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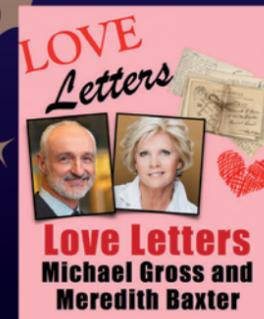
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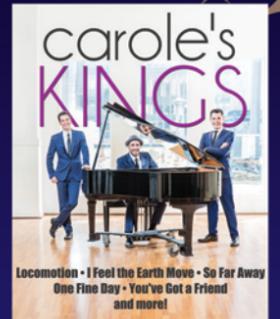
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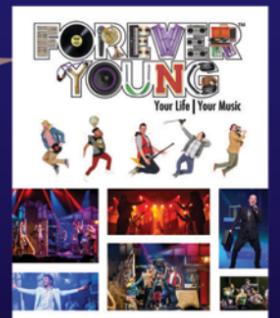
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STARRING MICHAEL GROSS & MEREDITH BAXTER
2.7.20 | 7:30PM



CATAPULT
THE AMAZING MAGIC OF SHADOW DANCE
9.28.19 | 7:30PM



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3.13.20 | 7:30PM



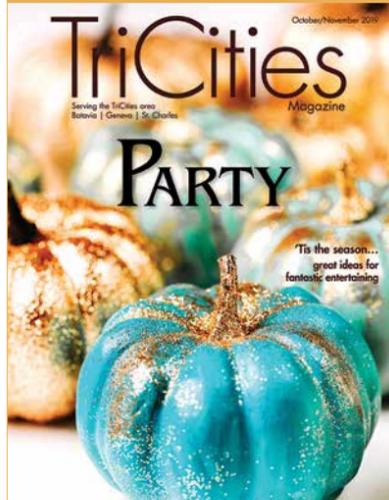
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Theatre 29

Shadow dancing in Batavia



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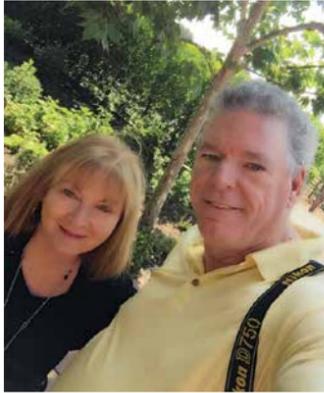
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“Indulge.” There are times when it is good and healthy to just let go...give unrestrained gratification to your favorite desires. This is the “ME” time that everyone needs. Time that is just for YOU.

If you spend most of your time, day in and day out, catering to the needs of others, you may be on a unhealthy path if you don't find a few moments to rejuvenate...to self-indulge. And what better time of year than right now. You've got 30-60 days to “refresh” before your mind and time are consumed with the busy holiday season.

We're taking advantage of this opportunity to spend a weekend with friends in Lake Geneva, and visit other friends in Ohio, and enjoy a weekend in Nashville with a few close family members. In October, we'll spend a long weekend in Door County, just the two of us. With no plans other than to let the weekend happen, take in the beautiful fall weather, and not think about anything else. We may “indulge” in one or two other pleasures reviewed in our feature story.

As publishers we live a life of endless deadlines, a lot of community involvement and our fair share of time with charitable organizations. And we love it! That's why we have to be careful not to fall into that unintended consequence...burnout.

Many of you know this feeling. So, don't be afraid or ashamed to take time for yourself. Your soul will thank you...and your loved ones probably will, too.

Have a peaceful Fall season,
Tim and Kate



Scott Lebin *Insights, page 8*

Scott Lebin is a long time Geneva resident, a board member of the Geneva Chamber of Commerce (20 years) and an avid photographer. Previously, he has written a bi-monthly article for the *Neighbors of Geneva Magazine*. He is president of Managed Economics for Doctors, Inc. and Lebin Financial Planning in Geneva. He is the past-president of Geneva Lions Club International, served on the financial advisory committee of the Geneva School District, served on the City of Geneva Economic Development Commission and was an elected member of the Board of Education. He is past president of the Illinois Theatre Association. Scott has been married to Bobbi for 52 years and has two children and three grandchildren.



Deb Gurley
Real Estate, page 22

Deb Gurley is the recipient of St. Charles 2015 L.E.A.P. Award, President of Geneva Women in Business-2014, president of St. Charles Women's Business Council-2015, current board member of Mutual Ground, current board member of the St Charles Chamber of Commerce and previous board member of Zonta. Currently, Deb is a Real Estate Broker for Miscella Real Estate in Geneva. She is also a Certified Interior Redesign Specialist, and Home Stager. Her guiding principle in real estate and in life is...“treat others with the respect, service and integrity they deserve.”

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Indulge in laughter



“Flying? I’ve been to almost as many places as my luggage!”
Bob Hope

Yogi Berra took language to humorous extremes by providing surprise twists from his original thought or idea.

“Baseball is ninety percent mental. The other half is physical.”

“If you don’t know where you are going, you might wind up someplace else.”

“I never blame myself when I’m not hitting. I just blame the bat and if it keeps up, I change bats. After all, if I know it isn’t my fault that I’m not hitting, how can I blame myself?”

Yogi Berra

Red Skelton told stories and with his team of writers was able to use life experiences in order to indulge TV audiences at home and in large theaters with the humor in life, creating laughter through his assault on relationships and stories that were close to home.

“My wife told me the car wasn’t running well because there was water in the carburetor. I asked where the car was. She told me, ‘In the lake.’”

“I married Miss Right. I just didn’t know her first name was Always.”
Red Skelton

Dealing with issues that impact our daily lives, George Carlin had a way of making important issues seem simple while creating a world that from his point of view was twisted and askew.

