Monday – Thursday; \$30 on Sunday & Friday; individual ride tickets only available on Saturday.

ARCHERY CLUB AT THE SMYRNA OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CENTER

615-459-9710
townofsmyrna.org
Try something new or sharpen your existing archery skills at the Smyrna Outdoor Adventure Center (100 Sam Ridley Pkwy., Smyrna). Happens from 4:30 – 6 p.m. Programs are always led by USA Archery certified instructors or coaches. Cost is \$3 for members and \$5 for non-members per class. For ages 8 and older, no exceptions.

FREE GOODLETTSVILLE FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

DESIGN TIME AT THE DISCOVERY CENTER

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

FREE HENDERSONVILLE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

See Thursday, Aug. 7.



Rainforest Cafe Back-to-School Bash: Meet Cha! Cha!, plus enjoy games, activities, giveaways and a special kid's buffet on Wednesday, Aug. 13 at the Rainforest Cafe inside Opry Mills Mall in Nashville.

THINGS TO DO



Museum Fun Day: *VROOM!* Join in for free vault tours, rides in select museum vehicles and in-museum vehicle demonstrations on Saturday, Aug. 16 at the Lane Motor Museum in Nashville.

**THE ODD COUPLE
AT CENTER FOR THE ARTS**
See Friday, Aug. 8.

**DOLLY: A TRUE
ORIGINAL MUSICAL**
See Friday, Aug. 1.

FRI 15

**FREE RUTHERFORD COUNTY
FARMERS MARKET**
See Friday, Aug. 1.

TODDLER TIME WITH THOMAS
See Friday, Aug. 1.

**FREE BABY AND ME PLAYTIME
AT NOLENSVILLE LIBRARY**
See Friday, Aug. 1.

**FREE MOVIE
FRIDAYS IN
SPRINGFIELD:
MUFASA**
springfieldtn.gov
Springfield Parks and Recreation brings free, family-friendly movies to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Park (2623 South Main St., Springfield) on the third Friday of each month through September. Movies start at sunset.

**FREE HIP DONELSON
FARMERS MARKET**
See Friday, Aug. 1.

**WILSON COUNTY FAIR +
TENNESSEE STATE FAIR**
See Thursday, Aug. 14.



**THE ODD COUPLE
AT CENTER FOR THE ARTS**
See Friday, Aug. 8.

**PBR: NASHVILLE
STAMPEDE DAYS**
pbr.com
Nashville's PBR (Professional Bull Riders) team, the Nashville Stampede, hosts a three-day homestand inside Bridgestone Arena (501 Broadway, Nashville) tonight at 7:45 p.m., Aug. 16 at 6:45 p.m. and Aug. 17 at 1:45 p.m. Witness bull riders going head-to-head. In addition, enjoy fan activation and live entertainment. Tickets start at \$34.

**DOLLY: A TRUE
ORIGINAL MUSICAL**
See Friday, Aug. 1.

**CANDLELIGHT
CONCERT: A
TRIBUTE TO ADELE**
feverup.com
Experience a string quartet playing anthems by Adele inside The Parthenon (2500 West End Ave., Nashville) bathed in candlelight at 8:45 p.m. Tickets start at \$34.50.

SAT 16
**FREE MURFREESBORO
SATURDAY FARMERS MARKET**
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

**FREE SMYRNA
FARMERS MARKET**
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

TOTS! AT CHEEKWOOD
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

**FREE FRANKLIN
FARMERS MARKET**
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

**FREE GALLATIN
FARMERS MARKET**
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

**FREE HENDERSONVILLE
FARMERS MARKET**
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

**SUMMER SPLASH
AT NASHVILLE ZOO**
615-833-1534
nashvillezoo.org
Every Saturday this month through Aug. 23, Nashville Zoo (3777 Nolensville Pike, Nashville) transforms into a water wonderland. From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the Festival Field, enjoy slip 'n slide fun, animal-themed sprinklers, a bubble zone and splash pools for littles. Today, kids can enjoy extra fun and play at the supervised splash zone that starts every hour on the hour from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

DROP-IN KIDS ART CLASSES
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

**INSIDE OUT AND BACKWARDS
AT NASHVILLE CHILDREN'S
THEATRE**
615-254-9103
nashvillechildrenstheatre.org
Designed especially for the youngest theatre-goers, this playful, participatory Snuggery piece lets littles giggle, wiggle and explore a world turned delightfully inside out ... and backwards! The show runs inside the Copeland Studio at Nashville Children's Theatre (25 Middleton St., Nashville), today through Dec. 7, on Thursdays and Fridays at 10:30 a.m., Saturdays at 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. and Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Recommended for ages 0-5. A Snuggery four-pack is \$15.

BABY GOAT CUDDLING
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

**FREE PARNASSUS BOOKS
STORYTIME**
See Saturday, Aug. 9.

TOTS! AT CHEEKWOOD
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

APPALACHIAN WATERCOLOR
615-416-2001
countrymusichalloffame.org
Inspired by Dolly Parton's East Tennessee roots, create your own artistic interpretation of the Appalachian Mountains using watercolors and crayons in the Country Music Hall of Fame's Taylor Swift Education Center (222 Rep. John Lewis Way S, Nashville) today and tomorrow, Aug. 17 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Recommended for ages 5 and up, but all are welcome. Included with admission; free to members.

LANE MOTOR VAULT TOURS
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

MUSEUM FUN DAY
615-742-7445
lanemotormuseum.org
Summer time means Museum Fun Days at the Lane Motor Museum (702 Murfreesboro Pike, Nashville)! With your paid admission (\$12 adults; \$3 for youths aged 6-17; children 5 and younger are free), join for free vault tours, free rides in a select museum vehicle and in-museum vehicle demonstrations from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The rides and vault tours are offered on a first-come, first served basis.

