



August 2023

OUR HAPPENINGS

Our day-to-day activities and events

Chicago Nascar

By: Dan C

This race took place on 7/2/2023 and was won by Shane van Gisbergen, a 32 year old from New Zealand who is a top level Supercar racer whose body of work includes Bathurst 1000 wins and multiple V8 Supercar Championships. Van Gisbergen said in a post-race press conference that he will race more seasons and then he would come to the US to either drive Nascar, F1 or IMISA. He also said, “What a

pleasure it had been to work on project 91 and Track Horse Racing.” A team that happens to be co-owned by Pitbull. He will be racing at the road course in Indy as well as the Nascar craftsman truck series and will return to Nascar next year. However, it’s not yet known which team he will drive for. That is the source of speculation and conversation in the Nascar World. Van Gisbergen is now driving for Niece Motorsports and Trackhorse Racing. I will continue to follow his Nascar career.

RACE TO OUR PLACE!

COME WALK WITH US

Washington, D.C

By: Zach W

I went to Washington DC and I went to see the Lincoln Memorial. We also saw the Thomas Jefferson statue. We stayed in the George Washington Hotel and I went to Delaware with my mom, dad, nana, grandpa and friend, Chloe Maneiley. We shared shrimp. And we flew United in the rain Wednesday. We were there Thursday and Friday. We flew Alaskan, American and United from Chicago to Delaware. And we got on the two United flights and we went home in a taxi. We also saw the Ford Theatre seats and the stage where Lincoln was assassinated.



*Zach on
vacation in
Washington,
DC.*

Inspiration

By: Sean W

One thing I have learned is that you can't force inspiration. In other words, you can't force new ideas to come. It is something that comes naturally with time and patience. Yes, you can do things to help inspire you and generate new ideas. But if you are stuck like writer's block, then it's best to do something else in the meanwhile. Inspiration can hit you at any time, at any moment and sometimes without warning. It is what it is and that is okay. Remember inspiration is a gift, and with it new ideas, art, creativity and improvements can occur. Just know sometimes it can change the world!

Race to Our Place

By: Natalie F

I walked with my two brothers, mom, and friends at Gillson Park for Our Place. The weather was good, it was hot and cold. I said hi to my friends and staff too. There was food and drinks and dessert. I sat down and talked with people.

RACE TO OUR PLACE.
COME WALK WITH US

"I enjoyed walking with my friends and the Our Place staff."

-Keenan



"I enjoyed walking with my family to support Our Place."

-Travis



"I like the exercise and helping to create the design for this year. I like to see staff and talk with other participants and fundraise for Our Place to help give back."

-Bobby B.



RACE TO OUR PLACE
COME WALK WITH US

Saturday August 12th

By: Mary S

On Saturday August 12 for my breakfast I had chia seed pudding and biscuits. Then my mom and I chose candy for my candy bag and I took a shower afterwards. While I was in the shower my mom made the candy bags. Then I put an outfit on and my dad and I walked to my workout. The sidewalk was closed off because of yellow jackets. After I was done with my workout we walked back home. Then I facetimes with my friend named Lisa and said goodbye to my mom. She had a hair color appointment. Then I took a nap. When I woke up I had lunch. My dad and I played Uno after. Then my mom, dad and I went to Rita's Ice. I don't remember what I got but I had dinner after. Then I went home, used my laptop and went to bed.

Camp

By: Travis T

I'm leaving on Wednesday morning because I have to go to the airport. I'm going with Rachel and Katie. I will get to hang out with my roommate Maxwell and all my friends. I'm going tubing and swimming in Bear Lake. I will go tubing with Maxwell or Katie. Alison is going to camp. We are going to have fun at camp. I will eat food from McDonalds and go bowling on Wednesday. We are having a nice good dinner. There will be music, karaoke, games, art and crafts, and kick ball.

Tuesday August 8th

By: Katie L

On Tuesday morning I woke up. Crystal woke me up and she came to work with me. I had breakfast in the morning and went to my first day at Park School. Then I had lunch and went home for tutoring for sign language. Then I had dinner and watched TV. When I was done with my dinner I had more free time and had 2 snacks. I watched Grace and Frankie with my family.