“I often warn people: ‘Somewhere along the way, someone is going to tell you, ‘There is no ‘I’ in team.’”

“What you should tell them is, ‘Maybe not. But there is an “I” in independence, individuality and integrity.’”

“Trying to be happy by accumulating possessions is like trying to satisfy hunger by taping sandwiches all over your body.”

“Never underestimate the power of stupid people in large groups.”
George Carlin

Groucho Marx showed a keen sense of wit and command of the language by way of using his intelligence to indulge our senses with absurd aspects of life.

“Getting older is no problem. You just have to live long enough.”

“Before I speak, I have something important to say.”

“Oh! Are you from Wales? Do you know a fella named Jonah? He used to live in wales for a while.”

Groucho Marx

Steve Martin also used his brilliant mind to set up a serious situation that used his unique point of view to create humorous punch lines.

“First the doctor told me the good news; I was going to have a disease named after me.”

Steve Martin

Using the same universal human attitudes Sophie Tucker used language to get us to laugh at ourselves.

“I’ve been rich, and I’ve been poor, rich is better.”

Sophie Tucker

Seventeen years ago, I asked Sylvia Simon, who lived and worked in Geneva, “You have lived 90 years, what advice would you give for the next generation to live a long-fulfilling life?”

She answered, “Oh that’s easy—there are four ways for us to (indulge) in a great life:

1. Get up every day with a passion for your work and play,
2. Don’t take yourself too seriously,
3. Accept your friends for who they are and don’t try to change them, or you will only be disappointed,
4. **Laugh each day as much as possible”**

The examples of humor and the advice of Sylvia remind us, as we indulge ourselves in the bike trails, the parks, the fine restaurants, the festivals, the art fairs, and the time spent with our families and neighbors, that we can measure our success by the amount of laughter we share together.

PHOTO: NATHAN ANDERSON FOR MEDIA BAKERY



by Scott Lebin

Laugh and the whole world laughs with you.

Wheeler Wilcox

We can measure our success by the amount of laughter we share together.

The solution to calm a frantic person, or give joy to the troubled person, or heal the sick person is to create laughter. Let’s explore some famous quotations from comedians that demonstrate the best ways language and stories have been used to indulge ourselves in the lighter side of life using humor to connect with our own humanity.

Some humor turns large life issues like the mystery of life into a simple explanation as Peter De Vries does in his following explanation:

“If you want my final opinion on the mystery of life and all that, I can give it to you in a nutshell. The universe is like a safe to which there is a combination. But

the combination is locked up in the safe.”
Peter De Vries

A simple situation can create the same kind of laughter just because a situational response is just the opposite of what we know should happen. Thus, our senses are indulged as a result of the absurd response of the defendant in the following example:

Judge: The charge is the theft of sixteen radios. Are you the defendant?

Defendant: No sir. I’m the guy that stole the radios.

Bob Hope creates some humor about travel but using a funny twist targets one aspect of the frustrations of flying.

Indulge

The end of summer and beginning of fall offers a short period of time for you to take some breaks from being chauffeur, cook, schedule keeper, nurse, and family manager and spend a little time on YOU...

In the next few weeks summertime will begin its transition to fall. Family vacations end, kids go back to school. There won't be another significant holiday until the end of October. September and October are the two of the best months of the year to self-indulge. Why? The two biggest reasons are weather and personal schedule. Although the days are getting shorter there is still plenty of daylight to enjoy, and some of

the best weather of the year. With the kids back in school, and no pressing holidays to swallow up your time, what are you going to do? For a short period of time you can take some breaks from being chauffeur, cook, schedule keeper, nurse, and family manager. It's time to spend a little time on "ME."

Besides, if you don't take this time to rejuvenate, you'll start the holiday season running on empty. Not good.

A study at Montreal University concluded that women are more likely to experience burnout than men. *Psychology Today* lists these signs of physical and emotional exhaustion: chronic fatigue, insomnia, forgetfulness/ impaired concentration

and attention, increased illness, loss of appetite, anxiety, depression, anger, along with a host of other physical symptoms.

"If you are experiencing some of these symptoms, this should be a wake-up call that you may be on a dangerous path. Take some time to honestly assess the amount of stress in your life and find ways to reduce it before it's too late. Burnout isn't like the flu; it doesn't go away after a few weeks unless you make some changes in your life. And as hard as that may seem, it's the smartest thing to do because making a few little changes now will keep you in the race with a lot of gas to get you across the finish line."—*Psychology Today*

You know the basics to better mental health: eat right, get enough sleep, exercise and...learn how to say "No!"

And how about some really "good for me" self-indulgence. Why not! You deserve it. So, before you have to turn back every minute of your life to others... here are some little things you can indulge in and be happy.

Treat yourself to a little luxury.

Spend an hour at State Street Jewelers in Geneva and pick out something special just for you. Figure out your guilt threshold budget and spend it. Then go home and show it off with a little "me" attitude. Feels good already, doesn't it? It works just as well with clothes, handbags, furs.

Indulge in decadent food.

So, what have you been denying yourself, forever: chocolate, ice cream, sushi, steak, seafood? Even if just once, go for it. DO NOT save this for the holidays. Go to Batavia Creamery (Batavia) for ice cream, as for chocolate, you could take a self chocolate tour down Third St. in Geneva.

For seafood, check out Crabby Boil in Batavia. This Louisiana Cajun style fare is fun, messy, delicious and memorable. It's more than dining out. It's an experience.

Go solo and dine alone on a quiet afternoon. Go to your favorite local restaurant, between 1pm and 4pm, with a book or headphones and enjoy a relaxing afternoon meal.



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Fine dining date.

Have a date with your spouse or significant other at a special restaurant. Splurge and indulge. If you don't mind a 35 minute drive, check out Migrate Restaurant in East Dundee.