**WILSON COUNTY FAIR +
TENNESSEE STATE FAIR**
See Thursday, Aug. 14.

**FREE KIDSVILLE
AT THE PARTHENON**
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

MAKE FRIENDSHIP BRACELETS
See Monday, Aug. 4.

GLOW IN THE PARK
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

**FREE JAZZ ON THE HILLSIDE /
BLUEGRASS AT THE BARN**
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

**BEAUTIFICA 360 AT THE
SUDEKUM PLANETARIUM**
adventuresci.org
Experience this 360 degree journey through worlds real and imagined at the Sudekum Planetarium in Adventure Science Center (800 Fort Negley Blvd., Nashville). Showings are today and Aug. 30 at 4:30, 5:45, 7 and 8:15 p.m. The hour-long show is suitable for ages 6 and older. Cost is \$11 for non-members; \$7 for members.

BLACK ARTS BASH
615-356-8000
cheekwood.org
From morning to night, Cheekwood (1200 Forrest Park Drive, Nashville) celebrates Black artists with music, dance, spoken word, visual art and more. Attendees can explore and experience the many forms of Black musical expression and traditions, including gospel, R&B and funk. Other offerings include a community quilt activity, story time and hands-on activities for the kids, and southern homecooked favorites made by local Black chefs available for purchase. In addition, an exhibition of art from emerging and established artists will be on view in the Frist Learning Center. Cost is \$20 for adults, youth get in free (free for members).

**DOLLY: A TRUE
ORIGINAL MUSICAL**
See Friday, Aug. 1.

**THE ODD COUPLE
AT CENTER FOR THE ARTS**
See Friday, Aug. 8.

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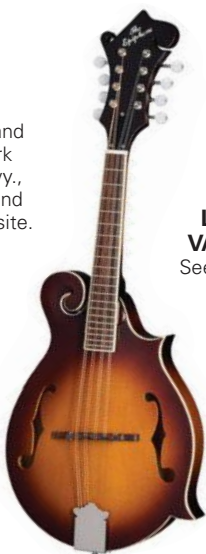
THINGS TO DO

FREE SPRING HILL'S PICKIN' IN THE PARK 931-487-0027

The family-friendly event features local musicians and songwriters at Harvey Park (4001 Miles Johnson Pkwy., Spring Hill). Bring chairs and blankets. Food trucks on site.

SUMMER SONGWRITER SERIES AT ROCK CASTLE historicrockcastle.com

Enjoy food trucks, inflatables, yard games and original music at Rock Castle (39 Rockcastle Lane, Hendersonville) from 5 – 9 p.m. Adults are \$10 and children are free.



SUN 17

INSIDE OUT AND BACKWARDS AT NASHVILLE CHILDREN'S THEATRE See Saturday, Aug. 16.

LANE MOTOR VAULT TOURS See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE COW CUDDLING AT THE GENTLE BARN See Sunday, Aug. 3.

HOUSE OF CARDS SUNDAY FAMILY BRUNCH See Sunday, Aug. 3.

APPALACHIAN WATERCOLOR See Saturday, Aug. 16.

NASHVILLE SC DASH AT THE CASTLE 5K MORNING RUN geodispark.com

Join Nashville SC for a certified 5K night run around GEODIS Park (501 Benton Ave., Nashville) and the Wedgewood-Houston neighborhood. Every registration includes a running belt, a complimentary ticket to the NSC vs. Orlando City match on August 23, 2025, and a Finisher's Medal. Run or walk and enjoy the exciting atmosphere starting at 7 a.m. Finish and hang around with a DJ, food, drinks and fun! Registration starts at \$69.90.

ONE NIGHT ONLY: THE ULTIMATE TRIBUTE TO THE BEE GEES tpac.org

Come and experience the sound, harmonies and falsetto voices of the brothers Gibb inside TPAC's Polk Theater (505 Deaderick Street, Nashville). Performing with a full band, the show recreates the Bee Gees 1998 Las Vegas appearance live. Show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets start at \$51.55.

PBR: NASHVILLE STAMPEDE DAYS See Friday, Aug. 15.

BOYS IN THE BAND: THE ALABAMA TRIBUTE 615-786-0186

wcparksandrec.com
See "Boys in the Band: The Alabama Tribute" live at the Williamson County Performing Arts Center at Academy Park (112 Everbright Ave., Franklin). Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$27.50 for ages 55 and older. Concerts start at 7 p.m.

GOATS AND GUITARS 615-481-9546

noble-springs.com
Enjoy this special family-friendly live music night, as well as baby goat cuddling, at Noble Springs Dairy Farm (3144 Blazer Road, Franklin) from 5 to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person. Children 2 and younger are free.

WILSON COUNTY FAIR + TENNESSEE STATE FAIR See Thursday, Aug. 14.

FREE JAZZ ON THE HILLSIDE / BLUEGRASS AT THE BARN See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE JAZZ ON THE CUMBERLAND

victorchatman.com
This popular jazz concert series is held on the third Sunday of the month through October from 5:30 – 8 p.m. The venue's located at Nashville Cumberland Park (592 S. First St., Nashville). Bring blankets or lawn chairs to enjoy top local, regional and national jazz artists live. Enjoy a variety of food trucks, concessions, vendors and even a "Kid's Fun Play Zone."

PBR: NASHVILLE STAMPEDE DAYS See Friday, Aug. 15.

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL See Friday, Aug. 1.