Race to Our Place

By: Michaela M

This is my first year doing the Race to Our Place. I have never participated in a race before. I am very excited to do the race this year. My brother has run in the Shamrock Race in Chicago before. I will be doing the walk with my brother. My sister-in-law might join us, but she will be cheering us on. I saw the videos for the race in digital arts and the run looks very fun.

Fall

By: Ellyn B

Fall is pretty this time of the year.
Pretty leaves in the fall.
Fun activities.
Apple picking.
And pumpkin picking.
Happy baking pumpkin bread.
And applesauce.
And apple muffins.
Pumpkin spice coffee.
And pumpkin spice hot tea.
Hay rides.
And much more.

Wisconsin Northwoods

By: Wes G

Last week I went to visit over 70 of my family members in the Northwoods of Wisconsin. I went with my mom and dad and my two sisters. I also saw my aunts and uncles and some cousins. I stayed in a cabin overlooking the lake. I went swimming in the lake. We had themes for dinner and had an Italian night with pizza and a BBQ night with burgers. My family also went to a water ski show at the beach where they did fun tricks. I also had some mint chocolate chip ice cream with my aunts and uncles. When it was time to leave. I went home with my mom and my dad stayed with my sisters. I had a lot of fun.



Wes visiting his family in the Wisconsin Northwoods.

"I had so much fun getting together with my friends."

-Molly



"I walked with my two brothers, my mom, and friends at Gilson Park for Our Place."

-Natalie



"I had so much fun at the race."

-Julie



RACE TO OUR PLACE.
COME WALK WITH US

Cartoon House Chapter 2

By: Michaela M

Flashback

Ricky's Mom and Dad say, "Ricky dear it's time for school". Ricky responds, "I can't wait to make the family proud of me." They had a huge family. He had many siblings and cousins, some older and some younger. He had been close to all of them. Ricky had been so excited he barely slept. He had no idea that was the last time he would see them. School had been awful. People thought he had something to do with the disappearance of his family members, which was ridiculous because he had been heading to school on transportation. He didn't know any magic at the time. He was bullied by students constantly and the teachers kept comparing him to his family members. Apparently, he was a very slow learner when it came to magic.

End of Flashback

Meanwhile Raelyn was in the basement trying to find something interesting for her school project. Ms. Parker had a lot of questions. *Why did her dad never mention any good memories involving his parents?* There were no traditions. Even holidays were boring in their house. The word magic was banned so Halloween was a huge no. Raelyn remembers when one of her best friends had decorated for Halloween. Her father had banned her from there and told Raelyn never to talk to her friend again which was quite hard since they were always partners on projects together. Thanksgiving was just a small turkey, mashed potatoes and stuffing with gravy. The tree had some decorations, lights and stuff she had made when she was younger. No star or angel. No talk of Santa Claus. She had learned of Santa Claus when she was a five-year-old at school. Raelyn found a schoolbag. In the school bag there was an old fashioned newspaper - *"Famous Royal Magic Family Disappeared."* That was her father. He looks about ten years old. *Her dad was Magic? Does that mean she was magic? Was Mom magic as well? Did something happen to her? Did she really die?*

Dinner with Dad

By: Natalie F

I went out to dinner with my dad on Sunday night. We went to EJ's Place by Old Orchard Mall. I had penne pasta with meatballs. I got a lemonade with no ice and a water with no ice. For dessert I got chocolate chip ice cream.

August 12th

By: Travis T

On Saturday morning I made breakfast. I made scrambled eggs with cheese. I also made toast with butter. I also had a banana for breakfast. After breakfast I did my exercises on the back patio. Taylor instructed us to do crunches and curl ups. I was very sweaty after working out. When I was done working out I showered and got ready for the social. I had pizza for dinner and cookies. I watched an episode of Saturday Night Live before the social. At the social I sang karaoke. When I got home I went to bed.

Race to Our Place

By: Wes G

Every year in October Our Place has a race at Gillson Beach. I enjoy participating in the race. My mom and dad both come to the race to support Our Place. We all like to walk the race together. This will be the third year for the race and the third year we have participated. I enjoy walking with all my friends from Our Place. I can't wait for this year's race.

My Favorite Patterns

By: Ellyn B

My favorite patterns are red white and blue.

Blue and white.

And red and blue.

I also like different colors that are fun.

Tie-dye colors.

Different shades of pink.

And different shades of blue.

Black and white is also my favorite pattern.