Music.

Music is one of the proven methods of self rejuvenation. It reduces stress, improves healing, helps reduce depression and other psychological disorders. Music is a powerful anecdote for burnout and a perfect companion to self indulgence.

"A study published in the *Journal of Health Psychology* found that participants

who listened to classical music had significantly lower blood pressure levels than participants who did not hear any music. Researchers believe that listening to music may help your heart recover from stress, decreasing blood pressure as a result." *Readers Digest*

Of course you want music that you enjoy most, but if you have not experienced classical music, spend an evening with the Elgin Symphony Orchestra. Whether or not you are a fan of classical, the live performance of a full orchestra will leave you feeling rejuvenated and possibly inspired.

Theater.

Maybe a theatre performance downtown Chicago is on your self indulging wish list, but there are some pretty good offerings in the TriCities area: Arcada Theatre in St. Charles, Batavia Fine Arts Centre in Batavia, and Paramount Theatre in Aurora. See page 29

Art.

There's a film festival coming to the TriCities in September. A perfect and rewarding way to escape the ordinary. See page 30.

Buy a new car.

Seriously, if you are in the market for a new car, don't wait until next spring, get in the driver's seat now. The experience of buying/leasing a new car is exhilarating. And the thrill lasts for months. So, while you're enjoying this time to self-indulge, you might as well do it on new wheels.

Body pampering.

As soon as you walk into your favorite salon/spa, it's all about you. For a short time you can leave all your worries behind and enjoy the moment. Most resources agree that a spa treatment has positive health benefits. For example, a massage can release serotonin, which is an essential chemical for transmitting messages between nerve cells. Katrina's in Batavia, offers a 90-minute facial that



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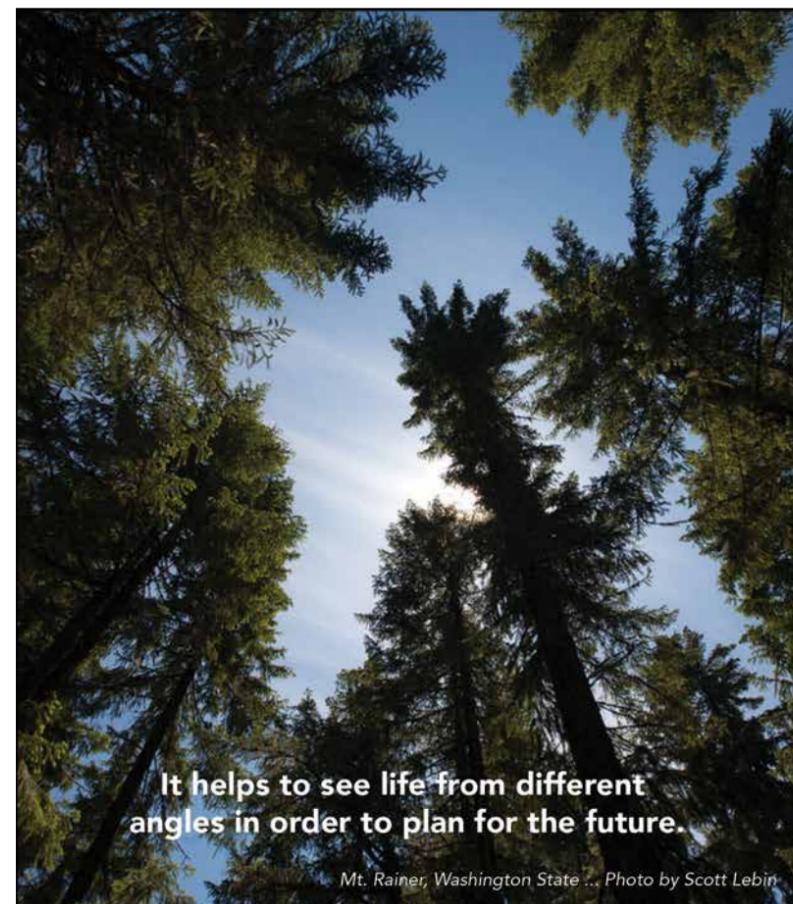



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Mt. Rainer, Washington State ... Photo by Scott Lebin

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includes advanced skin care, using the latest technology depending on your skin needs (microdermabrasion, microcurrent, ultrasound, LED therapy, or oxygen therapy).

Or, treat yourself to a new look for fall with a makeover at Merle Norman in Geneva.

A quiet afternoon.

Have you been to Harvey's Tales bookstore in Geneva? There are two floors with little nooks for every genre, a refreshment bar and outside patio. Pick out a book, get a smoothie, relax and read.

Nomad weekend vacation.

Most people over plan their vacations and before they leave, they have built stress into the trip. Escape for a mystery weekend. For example, book a room in Door County, WI for a 3-day weekend in September or October and just go. Do no other planning ahead. Let the weekend find you. You'll discover all the things you would have missed if you planned

ahead. Letting the days just happen, can lead to some unplanned adventures, and unanticipated special moments. As long as you don't worry about all the things you would have done if you planned ahead, you will have a totally relaxing, rejuvenating experience.

Nomad vacation to do list: Pick a place; book a room; pack light; bring a cooler with drinks and snacks; avoid venues and restaurants that require reservations; let it happen.

Personal.

