



2305 Atlantic Avenue

Library-(609) 487-7403

Museum-(609) 823-1115

Library Hours: Monday 9-5, Tuesday 9-8,  
Wednesday-Saturday 9-5

Museum Hours: Friday, Saturday 10:00-1:00  
and by appointment

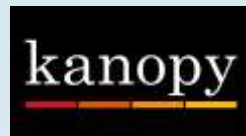
Sunday Hours (for library and museum)  
and Monday evening hours (for library) begin June 26

Please check our website for updated hours:  
[longportpubliclibrary.org](http://longportpubliclibrary.org)

## A Resource for Everything

The library offers a variety of resources for you to borrow. This includes digital newspapers: *The Press of Atlantic City, Philadelphia Inquirer, NY Times, Wall Street Journal*, and many more. We also offer eBooks and digital audiobooks, streaming videos, crafting videos, hotspots, Roku, museum passes, DVD players, as well as digital magazines and music. Please call the library at (609) 487-7403 or check out our website for more information: [longportpubliclibrary.org](http://longportpubliclibrary.org).

We look forward to helping you!



**The New York Times**

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.**

## Longport Public Library & Museum Summer 2022

### 2022 Summer Reading Program, Town Scavenger Hunt

Our summer reading program kicks off on Saturday, June 25. It is open to all ages. Read books and earn prizes all summer long. The town-wide scavenger hunt begins Saturday, May 28 and goes until Labor Day. Residents will notice signs throughout town with the library logo. These signs have a code on it that you can scan with your smart phone to learn about Longport history. Complete the scavenger hunt and earn a prize.

### Movies, Cooking Classes, Concerts, Authors, and More

We are super excited about this summer. We have authors, cooking classes, concerts, and more. The summer begins with our kickoff event on Monday, June 6th, at 1pm. This event will include food and music at the Guild Hall, 20th and Atlantic Avenues.

Our kids' summer reading kickoff is Saturday, June 25th, at 10:30. We will have face painting, mermaid craft, Pokémon, and pizza.

Registration is required for both these events.

### New Mobile App

We are pleased to announce a new Longport Library App to make accessing all your library resources so much easier. You can download eBooks, read newspapers, stream movies, search the library catalog, and find out about programs all in a set location. Search Longport Public Library in your mobile app store and download it today.

# June 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:30am Open Gaming	2	3 10am–1pm Museum Hours 2pm Lecture	4 10am–1pm Museum Hours
5	6 1pm Summer Party	7 9:30am Yoga 6:30pm Bingo	8 9:30am Open Gaming	7 9:30am Yoga	10 10am–1pm Museum Hours	11 10am–1pm Museum Hours
12	13 10am Knitting	14 9:30am Yoga	15 9:30am Open Gaming	16 9:30am Yoga	17 10am-Adult Craft	18 10am–1pm Museum Hours
19	20 1pm Sandy Pages Book Club 6:30pm Concert	21 6:30pm Tuesday Tasting	22 9:30am Open Gaming	23 9:30am Yoga 11AM ASL	24 10am–1pm Museum Hours	25 10:30 am–12pm Summer Reading Kickoff Party
26 10:30am Storytime	27 6:30pm Lecture	28 6:30pm Trivia	29 9:30am Open Gaming	30 9:30am Yoga		

# July 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 5:30pm Museum Open House	2
3 10:30am Storytime	4 Library Closed	5 9:30am Yoga 6:30pm Concert	6 10am Pokémon & 9:30Gaming	7 9:30am Yoga 11AM ASL	8	9 10:30am Kids Aquarium Visit
10 10:30am Storytime	11 6:30pm Author Talk	12 6:30pm Bingo	13 10am Pokémon 9:30 Gaming	14 9:30am Yoga 11AM ASL	15	16
17 10:30am Storytime	18 1pm Sandy Pages Book Club 6:30pm Concert	19 6:30pm Tuesday Tasting	20 10am Pokémon 9:30 Gaming	21 9:30am Yoga 11AM-ASL	22 10am Adult Craft	23 10am Tail-wise Kids Program
24 10:30am Storytime	25 6:30pm Author	26 6:30pm Trivia	27 10am Pokémon 9:30 Gaming	28 11AM ASL	29	30 10am Kids Magic Show
31 10:30am Storytime						

## Kids' Programs

### Sunday Storytime and Craft

Every Sunday starting June 26th at 10:30am

### Wednesday Morning Pokémon Club

Every Wednesday at 11am starting July 6th

Trade cards, play games

## Special Saturday Family Events

**6/25 at 10:30am Summer Reading Kickoff Party**

**7/09 Aquarium Visit-10:30am**

**7/23 Pirate Show-10:30am**

**7/30 Magic Show 10:30am**

**8/06-Cape May Zoo Visit at 10:30am**

**8/20-Jugglers at 10:30am**

*Please call the library to register for these events.*

## Family Bingo

**Tuesday June 7 and June 14, 6:30pm**

**Tuesday July 12, 6:30pm**

**Tuesday August 2, August 9, 6:30pm**

**Monday, August 15 and August 29, 6:30pm**

## Music Series

(All events at 6:30pm at the gazebo behind Borough Hall. In the event of rain, event will be held inside.)