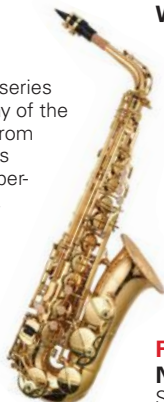
THE ODD COUPLE AT CENTER FOR THE ARTS See Friday, Aug. 8.

MON 18

FREE BABY TIME AT THE SPRING HILL LIBRARY See Monday, Aug. 11.

FREE MONDAY STORYTIMES AT NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY See Monday, Aug. 4.

WETLAND WALKS AT THE DISCOVERY CENTER See Monday, Aug. 4.



WILSON COUNTY FAIR + TENNESSEE STATE FAIR See Thursday, Aug. 14.

TUE 19

FREE TOT TIME AT BORO BEACH See Thursday, Aug. 7.

TOTS! AT CHEEKWOOD See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE TUESDAY STORYTIMES AT NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY See Tuesday, Aug. 5.

FREE STORYTIME AT THE SPRING HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY See Tuesday, Aug. 12.

FREE STORYTIMES AT THE BRENTWOOD LIBRARY See Tuesday, Aug. 12.

FREE TODDLER STORYTIME AT NOLENSVILLE LIBRARY See Tuesday, Aug. 5.

FREE STORYTIME AT BOWIE NATURE PARK 615-387-6140 wcpltn.org Join Fairview Library for an outdoor storytime at Bowie Nature Park (7211 Bowie Lake Road, Fairview) at 11 a.m.

TASTY TUESDAYS AT DISCOVERY CENTER See Tuesday, Aug. 5.



Nashville SC Dash at the Castle 5K Morning Run: Join Nashville SC for a 5K morning run around GEODIS Park on Saturday, Aug. 16. Registration includes a running belt, a ticket for the Aug. 23 match and a Finishers Medal.

WILSON COUNTY FAIR + TENNESSEE STATE FAIR See Thursday, Aug. 14.

CLIMBING CLUB AT THE SMYRNA OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CENTER See Tuesday, Aug. 12.

FREE 12 SOUTH FARMERS MARKET See Tuesday, Aug. 5.

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL See Friday, Aug. 1.

NASHVILLE SOUNDS BASEBALL See Tuesday, Aug. 5.

KATY PERRY

bridgestonearena.com
See pop star Katy Perry perform live inside Bridgestone Arena (501 Broadway, Nashville) beginning at 7 p.m. The tour is in support of her 2024 album, "143," and features a mix of her biggest hits and new songs. Tickets start at \$54.

WED 20

FREE WEDNESDAY STORYTIMES AT NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY See Wednesday, Aug. 6.

FREE STORYTIME AT THE SPRING HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY See Tuesday, Aug. 12.

FREE STORYTIMES AT THE BRENTWOOD LIBRARY See Tuesday, Aug. 12.

FREE NATURE CENTER PUPPET SHOW

615-862-8539
nashville.gov
Enjoy a feature presentation from a cast of puppets at the Shelby Bottoms Nature Center (1900 Shelby Bottoms Greenway, Nashville) from 10 – 10:30 a.m. Titles and topics are posted the week of the show.

WILSON COUNTY FAIR + TENNESSEE STATE FAIR

See Thursday, Aug. 14.

WILD WEDNESDAY AT SMYRNA OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CENTER

See Wednesday, Aug. 13.

NASHVILLE SOUNDS BASEBALL: WINNING WEDNESDAYS

See Wednesday, Aug. 6.

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL

See Friday, Aug. 1.

THU 21

INSIDE OUT AND BACKWARDS AT NASHVILLE CHILDREN'S THEATRE

See Saturday, Aug. 16.

EARLY LEARNERS AT SMYRNA OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CENTER

See Thursday, Aug. 14.

FREE PRESCHOOL STORYTIME AT NOLENSVILLE LIBRARY

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

FREE STORYTIME AT THE SPRING HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY

See Tuesday, Aug. 12.

FREE TOT TIME AT BORO BEACH

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

FREE RAPTOR RHAPSODY AT THE WILDERNESS STATION

See Tuesday, Aug. 12.

FREE GOODLETTSVILLE FARMERS & ARTISANS MARKET

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

DESIGN TIME AT THE DISCOVERY CENTER

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

FREE HENDERSONVILLE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

WILSON COUNTY FAIR + TENNESSEE STATE FAIR

See Thursday, Aug. 14.

DOG NIGHTS OF SUMMER AT CHEEKWOOD

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

NASHVILLE SOUNDS BASEBALL: THROWBACK THURSDAYS

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

FREE ALL ACCESS NIGHT AT THE DISCOVERY CENTER

615-890-2300
exploredc.org
Join at the Discovery Center (502 Southeast Broad Street, Murfreesboro) from 6 – 8 p.m. for a sensory-friendly evening designed for families of children with special needs. Reservations are required.

FREE 3RD THURSDAY ON MAIN CONCERT IN GALLATIN

downtowngallatin.com
Get your boogie on in downtown Gallatin with concerts held on the third Thursday of each month through September 18 from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

FREE NASHVILLE SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

nashvilleshakes.org
The Nashville Shakespeare Festival brings the Bard back to Music City for another round of Summer Shakespeare at The Yard at OneC1TY (1 City Boulevard, Nashville) Thursdays through Sundays (plus Labor Day), Aug. 21 – Sept. 21. This year, enjoy *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, a Shakespearean comedy that explores themes of marriage, playful revenge and everlasting friendship. The festival is a free (with a suggested \$10 per person donation per show). Each evening begins with food vendors at 5:15 p.m., an "Insight" talk at 5:30 p.m., a pre-show concert at 6 p.m. and the main performance at 7 p.m.