Indulge in something personal: soft sheets, satin, bubble baths, candles, chocolate covered strawberries, old romantic movies,

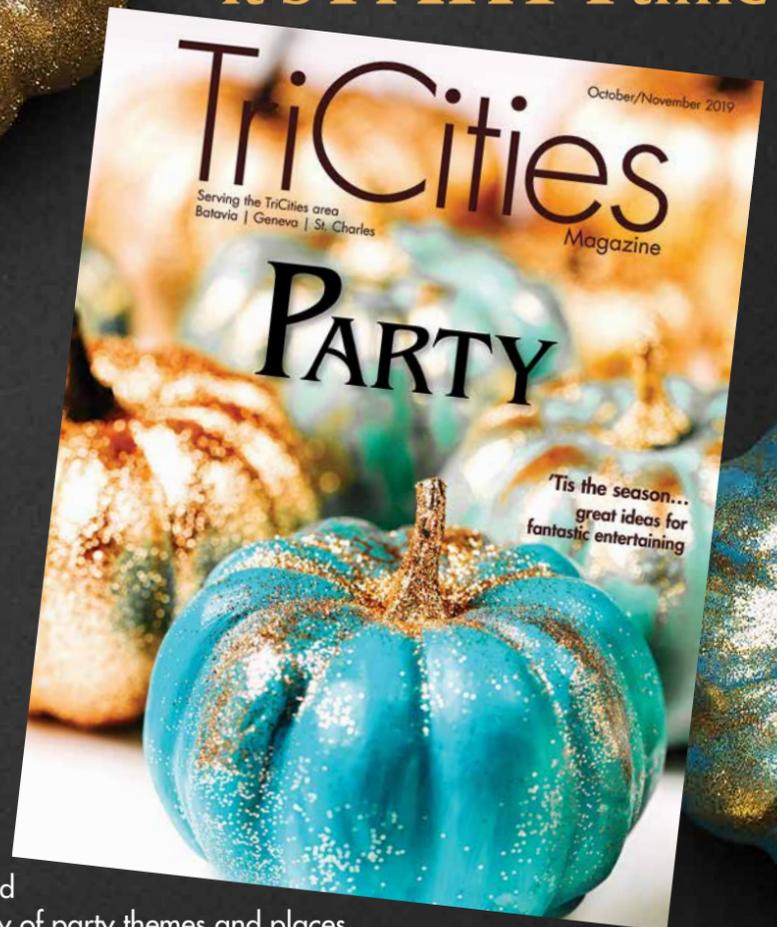
Find what works for you and do it. Take a walk in a forest preserve, go window shopping, spend more time at your gym. Discover ways to enjoy personal time while you have it. Not only will you feel better about yourself, but don't be surprised if your rejuvenated self makes others feel better, too.

Go:

- AfterImage Film Festival: afterimagefilmfestival.com
- Arcada Theatre: 630-962-7000, arcadalive.com
- Batavia Creamery: 630-482-3729, bataviacreamery.com
- Batavia Fine Arts Centre: 630-937-8930, bataviafineartscentre.org
- Crabby Boil: 630-454-4392, crabbyboil.com
- Elgin Symphony Orchestra: 847-888-4000, elginsymphony.org
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TriCities Magazine

It's PARTYtime!



In the next issue we will offer suggestions for all sorts of party themes that are popular during the "party" season, from early October all the way through to January 1.

In addition to Halloween and Thanksgiving, there are plenty of party themes and places to have them (in addition to your home).

Many businesses entertain small private parties and host special party events: jewelry stores, spas, restaurants, gift stores, specialty stores, art galleries, churches, schools. Venues like Abbey Farms and Funway have unique spaces for special gatherings. And businesses like Gatherings by Design can make your party especially memorable.

We'll have tips for throwing a great party. Suggestions for unique venues. A list of events from local businesses and organizations.

Online we'll have party resources, coupons, party packages, and some very special party recipes.

Party time—fall party themes

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Reveal Party | Film Fest party |
| Halloween Party | Backyard campfire |
| Thanksgiving dinner for two | Fall fashion party |
| German Theme | Pumpkin Party |
| at-home "Oktoberfest" | Football Party |
| Christmas family gatherings | Harvest Party |
| New Years Eve or New Years Day | Teen Party |

End the summer with serenity at Calabash Cove Resort & Spa

The perfect late summer indulgence to renew.

(NewsUSA) August: the dog days of summer are still long and warm, and there's still time to indulge in an adults-only vacation before the pace picks up in the fall with a return to school schedules and the impending holidays.

The Caribbean remains a hot spot all year round, including August, and island breezes keep the heat at bay.

Calabash Cove, a secluded luxury resort on the island of Saint Lucia, is a place where adult singles and couples can enjoy an intimate beachfront location with no crowds and plenty of peace and quiet for reading, relaxing, and reflecting.

Some top reasons to choose the Caribbean in August:

~ *Good deals:* August is often a slower travel time, so flights are often cheaper than they were earlier in the summer and many resorts, such as Calabash Cove, offer special promotions for the end-of-summer vacationers.

~ *No kids:* August is a great time to send the kids to camp or to Grandma's, so busy parents can take a break and recharge on their own before school schedules take over with the soon-to-be hustle and bustle of the impending

holidays.

~ *Special events:* Summer is festival season at many Caribbean islands and Saint Lucia is no exception. Visitors considering an August trip may want to include the Roots & Soul Festival, which takes place August 23-25. The festival features musicians on the cutting edge of reggae, conscious hip-hop, Afro-punk, and R&B, and includes performances and master classes.

Whatever the reason or season, Calabash Cove offers a perfect change of pace.

The unconditional all-inclusive package covers all food and drinks, including room service, daily specials, an in-room bar, lobster (in season), and more than 20 wines by the bottle from an extensive wine list. For those who want to relax, but not unplug, WiFi is included (as are tips).

Calabash Cove's property of 26 guest suites features not only a private beach, but also a nearby coral reef, tropical gardens, and architecture designed to promote relaxation and enhance the sunset views.

Guests looking for a bit of adventure can explore the nearby

Rodney Bay Village, which boasts approximately 40 bars and restaurants, and those craving action can take advantage of Calabash Cove's paddle boats, kayaks, and snorkeling gear at no charge.