*"I enjoyed running and walking
in the race."*

-Chris



*" I liked walking with my mom
and hanging out with my family
at the race."*

-Bobby R.

*"I enjoy walking with all my
friends from Our Place."*

-Wes



RACE TO OUR PLACE
COME WALK WITH US

CULTURE CORNER

Our place for reviews, recipes, special interests and more

Barbie Movie

By: Macey S

I saw the new Barbie movie with a group of friends. At first, I thought the movie was going to turn out as a bad film, but it turns out it was actually really funny. Ryan Gosling, Margot Robbie, Kate McKinnon and Will Ferrell were also hilariously funny as well. As it felt close to the end of the movie, I actually cried in the movie theater because it was also very emotional. I won't give out any spoilers but I think personally it was inspirational and an empowering, beautiful film. In my opinion the Barbie movie is Oscar worthy just because a whole lot of people absolutely loved it. The movie also recognized individuals with special needs and showcased them on the pink carpet.

Kitchen Kinetics and Golf

By: Jason K

On Wednesdays I've been doing Kitchen Kinetics at Our Place for the summer session. It's been really fun making stuff. I like chopping up things such as veggies. Cutting vegetables and putting them into a bowl or cooking them and putting them in the oven or fridge to eat for later. So far we've made caprese salad, fruit smoothies, pasta salad, elotes with corn, easy bake granola bars, cheese tortillas with beans and lime juice and other things. Then on Thursdays we go golfing at the Wilmette Golf Club course. It's a nice place to go golfing. We take turns practicing our golf swings. I've been doing pretty well though it's not like mini golf where you hit the ball into the hole at a theme park. It's professional golf shooting on the range with other golfers to see how far the ball goes. I'm learning so much. It's tricky but still nice anyway.

Fall Session

By: Jason K

Next session at Our Place for the fall I'm only doing one program in person on Thursdays, which is Acting Out in the early afternoon. I've never done it before but I hear good things about it though. Anyways it's kind of like doing theater with drama using your imagination and body language so it should be nice. Amethyst is leading that. Then I'm doing stuff with my other program at MNASR. Online Wildcat Workout Fitness which I've been enjoying very much and in person K9 Companions on Wednesdays. Every other week I'm gonna be playing with some dogs doing stuff with them. The other days working at Portables. Tuesdays I'm taking the day to stay at home and relax. I also signed up for the in person Halloween bash and the Thanksgiving lunch feast. It looks like I have a pretty good schedule for the fall session.

The Haunted Mansion

By: Macey S

I saw the new sequel to The Haunted Mansion. All I'm going to say is this, it's really funny and it's also emotionally relatable as well. The reason I say that is because there are people who have a really hard time letting go of emotional grief and are afraid of making second chances which is relatable. It makes a whole lot of sense in my personal opinion. I actually teared up in the movie theater for a little bit because the movie was really emotional. To me that's when I knew how much I've become a full out geek of the creativity and imagination of The Haunted Mansion. The cast from the movie are hilariously funny. The jokes and hidden Easter eggs are spot on for the ride of The Haunted Mansion. I won't give away any unhandle-able spooky spoilers, no. But I will say this, I highly recommend watching the first Haunted Mansion on Disney Plus. Don't get fooled you foolish mortals by thinking your house isn't haunted, think again!

Race to Witch Mountain

By: Mary S

The actors are Dwayne Johnson, AnnaSophia Robb, Alexander Ludwig and Carla Gugino. The characters in the show are Jack Bruno, Sara, Seth and Dr. Alex Friedman. Jack Bruno is a Cab driver. Sara is helpful to Jack and Seth. Seth is helpful to Jack and Sara. Dr. Alex Friedman is helpful to Jack, Seth and Sara. I liked Race to Witch Mountain because they used real people to play aliens. Jack protects Sara and Seth from Henry Burke.

The Haunted Mansion

By: Zach W

On Friday I went to see The Haunted Mansion. It was so funny. Owen Wilson was my favorite actor in the movie. I thought the movie was very unusual but very cool. It was also very scary. I screamed in the theater. We drove to Vernon Hills and we had Mexican food for dinner before the movie. I had shrimp tacos and I had chips and guacamole. At the movie I had popcorn and lemonade. We sat in the first row. I saw some of my friends from home at the movie theater. When we got home it was quiet.