LINKIN PARK

bridgestonearena.com
American rock band Linkin Park performs live inside Bridgestone Arena (501 Broadway, Nashville) in support of the band's eighth studio album, "From Zero" (2024). Tickets start at \$60 and concert starts at 7:30 p.m.

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL

See Friday, Aug. 1.

FRI 22

FREE BABY AND ME PLAYTIME AT NOLENSVILLE LIBRARY

See Friday, Aug. 1.

FREE RUTHERFORD COUNTY FARMERS MARKET

See Friday, Aug. 1.

TODDLER TIME WITH THOMAS

See Friday, Aug. 1.

INSIDE OUT AND BACKWARDS AT NASHVILLE CHILDREN'S THEATRE

See Saturday, Aug. 16.

WILSON COUNTY FAIR + TENNESSEE STATE FAIR

See Thursday, Aug. 14.

FREE NASHVILLE FLEA MARKET

615-862-5016
nashvilleflea.com
The monthly flea market weekend returns with more than 800 hundred vendors from 30 states to shop from at the Nashville Fairgrounds (625 Smith Ave., Nashville). Parking is \$5.

BUTTERFLY BONANZA AT THE COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME

615-416-2001
countrymusicshalloffame.org
Come decorate your own butterfly that can flap its wings and fly in the Country Music Hall of Fame's Taylor Swift Education Center (222 5th Avenue South, Nashville) from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Included with admission. Free to members.



FATHER-SON ADVENTURE WEEKEND

615-794-2918
deerrun.camp/father-son
Need some quality father-son time? The weekend starts today at 4 p.m. and runs through Sunday, Aug. 24 at 11 a.m. with fun games and more to create life-time memories. Everything is planned — so just show up, choose the activities you want to participate in, and enjoy yourself! The weekend is awesome for uncles, foster dads, and mentors to be alongside the boys, too.

ADULTS ONLY POOL PARTY

nashvilleshores.com
Whether you're racing down slides or dancing under the stars, this is your night to let loose. No kids, no worries. Just good times and good vibes at Nashville Shores (4001 Bell Road, Hermitage) from 5 – 10 p.m. General admission is \$40 + tax.

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL

See Friday, Aug. 1.

FREE NASHVILLE SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

See Thursday, Aug. 21.

NASHVILLE SOUNDS BASEBALL: FOX17 (FIREWORK) FRIDAYS

See Friday, Aug. 8.

NFL PRESEASON: TENNESSEE TITANS VS. MINNEAPOLIS VIKINGS

nissanstadium.com
Titan up! The Tennessee Titans only home preseason game is against the Minneapolis Vikings at Nissan Stadium (1 Titans Way, Nashville), with kickoff at 7 p.m. Tickets start at \$22.

SONGWRITERS UNDER THE STARS AT CHEEKWOOD

615-356-8000
cheekwood.org
The region's finest players, writers and singers perform in the gardens under the stars at Cheekwood (1200 Forrest Park Drive, Nashville) tonight and tomorrow, Aug. 23. Concert starts at 7 p.m. and tickets start at \$65.

(please turn the page)



Father-Son Adventure Weekend: This father-son weekend Aug. 22 - 24 at Deer Run in Thompson's Station offers plenty of recreational choices, fun games and more to create life-time memories and a stronger bond.

THINGS TO DO



Maury County Fair: *Carnival rides, exotic animals, science shows and arena events (like the junk car jump & run and the Saturday motocross races) Aug. 28 – Sept 1 in Columbia.*

SAT 23

INSIDE OUT AND BACKWARDS AT NASHVILLE CHILDREN'S THEATRE

See Saturday, Aug. 16.

FREE MURFREESBORO SATURDAY FARMERS MARKET

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE SMYRNA FARMERS MARKET

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE FRANKLIN FARMERS MARKET

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE GALLATIN FARMERS MARKET

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE JR. NATURALIST: THE BUZZ ABOUT POLLINATORS

615-862-8539
nashville.gov

All sorts of pollinators are buzzing, fluttering and zipping around the Shelby Bottoms Nature Center (1900 Shelby Bottoms Greenway, Nashville) visiting the flowers. Come explore and find out from 9:30 – 11 a.m. For ages 6 and older. Must register.

BABY GOAT CUDDLING

See Saturday, Aug. 2.



the Festival Field. Today, kids can cool down and enjoy free ICEE samples.

FOX DAY AT THE DISCOVERY CENTER

615-890-2300

explorethcdc.org
Meet Dottie Jean — DJ for short — the Discovery Center's (502 Southeast Broad Street, Murfreesboro) red fox. She'll be making an appearance at 11 a.m. Learn about her diet, training and treats and then enjoy fox-themed fun from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Included with admission; free for members.

BUTTERFLY BONANZA AT THE COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME

See Friday, Aug. 22.

WILD ABOUT FUNGUS

owlshill.org

Learn the basics of mushroom cultivation and enjoy a guided hike at Owl's Hill Nature Sanctuary (545 Beech Creek Road, Brentwood). Learn about log selection, timing, spore selection, inoculation methods, harvesting and storage of the mushrooms. Happens from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Cost is \$40 for two people. Must register.

FREE HENDERSONVILLE FARMERS MARKET

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE PARNASSUS BOOKS STORYTIME

See Saturday, Aug. 9.