Guests who miss their traditional workouts can work up a sweat at the resort's Cybex cardiovascular fitness center, while those who seek more pampering can indulge in a full range of services at the spa.

Go:

Calabash Cove:

calabashcove.com/summer-days



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Mindfulness and its proven impact on loneliness: What you should know

Mindfulness can have a wide range of positive health benefits from memory improvement to reducing stress.

(BPT) Maybe you know someone who stands by taking five minutes each morning to meditate or finds time after lunch to quiet his or her mind and focus on breathing. Whatever the method may be, incorporating “mindfulness” practices into your life can have a wide range of positive health benefits like improving your memory, sleep and immune system; reducing stress and feelings of loneliness and increasing compassion toward others and yourself.

Mindfulness means taking time to pay attention to yourself and your thoughts and feelings. Read on to learn how you can put mindfulness into practice in your life to help improve your overall health.

Make mindfulness a routine

- Find five to ten minutes each day to sit quietly and focus on your breath. (Helpful hint: Put your phone on silent or in another room so you can concentrate!) Take the time to notice where your mind goes and how your body is feeling. You just might find that this helps you focus and prioritize your day.

- Before you go to bed take time to focus on the good things that happened

that day. Write your thoughts down in a journal. Writing them down can help you deliberately recognize the positive, even on a tough day.

- Search for “mindfulness apps” on your smartphone or tablet that lead you in a mindfulness exercise. For many people, using an app is an easy way to remain consistent with the practice. And many of these apps are free!

Lonely? Mindfulness can help

Mindfulness has been shown to help older adults overcome a silent but urgent health issue: loneliness. It is estimated that more than half of adults age 65 and over regularly experience moderate to severe loneliness. Loneliness is characterized by a marked difference between someone’s desired companionship and actual relationships. Through unique studies conducted by UnitedHealthcare and AARP, researchers are applying the techniques of mindfulness to help combat loneliness in older adults.

Loneliness poses a serious threat to the quality of life for older adults. It is linked to negative health outcomes such



as higher risk of dementia, mortality and disability.

“The health risk of chronic loneliness, in older adults, is equivalent to smoking 15 cigarettes a day, and has a greater impact on mortality than obesity,” said Dr. Charlotte Yeh, M.D., chief medical officer, AARP Services Inc. “That is why UnitedHealthcare and AARP Services Inc. are collaborating to identify actionable solutions, geared for

any individual across the spectrum of loneliness.”

Researchers looked at whether mindfulness interventions, like breath awareness, self-compassion and kindness exercises, could positively impact a person’s optimism and quality of life—all factors that help reduce loneliness.

Conclusions were encouraging: Mindfulness activities were shown to decrease loneliness among older

adults. The research demonstrated that mindfulness reduced stress, and improved memory, sleep, the immune system, resiliency and compassion for self and others.

Although loneliness is complex and challenging to address, a mindfulness practice may help you live your best life.



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HOME sweet HOME

by Deb Gurley

A home's amenities allow the owner to feel spoiled.

The luxury style home market has features many would consider extravagant, excessive, exorbitant, grandiose and lavish. This indulgent market however has features all of us could learn from, replicate, and enjoy:

High tech everywhere—One touch of a button or with your voice command and you can lock doors, open windows or close shades, control thermostats and lights, manage sophisticated security, stream favorite music, turn on irrigation systems, adjust power solar energy panels, etc. These wireless home automation devices make our lives easier and more convenient.

Spacious closets—Picture big and then larger, now even bigger. Closets, especially opulent master closets, can rival square footage of many rooms. Call it a dressing suite or a walk-in bedroom extension with its chandelier, they are definitely designed for more than just clothes. Many boast islands, dedicated shoe, jewelry and purse systems, built-in laundry, beverage stations and comfortable seating.

Top notch entertainment centers—Private home theater and gaming rooms, trendy sports bars and lavish sports courts, vanishing edge pools—these unique spaces created to play and entertain have amenities that would rival any vacation spot. Whether it be indoor basketball, hockey, putting greens, bowling alleys, swimming pools or tennis courts, luxury homeowners have taken this enjoyment to a new level especially with stadium style seating including the latest lighting and sound technology.

Gyms and spas—Fully equipped and dedicated rooms for massage, acupuncture, yoga, stationary cycling, boxing, indoor lap pools, saunas and massive walk-in showers, home gym space is popular for weights, high end equipment featuring built in speaker systems and TV. Master bath spas continue to have sumptuous features creating everyday pampering and relaxation space with rain and dual shower heads, body jets, steam showers, elaborate custom vanities, touchless plumbing fixtures, heated tiles and towel bars.

Outdoor kitchens—An extension of indoor living comfort, guests are able to be spectators and relax while watching their host create a culinary masterpiece. A fully stocked outdoor kitchen includes upgraded commercial appliances and large islands with plenty of countertop space. Open outdoor gourmet kitchen and dining areas attract desirable *al fresco* dining, creating a hub for families and friends to gather together.

Garage showrooms—Car collectors look for spaces to display their vehicles as works of art. Heated floors, oversized doors and floor drains with high tech options have become the norm. Many luxury homeowners believe their six-car garage is the crown jewel, no longer tucked away space, but rather innovative design as their exclusive sanctuary.

An indulgent home is one whose amenities allow the owner to feel spoiled. Each of us have different tastes and lifestyle goals. You can create your own tranquil retreat and feel luxurious with small indulgences like upgraded bedding or an elaborate herb garden. Let your oasis be a place to relax and say aahhh...this is my Home Sweet Home.



