

LIVING

RED, WHITE & BOOM

Get ready for a dazzling Fourth

FIREWORKS FOR ALL

Catch colorful displays at the following locations:

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

- » Dusk July 4 at Veterans Memorial Park, Park Place, Shippensburg. The Shippensburg Band will perform 8–8:45 p.m. 717-532-2147.
- » 9 p.m. July 4 at Carlisle Fairgrounds, 1000 Bryn Mawr Road, Carlisle. www.carlislepa.org.
- » 9:15 p.m. July 5–6 at Williams Grove Speedway, 1 Speedway Drive, Monroe Twp. Car race before. Friday's 7:30 p.m. race: \$18 for adults; \$8 for kids. Saturday's 6:30 p.m. race: \$5. www.williamsgrrove.com.

More fireworks, [Page D2](#)

For a fireworks map and more info, visit www.PennLive.com/4th-of-july

By Janet Krajcsik | jkrajcsik@pennlive.com

America will have a prolonged birthday celebration this year. For her 238th, midstaters will begin reveling as early as today and continue festivities all the way through July 7. Free patriotic concerts, family festivals, community picnics, re-enactments, readings of the Declaration of Independence, activities for kids and of course, firework displays are all part of the Fourth of July celebrations.

So release your inner Yankee Doodle and wear your patriotic pride at these events around the area:

DAUPHIN COUNTY

Harrisburg Independence Weekend Walkaround

The three-day celebration begins July 4 in Reservoir Park, 21st and Walnut streets; July 5 on City Island, off Market Street Bridge; and July 6 at Italian Lake, Third and Division streets. The Family Fun Festival and Free Concert Series will be featured at all three locations.

The Family Fun Festivals, noon-6 p.m. each day, will include an opening ceremony by Mayor Eric Papenfuse and performance by a children's choir, bounce houses, dance and kids zumba, and musical performances. Performers include Los Monstros, B.Wright, James Alexander, Jim Rule, various baton twirlers and DJ Herbie Hall.

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After all these years, Harry Potter still conjures magic

Every family has those certain special activities or events that help bring them together in a way nothing else does.

Maybe it's a sports team, band, television show or vacation spot — something that crosses the generations, connecting parents and children in a shared common bond. And it's almost always guaranteed to preserve a happy household, no matter what else is happening to disrupt domestic bliss.



ANNE REEVES

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In our house, it's Harry Potter. We are Potterphiles. Potterholics. Potterheads. We love Harry. We've read all seven books, seen

all eight movies. Multiple times. We visited the Wizarding World of Harry Potter in Orlando the year after it opened. Attended all of the midnight premieres, waited in line to buy the books and bought the DVDs as soon as they were available.

If there was an event revolving around Harry Potter, we were there. And usually in costume, brandishing a wand or two.

Just a few weeks ago, we traveled across the ocean to the

mecca, the Harry Potter hub: the Warner Bros. Studio Tour in London.

Of course, a lot of HP fans have done all of those things. But the little wizard with the lightning-bolt scar and the signature round glasses was more than just a character to us, he was almost like a member of the family.

I know that might sound a little silly, attaching such importance to someone who doesn't even exist. But the stories of Harry and

his life at Hogwarts resonated with each of us in different ways, even as they brought us together. For our family, it wasn't just reading the books and watching the movies — it was sharing them.

The saga of Harry Potter and his pals created a 14-year adventure for us during a pivotal time in our family's lives. My kids grew up with Harry. Even during down times, HP could make us all

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