SUMMER SPLASH AT NASHVILLE ZOO

615-833-1534
nashvillezoo.org

It's your last chance to enjoy slip 'n slide fun, animal-themed sprinklers, a bubble zone and splash pools for littles at Nashville Zoo (3777 Nolensville Pike, Nashville) from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on

LANE MOTOR VAULT TOURS

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

WILSON COUNTY FAIR + TENNESSEE STATE FAIR

See Thursday, Aug. 14.

FREE KIDSVILLE AT THE PARTHENON

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FATHER-SON ADVENTURE WEEKEND

See Friday, Aug. 22.

MYSTIC MERMAIDS UNDER THE SEA BREAKFAST

See Saturday, Aug. 9.

FREE NASHVILLE FLEA MARKET

See Friday, Aug. 22.

FOO FIGHTERS LASER SHOW

615-862-5160

adventuresci.org

Sit back and jam out while enjoying vibrant lasers synced to hits from the Foo Fighters' rock catalog in the Sudekum Planetarium at Adventure Science Center (800 Fort Negley Blvd., Nashville). Cost is \$11 for non-members; \$7 for members. Happens from 4:15 – 5 p.m. Recommended for ages 10 and older.

WATER LANTERN FESTIVAL

waterlanternfestival.com

Come out to Nashville's Water Lantern Festival to decorate your own water lantern starting at 5 p.m. and then light up the lake at The Parthenon in Centennial Park (2500 West End Ave, Nashville) as it gets dark. Tickets are \$37.99 through the day of the event, \$57.99 at the gate.

CORNELIA AIRPARK CONCERTS

corneliaairportconcerts.com

Come to Nashville's Shelby Park for live music, dancing, craft beers, local food trucks, activities and "Instaworthy" moments (photos with the vintage plane). Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for each event with music starting at 5:45 p.m. Cost is \$20 and includes beer/wine ticket for ages 21 and older. Ages 15 and younger are free.

GLOW IN THE PARK

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE NASHVILLE SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

See Thursday, Aug. 21.

NASHVILLE SOUNDS BASEBALL: HIT CITY SATURDAYS

See Saturday, Aug. 9.

NERF WARS AT IMPACT SPORTS

See Saturday, Aug. 9.

SONGWRITERS UNDER THE STARS AT CHEEKWOOD

See Friday, Aug. 22.

NASHVILLE SC HOME GAMES

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

TURN TO STONE: A TRIBUTE TO ELO AT ACADEMY PARK

615-786-0186

wcparksandrec.com

See "Turn to Stone: A Tribute to ELO" perform live at the Williamson County Performing Arts Center at Academy Park (112 Everbright Ave., Franklin) at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$27.50 for seniors 55 and older.

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL

See Friday, Aug. 1.

SUN 24

INSIDE OUT AND BACKWARDS AT NASHVILLE CHILDREN'S THEATRE

See Saturday, Aug. 16.

LANE MOTOR VAULT TOURS

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE COW CUDDLING AT THE GENTLE BARN

See Sunday, Aug. 3.

HOUSE OF CARDS SUNDAY FAMILY BRUNCH

See Sunday, Aug. 3.

BUTTERFLY BONANZA AT THE COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME

See Friday, Aug. 22.



FREE NASHVILLE FLEA MARKET

See Friday, Aug. 22.

NASHVILLE SOUNDS BASEBALL: FAMILY FUN SUNDAY

See Sunday, Aug. 10.

FREE NASHVILLE SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

See Thursday, Aug. 21.

FREE JAZZ ON THE HILLSIDE / BLUEGRASS AT THE BARN

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL

See Friday, Aug. 1.

MON 25

FREE BABY TIME AT THE SPRING HILL LIBRARY

See Monday, Aug. 11.



See Blippi and "Be Like Blippi Week" at the Adventure Science Center: Kids can see Blippi as he visits the Adventure Science Center in Nashville. Dance and sing-along! The week after, enjoy an immersive "Blippified" pop-up experience throughout the building for "Be Like Blippi Week" Aug. 28 – Sept. 1.

FREE PRE-K PLAY AT THE BRENTWOOD LIBRARY

615-371-0090
brentwood-tn.libcal.com
Have your little ones enjoy music, games and fun physical activity as they explore, exercise and develop motor skills at the Brentwood Library (8109 Concord Road, Brentwood) from 10 – 10:45 a.m. This active program is ideal for children 2 – 5 years old.

FREE MONDAY STORYTIMES AT NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

See Monday, Aug. 4.

WETLAND WALKS AT THE DISCOVERY CENTER

See Monday, Aug. 4.

HOMESCHOOL MONDAY AT THE FRIST

615-244-3340
fristartmuseum.org
These drop-in days (no registration needed) at the Frist Art Museum (919 Broadway, Nashville) happen on the last Monday of each month (except May, November and December due to holidays) and offer special opportunities to learn more about selected exhibits. All adult visitors enjoy the discounted rate of \$16 on these special days. Youth ages 18 and younger are free.

TUE 26

FREE RUTHERFORD COUNTY FARMERS MARKET

See Friday, Aug. 1.

FREE TUESDAY STORYTIMES AT NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

See Tuesday, Aug. 5.

FREE STORYTIME AT THE SPRING HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY

See Tuesday, Aug. 12.

FREE STORYTIMES AT THE BRENTWOOD LIBRARY

See Tuesday, Aug. 12.

FREE TODDLER STORYTIME AT NOLENSVILLE LIBRARY

See Tuesday, Aug. 5.

FREE TODDLER TUESDAY AT SAM DAVIS HOME

615-459-2341
samdavisohome.org
Littles ages 1 – 4 can enjoy games, crafts, hikes, experiments, live animals and more at Sam Davis Home (1399 Sam Davis Road, Smyrna) on the last Tuesday of every month from 10 – 11 a.m. This month's theme is "Down on the Farm." Cost is \$8 for toddlers and siblings, free for parents.