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Artisans wanted for the Autumn Craft & Vendor Show

The 34th Autumn Craft & Vendor Show will be at Batavia High School this Oct. 19. The Batavia Mothers' Club Foundation (BMCF) is currently looking for participators who wish to sell their artisan gifts at the event or provide donations for the charity raffle. Proceeds from entry, the raffle and ever-popular Bake Sale will go to support community organizations and schools through the foundation.

Relax with Tai Chi or Yoga in the garden

Healing Gardens at Stone Hill Farm will present Tai Chi in the Garden and Yoga in the Garden on Aug. 11 & Sept. 8. Weather permitting, Tai Chi will be from 11:30am-12:30pm with instructor Jarett Sanchez of Fox Valley Tai Chi. Yoga will be from 1-2pm, taught by Nancy May of Yoga from the Heart. Please register via yogafromtheheart.org and foxvalleytaichi.us. Stone Hill Farm is located at 37W249 Dean St. in St. Charles.

Country dance classes at Fermilab's Kuhn Barn

All are welcome to take various dance classes at the newly air-conditioned Kuhn Barn, Fermilab. There is traditional Barn dancing on Aug. 11, 6:30pm, for a small fee. There are also



The charity raffle is just another way the Batavia Mothers' Club Foundation gives back to the community through the Autumn Craft & Vendor Show.

three free classes: English and Scottish country and International folk dancing. English will be one Sunday a month, 2-5pm; Scottish is every Tuesday, 7:30-10pm; and International is every Thursday, 7:30-10pm. Contact Mady Newfield (see the 'Go' section) for questions.

Give your nature-loving kid a party they'll remember

Woodland-themed parties are now available through the Forest Preserve District of Kane County. Experience a party in the great outdoors at LeRoy Oakes, followed by free time at Creek Bend Nature Center. Choose from a naturalist-led, one-hour activity of your choice or a discussion around a cozy campfire. Parties include nature-themed party favors, while families bring their own food, drinks, cake and decorations.

AfterImage Film Festival Trailer extravaganza

On Aug. 23, at Playhouse 38 in Geneva, see previews of films that will be part of the new AfterImage Film Festival this fall. There is a wide variety of films, including documentaries, dramas and stop motion animation. Content is suitable for all ages. Beer and wine will be available. Learn more about AfterImage in the Last Look section.

2019 Batavia Block Party & Taste of Batavia

This Labor Day weekend, Sept. 1, visit the Downtown Batavia Block Party & Taste of Batavia. From 4-9pm, there will be a Pie Bake-Off, Classic Car Cruise, fantastic live music, dancing and a huge kid's area for play and lawn games. It's a great way to make the most of

your weekend along with the community.

The 43rd Fox Valley Folk Music & Storytelling Festival

The Fox Valley Folklore Society, Geneva Park District and City of Geneva will present this yearly festival at Island Park on Sept. 1 & 2. From 11am-6pm, visitors of all ages (kids 12 and under are free) can hear live folk music and storytelling on eight stages. Bluegrass, Irish traditional and Sacred Harp choral music will also be performed. On Sunday, the day is extended with the Old-Time Community Barn Dance, 6-7:30pm, and Ghost Stories, 7:30-10pm.

Festival of the Vine

Enjoy wine, food and fun at Geneva's annual Festival of the Vine, Sept. 6-8. The fall festival brings plenty of samples at its Flavor Fare, wine tastings from around the world, the Fine



Sample wines from around the world and mouthwatering specialties at Geneva's Festival of the Vine, Sept. 6-8.

Arts & Crafts show, floral and farmers' markets, live entertainment and children's activity booths. Trolley and carriage rides are available for scenic, safe traveling. Hours are Fri. & Sat., 10am-10pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.

ArtsFest St. Charles

The 9th annual ArtsFest presents 'all of the arts, all over town' from Sept. 6-15. Event organizer, the St. Charles Arts Council, will have a pop-up gallery and its second annual Poetry Crawl where poems are placed in the windows of downtown businesses. Also visit All Things Art's Open Studio, the St. Charles Library for historic photos celebrating 185 years, 116 Gallery for glass art and Fine Line Creative Arts Center for an all-media national exhibit, Chroma. More events are listed online and on our Music & Theatre pages.



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9th Annual United Fall Fest

The United Fall Fest will be on Sept. 7, 3–10pm, at the Congregational United Church of Christ, 40W451 Fox Mill Blvd., Campton Hills. The all-ages, charitable fundraising event includes live music by the School of Rock and Deluxe Edition, a classic car show, beer and wine tent, bouncy houses, face painting, outdoor movie and hay ride. Smoked beef brisket and pulled pork will be available. Dave DiNaso's Traveling World of Reptiles will have kids enthralled, and the fun night ends with a fireworks show.

Lazarus House Open

Lazarus House will host its golf outing fundraiser on Fri., Sept. 13 at Prairie Landing Golf Club in West Chicago. Starting at 11am, have a splendid day of golf followed by a buffet dinner, raffles and awards for categories like Longest Putt and Straightest Drive. All proceeds will benefit Lazarus House operating funds. Make your reservation today via Darlene Riebe.

The Classic Car Show in St. Charles

The St. Charles Chamber of Commerce is hosting The Classic, its annual car show, on Sept. 13 & 14 at Baltria, 4200 E. Main St. It will showcase a variety of cars, include VIP opportunities at the Pavilion on Friday



PHOTO: CHARLES PETERSON

Mallory Blomquist of St. Charles enjoys the fun at the United Fall Fest.

and have live entertainment on Saturday with Rick Lindy and the Wild Oats. There will also be carnival rides for kids on Saturday, booths and food vendors. Hours are 5–8pm, Fri. and 10am–4pm, Sat.