FREE TOT TIME AT BORO BEACH

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

TOTS! AT CHEEKWOOD

See Saturday, Aug. 2.

CLIMBING CLUB AT THE SMYRNA OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CENTER

See Tuesday, Aug. 12.

TASTY TUESDAYS AT DISCOVERY CENTER

See Tuesday, Aug. 5.

NASHVILLE SOUNDS BASEBALL

See Tuesday, Aug. 5.

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL

See Friday, Aug. 1.

WED 27

FREE STORYTIME AT THE SPRING HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY

See Tuesday, Aug. 12.

FREE STORYTIMES AT THE BRENTWOOD LIBRARY

See Tuesday, Aug. 12.

BLIPPI VISITS THE ADVENTURE SCIENCE CENTER

615-862-5160
adventuresci.org
See Blippi at Adventure Science Center (800 Fort Negley Blvd., Nashville). Dance and sing-along! Advanced tickets are required. The week after, enjoy an immersive "Blippified" pop-up experience throughout the building for "Be Like Blippi Week" Aug. 28 – Sept. 1.

FREE MINECRAFT AT THE FAIRVIEW LIBRARY

wcpltn.org
Join at the Fairview Public Library (2240 Fairview Blvd., Fairview) for a kid-friendly Minecraft session from 1 – 3 p.m. Registration is required.

WILD WEDNESDAY AT THE SMYRNA OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CENTER

See Wednesday, Aug. 13.

NASHVILLE SOUNDS BASEBALL

See Wednesday, Aug. 6.

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL

See Friday, Aug. 1.

THU 28

INSIDE OUT AND BACKWARDS AT NASHVILLE CHILDREN'S THEATRE

See Saturday, Aug. 16.

FREE PRESCHOOL STORYTIME AT NOLENSVILLE LIBRARY

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

THINGS TO DO

EARLY LEARNERS AT SMYRNA OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CENTER

See Thursday, Aug. 14.

FREE STORYTIME AT THE SPRING HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY

See Tuesday, Aug. 12.

DESIGN TIME AT THE DISCOVERY CENTER

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

FREE MUSICIANS CORNER AND KIDSVILLE

musicianscornernashville.com
The fall concert series kicks off at Centennial Park (2500 West End Ave., Nashville) tonight (5 – 6 p.m.); Friday, Aug. 29 (5 – 9 p.m.); and Saturday, Aug. 30 (noon to 6 p.m.). Then, it continues on Friday evenings through Sept. 26. The event draws hundreds for live music, food vendors, local artisans and more and is also dog-friendly. Kids come front and center for Kidsville, a craft and fun tent just for them.

DOG NIGHTS OF SUMMER AT CHEEKWOOD

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

FREE NASHVILLE SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

See Thursday, Aug. 21.

NASHVILLE SOUNDS BASEBALL: THROWBACK THURSDAYS

See Thursday, Aug. 7.

LA VERGNE SUMMER CARNIVAL

615-793-3224
laveragnetn.gov
The carnival is coming back to Veterans Memorial Park (115 Floyd Mayfield Drive, La Vergne) Aug. 28 – 31, from 6 – 10 p.m. on Thursday and Friday; from 1 – 5 or 6 – 10 p.m. on Saturday; and from 1 – 5 or 6 – 9 p.m. on Sunday. Enjoy classic foods like hot dogs, funnel cakes, cheese curds, candied apples and fresh-squeezed lemonade. Enjoy the Ferris Wheel, Sizzler, Rock It, Fireball, Bee Bop, Tea Cups, Flying Elephants and Merry Go Round carousel. Armbands are available for unlimited rides and cost \$25.



(please turn the page)

THINGS TO DO



Hot Wheels Monster Trucks Live Glow-N-Fire: VROOM! This two-hour spectacle comes to Bridgestone Arena Aug. 29 and Aug. 30 and features glowing monster trucks, dirt bikes, a light show, a Hot Wheels toy giveaway and more.

MAURY COUNTY FAIR

maurycountyfair.com

Come out for carnival rides, exotic animals, science shows, arena events (like the junk car jump and run and the Saturday motocross races) and more Aug. 28 – Sept 1 at the Maury County Fair (1018 Maury County Park Drive, Columbia). Gates open at 4 p.m. (Midway at 6 p.m.) on Thursday – Friday, 1 p.m. (Midway at 2 p.m.) on Saturday and 3 p.m. (Midway at 4 p.m.) Sunday – Monday. Tickets are \$12 for adults; free for kids 12 and younger. Midway armbands are \$30 on Thursday (BOGO), Friday and Sunday; \$35 on Saturday; and \$35 on Monday.

LINKIN PARK

bridgestonearena.com
American rock band Linkin Park performs live at Bridgestone Arena (501 Broadway, Nashville) in support of the band's eighth studio album, "From Zero" (2024). Tickets start at \$60; concert starts at 7:30 p.m.

FRI 29

FREE RUTHERFORD COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
See Friday, Aug. 1.

FREE BABY AND ME PLAYTIME AT NOLENSVILLE LIBRARY
See Friday, Aug. 1.

INSIDE OUT AND BACKWARDS AT NASHVILLE CHILDREN'S THEATRE
See Saturday, Aug. 16.

EMBELLISHED INSTRUMENTS

615-416-2001

countrymusichalloffame.org
Young designers can personalize paper instruments inspired by those on display in the galleries at Country Music Hall of Fame's Taylor Swift Education Center (222 Rep. John Lewis Way S, Nashville), today through Aug. 31, from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Included with admission; free to members.

TODDLER TIME WITH THOMAS
See Friday, Aug. 1.

FREE BABY RAVE AT THE BRENTWOOD LIBRARY
615-371-0090

brentwoodtn.gov/library
Looking to get all of that energy out before naptime? Join in at the Brentwood Library (8109 Concord Road, Brentwood) from 10 – 11 a.m. when you and your child (ages 0-3) can bop until you drop! They will have kid-friendly music, fun light-up toys and more.

FREE HIP DONELSON FARMERS MARKET
See Friday, Aug. 1.

LA VERGNE SUMMER CARNIVAL
See Thursday, Aug. 28.

MAURY COUNTY FAIR
See Thursday, Aug. 28.

FREE MUSICIANS CORNER AND KIDSVILLE
See Thursday, Aug. 28.

CANDLELIGHT CONCERT: BEST OF HANS ZIMMER
feverup.com

Discover the music of composer Hans Zimmer ("Pirates of the Caribbean," "Inception," "Gladiator" and more) played by a string quartet amid candlelight inside The Conrad Hotel Nashville (200 4th Ave. N, Nashville). The concert starts at 6:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$32. For ages 8 and older.

DOLLY: A TRUE ORIGINAL MUSICAL
See Friday, Aug. 1.

NASHVILLE SOUNDS BASEBALL: FOX17 (FIREWORK) FRIDAYS
See Friday, Aug. 8.

FREE HUMMINGBIRD WATCH
615-862-8580
nashville.gov

It's Hummingbird Happy Hour at Beaman Park Nature Center (5911 Old Hickory Blvd., Ashland City) from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Observe ruby-throats flying 60 miles per hour from feeder to flower as they fuel up for their long journey south. Play hummingbird bingo, try on a hummingbird costume and more during this prime migration hummingbird hour.

FREE NASHVILLE SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL
See Thursday, Aug. 21.

HOT WHEELS MONSTER TRUCKS LIVE GLOW-N-FIRE
bridgestonearena.com

The Hot Wheels Monster Trucks Live Glow-N-Fire is at Bridgestone Arena (501 Broadway, Nashville) for a two-day, three-show run tonight and tomorrow, Aug. 30. The two-hour spectacle features a light show, effects, dance parties and toy giveaways. Fans can also witness a special appearance from the care-eating, fire-breathing, transforming robot MEGASAUROS™, plus the high-flying of Hot Wheels Monster Trucks Live Freestyle Motocross. Tickets start at \$34.55.

SAT 30

FREE HUMMINGBIRD FESTIVAL AT THE WILDERNESS STATION
615-217-3017

murfreesborotn.gov
Come out to The Wilderness Station at Barfield Crescent Park (401 Volunteer Road, Murfreesboro) for this free Hummingbird Festival from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. (bird banding is at 8 a.m., other activities start at 10 a.m.). There will be children's activities, guest speakers, hummingbird merchandise and more!

INSIDE OUT AND BACKWARDS AT NASHVILLE CHILDREN'S THEATRE
See Saturday, Aug. 16.

FREE MURFREESBORO SATURDAY FARMERS MARKET
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE SMYRNA FARMERS MARKET
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE FRANKLIN FARMERS MARKET
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE GALLATIN FARMERS MARKET
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

BABY GOAT CUDDLING
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

DROP-IN KIDS ART CLASSES
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE PARNASSUS BOOKS STORYTIME
See Saturday, Aug. 9.

FREE SATURDAY STORYTIME AT BRENTWOOD LIBRARY
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

TOTS! AT CHEEKWOOD
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

EMBELLISHED INSTRUMENTS
See Friday, Aug. 29.

KIDS FUN CONSTRUCTION FESTIVAL
615-274-3786

luckyladdfarms.com
Bring the kids to Lucky Ladd Farms (4374 Rocky Glade Road, Eagleville) to explore and climb on farm and construction equipment, hammer and drill at activity centers and more from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. A special construction site will be ready for exploration. Kids can climb on excavators, a bulldozer and lots of other farm and construction equipment. Plus, fun activity centers let kids practice skills of trade, life size Jenga games and giant Lincoln log building sets. General admission is \$17.

FREE KIDSVILLE AT THE PARTHENON
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

LANE MOTOR VAULT TOURS
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

FREE JAZZ ON THE HILLSIDE / BLUEGRASS AT THE BARN
See Saturday, Aug. 2.

LA VERGNE SUMMER CARNIVAL
See Thursday, Aug. 28.

MAURY COUNTY FAIR
See Thursday, Aug. 28.



ON YOUR RADAR!

NASHVILLE FAIR

Nashville Children's Theatre,
Nashville
nashvillechildrenstheatre.org

The women's college volleyball tournament comes to Bridgestone Arena (501 Broadway, Nashville) starting at 11 a.m. Tickets start at \$26 and matches start at 7:30 p.m.



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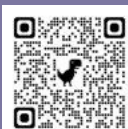
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www.Histown.com (615) 840-8849

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Act Too Players

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615-294-0667 | acttooplayers.com
1113 Murfreesboro Road, #119, Franklin



Adventure Science Center

Discover Nashville's Adventure Science Center's Early Explorers program: a weekly, themed story time for preschoolers! Every Monday at 9:30 a.m. in the Eureka Theatre, your budding scientist explores STEAM concepts through engaging stories and hands-on crafts. Included with general admission—fun, educational, and perfect for curious minds under five!