40th Anniversary Gala for Fine Line Creative Arts Center

Plan to attend Fine Line Creative Arts Center's 40th Anniversary Gala on Sept. 27. It will be at the Q Center in St. Charles. The not-for-profit arts center supports artists and the community with classes, exhibits and arts and crafts opportunities in a natural setting. Purchase tickets online or by phone to support 40 years of art inclusiveness in the TriCities.

Annual Bazaar at Covenant Living at the Holmstad

On Sept. 28, peruse hand-crafted items at, newly titled, Covenant Living at the Holmstad. This is the 42nd

year the bazaar will open to the public, and admission is free. From 9am–3pm, there will be a huge selection of baked goods, wood and needle crafts, seasonal wreaths, designer knits and plants along with second-hand treasures. Cards, cash or checks will be accepted. There will be drawings for cash prizes and a hand-made quilt. Proceeds go to the residents' Benevolent Care Fund, Batavia Library and CHIP IN Batavia.

NAMI 5K Run for Mental Health

On Oct. 5, 9am, enjoy a brisk run in support of the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the largest grassroots collective that provides mental health resources. The run will begin at the Peg Bond Center by the Batavia Riverwalk. It includes a quality T-shirt and has a live DJ and prizes at the end. Online pre-registration, for individuals and teams, closes at noon on Oct. 3.

Benefit Auction for AID

The Association for Individual Development (AID) will host a themed Benefit Auction on Thurs., Oct. 10 at the lovely Fishermen's Inn, 43W901 Main St., Elburn. The organization has helped individuals with physical, developmental, intellectual and mental health challenges since 1961. Tickets will be available online in early Sept. You can also support AID by donating auction items like tickets, gift cards or sharing a timeshare getaway.



Auction goers consider their bids at last year's AID benefit and auction. This year's event is Oct. 10.

Go:

- Association for Individual Development: 847-931-2294 AIDcares.org
- Batavia Main Street: 630-761-3528 downtownbatavia.com
- Batavia Mothers' Club Foundation: 630-282-3153 bataviamothersclub.org
- Covenant Living at the Holmstad: 877-226-7310 covlivingholmstad.org
- Healing Gardens: 630-740-2597 healinggardensatstonehillfarm.com
- Fermlab Dance Programs: 630-584-0825 orgs.fnal.gov/folkclub/folkdance
- Festival of the Vine: 630-232-6060 genevachamber.com
- Fine Line Creative Arts Center: 630-584-9443 fineline.org
- Forest Preserve District of Kane County: 630-444-3190 kaneforest.com
- Fox Valley Folk Festival: 630-897-3655 foxvalleyfolk.com
- Lazarus House: 630-587-2144 lazarushouse.net
- National Alliance on Mental Illness: 630-896-6264 nami5k.com
- St. Charles Arts Council: 630-443-3794 stcharlesartscouncil.org
- St. Charles Chamber of Commerce: 630-584-8384 stcharleschamber.com
- United Fall Fest: 630-253-5659 unitedfallfest.com

Celebrate Oktoberfest

Oktoberfest returns Sept. 27–29 to Batavia's River St. The festival features authentic German food and music, entertainment, contests and, of course, beer. Jumpstart the weekend with Saturday's Brat Trot 5k. Sunday is family day with free pony rides, face painting and a kids' tent with more activities. Hours are Fri., 5–10pm; Sat. 11am–10pm; Sun., 11am–5pm. The event is put on by Batavia MainStreet.



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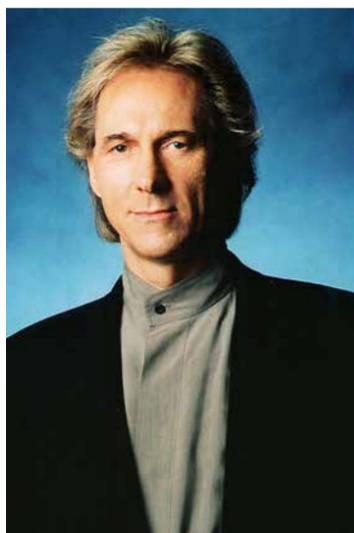
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PHOTO: BENJAMIN EALOVEGA

Renowned pianist Dinara Klinton opens Elgin Symphony's 70th season Sept. 14.



Gary Puckett and the Union Gap join the Buckingham and others for the Happy Together tour at Paramount Aug. 16.

Music Matters Summer Festival

Peg Bond Center, Batavia Riverwalk Aug. 9 & 10

Free, family-friendly event has great live bands, food, craft beer and art/kids' zones. Friday is Rock & Country Night: The Hartfield, 5pm; Noah's Arcade, 6pm; and Whiskey Romance, 8pm. Saturday celebrates the music of the '80s and beyond: Student Showcase, 2pm; Marina Alyse & Students, 3pm; Electro Retro, 4:30pm; Iverson, 6pm; and Serendipity, 8pm.

Happy Together Tour 2019

Aug. 16, 8pm—Paramount Theatre, Aurora

Listen to the live music of the '60s and '70s. Experience The Turtles, Chuck Negron (formerly of Three Dog Night), Gary Puckett & The Union Gap, The Buckingham, The Classics IV and The Cowsill—all playing their most popular songs.

St. Charles Singers Mozart Festival

Aug. 23–25—Baker Memorial Church & Hotel Baker, St. Charles

Aug. 23, 7:30pm; Aug. 25, 3pm: St. Charles Singers presents Mozart Journey XV, the 15th installment of the Singers' multi-year survey of Mozart's complete sacred choral music, including unfinished works. They will perform with the Metropolis Chamber Orchestra.

Aug. 24, 11am—Metropolis Plays Mozart: The Metropolis Chamber Orchestra presents an all-instrumental concert and brunch on the Fox River at the Hotel Baker.

Music at the 9th Annual ArtsFest

Mainstage Theatre, 8pm—Pheasant Run, St. Charles

- Sept. 7: Wall of Denial with Eliminator—Stevie Ray Vaughan, ZZ Top and blues covers
- Sept. 13: Lights out with Who's Who—tributes to UFO, Michael Schenker Group and The Who
- Sept. 14: The Four C Notes—Popular Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons tribute band
- Sept. 12–15—Jazz Weekend

Various downtown venues, such as the First Street Plaza (Sat. & Sun.), coordinate to present live jazz music throughout St. Charles. Numerous artists will perform, including Grammy award winning saxophonist Frank Catalano.

Elgin Symphony Orchestra presents Liszt & Rachmaninoff

Sept. 14, 7:30pm; Sept. 15, 2:30pm—Hemmens Cultural Center, Elgin

The Elgin Symphony Orchestra kicks off its 70th season with Liszt & Rachmaninoff. Hear exceptional, intricate pieces played by pianist Dinara Klinton, the Elgin Symphony Orchestra and led by Music Director Andrew Grams. Rachmaninoff's well-known "Symphony No.3" and Liszt's speedy "Totentanz" are just a few pieces to be performed.

Orion Ensemble opens 27th season in new venue

Sept. 29, 7pm—New England Congregational Church, Aurora

The opening concert features guest violist Stephen Boe and, in honor of his 250th birthday, Beethoven's *Serenade in D Major for String Trio*. The performance takes place at the New England Congregational Church, 406 W. Galena, Aurora.

Rustic Soul

Sept. 15, 5–8pm—Even Flow, Geneva

Rustic Soul plays all of your favorite classic rock, modern country, R&B and pop. The band makes its Even Flow debut.

Go:

- Elgin Symphony: 847-888-4000 elginsymphony.org
- EvenFlow Music & Spirits: 630-802-6581 evenflowmusic.com
- Mainstage Theatre: 800-474-3272 pheasantrun.com
- Music Matters School: 630-406-8742 musicmattersschool.com
- Orion Ensemble: orionensemble.org
- Paramount Theatre: 630-896-6666 paramountaurora.com
- St. Charles Singers 630-513-5272 stcharlessingers.com
- Steel Beam Theatre: 630-587-8521 steelbeamtheatre.com

One Man Star Wars Trilogy

Aug. 11, 3pm—Arcada Theatre, St. Charles

Charles Ross' amazing one-man show. Officially endorsed by Lucasfilm, the condensed trilogy brings Star Wars to stage and includes everything from iconic battles to voice impressions that are out of this world.

Willy Wonka Kids

Sept. 28, 5pm; Sept. 29, 2 & 4pm—Vero Voce, St. Charles

See the beloved story of Willy Wonka on stage, presented by young students at Vero Voce. This "scrumdilyumptious" version features delightful sets and popular songs from the 1971 film.

Murder on the Nile

Sept. 20–Oct. 5, 7:30 or 2:30pm—Albright Theatre, Batavia

Agatha Christie's suspenseful mystery begins as a romantic trip down the Nile. However, Kay Ridgeway, an elated newlywed, quickly goes from 'honeymooner' to 'suspect' when any passenger could have committed a vicious murder.

Broadway Gender Benders

Sept. 6–22, 3 & 8pm—Steel Beam Theatre, St. Charles

Hear your favorite Broadway songs with the ladies singing the "men's" songs and vice versa.

Catapult: The Amazing Magic of Shadow Dance

Sept. 28, 7:30pm—Batavia Fine Arts Centre, Batavia

Catapult was a finalist on Season 8 of America's Got Talent—see why at this one-of-a-kind show. Hear engaging, even humorous stories while dancers create images for them with their bodies.

Go:

- Albright Theatre: 630-406-8838 albrighttheatre.com
- Arcada Theatre: 630-962-7000 arcadalive.com
- Batavia Fine Arts Centre: 630-937-8930 bataviafineartscentre.org
- Steel Beam Theatre: 630-587-8521 steelbeamtheatre.com
- Vero Voce School of Performing Arts: 630-584-0139 verovoce.com



Catapult opens the touring company season at the Batavia Fine Arts Centre.



Lost in Paris by Dominique Abel and Fiona Gordon—
Denver Film Festival
Rare Pearl Award

New AfterImage Film Festival debuts in September

The first annual AfterImage Film Festival will be in the TriCities Sept. 26–29. It's the first-ever film festival that includes all three cities.

See a vast array of films, each creating its own visual experience through the art of cinematography—even stop motion and sand art. The images, along with engaging storylines, will have audiences captivated.



Guaxuma by Nara Normande—
SXSW 2019 Grand Jury
Prize Winner

Films include feature length and shorts, narratives, documentaries, American independents and foreign language titles. Please note that some films are intended for mature audiences of 18 years of age or older.

The pre-show will be at Classic Cinemas Charlestowne 18. Visit Afterimagefilmfestival.com to learn about film selections and participating theaters. Purchase tickets now through August.

There will also be a “Trailer Extravaganza” on Aug. 23 at Geneva’s Playhouse 38. It will give audiences a sneak peak at the films with engaging previews. Content is suitable for all ages. Beer and wine will be available at the event.

View the official trailer, created by Trevor Hollis, on Youtube.com by searching “Official Trailer—AfterImage Film Festival (2019).”

AfterImage is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit which seeks to present “high-profile, critically-acclaimed films to passionate audiences.” Founded by devoted members of the Geneva Film Society, it will embrace the art of film throughout the TriCities. The organization values diversity, integrity, sustainability, excellence and community.



Pickle by Amy Nicholson—
2016 Florida Film Festival
Best Documentary Short



AfterImage Film Festival: afterimagefilmfestival.com

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