615-862-5160 | adventuresci.org/camps
800 Ft. Negley Blvd., Nashville



Children's Art Classes

Now registering for our fall art classes. Children require an outlet for their creativity to help them grow and thrive. Art programs for kids offer an excellent opportunity to find a new hobby and enrich your child's life. When enrolling your child in art classes for kids, they will get exposure to various mediums, allowing them to find an art style they enjoy for a lifetime. We also offer classes for moms and dads as well.

615-930-9304 | childrensartclasses.com
2909 Old Fort Pkwy, Ste. 102, Murfreesboro
7149 Nolensville Road, Nolensville



HisTown Dance and Performing Arts

Whether your child has been dancing for years, or this is their first time, Histown has a variety of dance camps, intensives and workshops for dancers of every age and level of experience, in a Christian, faith-based environment. Dancers are grouped together based on their age, skill and experience. Sign up for fall classes now!

615-840-8849 | histown.com
1010 Perrone Way, Ste. 200, Franklin



Nashville Children's Theatre Drama School

At NCT we believe that theatre skills are life skills. We celebrate each student's individuality. We believe in the power of 'play' and the greater learning that is derived from it. It is important to us for every young person to feel heard, celebrated, and uplifted. We currently offer fall, spring, Saturday classes and camps.

615-297-2966 | nashvillechildrenstheatre.org
25 Middleton St., Nashville



Vanderbilt Programs for Talented Youth

Whether you are a motivated young learner, the parent of an advanced child, or an educator who works with high-achieving students, there is something for everyone at PTY. Join us! We offer programs for talented children in grades K - 12 as well as their families and educators.

615-322-8261 | pty.vanderbilt.edu
Peabody #506, 230 Appleton Place, Nashville



Bricks 4 Kidz

Bricks 4 Kidz offers fun, hands-on LEGO® parties, classes and workshops for kids. Perfect for birthdays or afterschool programs, children build themed models, explore STEM concepts, and enjoy creative play. With exciting themes, games, and guided activities, Bricks 4 Kidz delivers an unforgettable experience where learning and fun come together!

615-931-7750 | bricks4kidz.us/tennessee-franklin
Various Locations Around Franklin



BOOST Gymnastics

Best of Parenting award winner - we offer fun, structured gymnastics programs for children of all skill levels. With a focus on confidence-building, strength, flexibility, and coordination, we provide a positive and encouraging environment where children thrive! Classes include parent and tot, preschool gymnastics, recreational gymnastics and tumbling, and competitive team programs.

615-352-8533 | boostgymnastics.com
11 Vaughns Gap Road, Nashville



BOOST Your Art

Powered by BOOST Gymnastics. Inspires creativity and self-expression through age-appropriate art and acting classes. From drawing and painting, mixed media and sculpture, to monologues, improvisation, and scene work, kids explore different techniques in a welcoming environment. Sessions are designed to nurture imagination, improve fine motor skills, and build artistic confidence.

615-352-8533 | boostgymnastics.com/boost-your-art
11 Vaughns Gap Road, Nashville



E.T.C. Gymnastics

Dedicated to bringing a new standard of excellence in gymnastics through Him. We offer classes for boys and girls ages 2 - 18 and all ability levels. We offer cheerleading and tumbling, as well as competitive teams. Now offering a Mommy and Me program Thursdays in Smyrna. We also do parties, field trips and parents' nights out.

615-867-6900 | 615-617-7644 | etcgymnastics.com
1137 Haley Road, Murfreesboro
11301 Old Nashville Hwy, Smyrna



FlyNash Aerial Arts

A new studio offering aerial instruction for all skill levels. Classes include Silks, Lyra/Hoop, Sling/Hammock, and Rope for ages 5 - adult. Led by experienced, certified instructors, we provide a safe and welcoming space for everyone to learn to fly. Private aerial birthday parties and special events. Grand Opening Special: \$10 trial classes! Proceeds from trial classes go towards Autism TN.

615-670-3055 | flynashstudios.com
2712 Clifton Ave., Nashville



LearningRx

At LearningRx, we transform the way you learn and think with the power of brain training! Through one-on-one training sessions, we help kids build early learning skills, including foundational skills for reading and math. Brain training gets to the root cause of how your child learns and our success is found in the smiles of our students and parents!

615-601-3254 | learningrx.com/franklin
100 Cool Springs Blvd., Ste. 200, Franklin



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615-994-1915 | mmamusic.com
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615-371-5437 | mygym.com/brentwood
330 Franklin Road, Brentwood



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615-972-0989 | newvisionsdojo.com
6601 Sugar Valley Drive #111, Nashville



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615-947-7679 | nsdanceacademy.com
7061 Moores Lane #400, Brentwood



Providence Christian Academy

We are an inter-denominational Pre-K - grade 12 independent school located in Murfreesboro. PCA offers a classical education with a Christian worldview, partnering with committed parents. Our mission is "to teach students to seek God's truth and to equip them with the tools for a lifetime of learning." Now enrolling for fall 2025. Call for a school tour today!

615-904-0902 | providencechristian.com
410 Dejarnette Lane, Murfreesboro



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615-583-8765 | schoolofrock.com/locations/mtjuliet
2010 Providence Pkwy. #100, Mt. Juliet



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615-573-2702 | mrbondscienceguy.com

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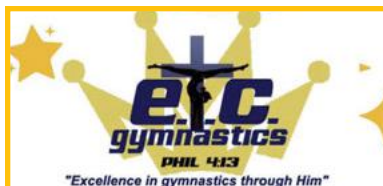
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615-509-9423 | southernstarsmontessori.net
910 Wedgewood Ave., Nashville



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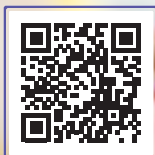
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