Registration Required

Monday, May 23—Atlantic Brass Band

Monday, June 20—Black Magic Swing Band

Tuesday, July 5-Fabulous Silver Wings Band

Monday, July 18--Mel & Tony

Monday, August 1--Tommy Allen Band

Monday, August 22—MOVE!

## Author Series

(All events at 6:00pm at the gazebo behind Borough Hall unless noted. Registration required)

Thursday, May 19, at 2pm in library

Author Molly Golubcow

Monday, July 11 (Rain Date July 12)

Author Fiona Davis

Monday, July 25 (Rain Date July 26)

Author Paula McLain

Monday, August 16

Author Laurie Zaleskie

## August 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:30pm Concert	2 9:30am Yoga 6:30pm Bingo	3 10am Poké- mon 9:30 Gaming	4 9:30 Yoga 11AM ASL	5	6 10:30 Zoo Program
7 10:30am Sto- rytime	8 6:30pm Trivia	9 6:30pm Tuesday Tasting	10 10am Pokemon 9:30 Gaming	11 9:30 Yoga 11AM ASL	12 10am Adult Craft	13
14 10:30am Storytime	15 6:30pm Bingo	16 6pm Author Talk	17 10am Pokemon 9:30 Gaming	18 9:30 Yoga	19	20 10:30 Juggler Program
21 10:30am Storytime	22 6:30pm Concert	23 6:30pm Tues- day Tasting	24 10am Pokemon 9:30 Gaming	25 9:30 Yoga	26	27
28 10:30am Storytime	29 6:30pm Bingo	30 6:30pm Trivia	31 10am Pokemon 9:30 Gaming			

## Adult Programs

*(Registration is required for all events.)*

Summer Kick off Celebration: Monday June 6, at 1pm

Longport Needlers Knitting Group: Mondays at 10am

Sign Language: Thursdays from 11-12:30 (June 23-August 11)

Lecture: Creating a Certified Wildlife Habitat: Friday, June 3, at 2pm

Lecture: The Daughters of Yalta: Monday, June 27, at 6:30pm

Trivia: Tuesdays at 6:30pm-May 31, June 28, July 26, August 8, August 30

Adult Craft: Tuesday, May 17 at 1pm, Friday at 10am- June 17, July 22, August 12

Tuesday Tasting at 6:30pm at Guild Hall: May 17, June 21, July 19, August 23

Sandy Pages Book Club: Mondays at 1pm: May 16, June 20, July 18, August 15

Yoga: Tuesday and Thursday at 9:30am starting June 07-September 8

## September 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 9:30 Yoga	2 10am-1pm Museum Hours	3 10am-1pm Museum Hours
4 10:30am Storytime	5 Library Closed	6 6:30pm Bingo	7 9:30am Open Gaming	8 9:30am Yoga	9 10am-1pm Museum Hours	10 10am-1pm Museum Hours
11	12	13 9:30am Yoga 6:30pm Concert	14 9:30am Open Gaming	15 9:30am Yoga	16 10am-1pm Museum Hours	17 10am-1pm Museum Hours
18	19 1pm Sandy Pages Book Club	20 6:30pm Tues- day Tasting	21 9:30am Open Gaming	22 9:30am Yoga	23 10am-1pm Museum Hours	24 10am-1pm Museum Hours
25	26	27 6:30pm Trivia	28 9:30am Open Gaming	29 9:30am Yoga	30 10am-1pm Museum Hours	





## Longport Historical Museum

### **A Longport Memory**

by Mary Sue Lovett

Longport began the year 1912 with the election of a new mayor, Ralph Harcourt, who was proclaimed as the youngest mayor in the world. A former football player at Swarthmore and the University of Pennsylvania, Harcourt was only 23.

A storm in June swept away 10 feet of 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Later that summer the town council voted themselves out of a job by setting up a 3-man commission form of government.

Early November brought another flood causing several cottages to be undermined. But it was only two days before Thanksgiving when the town faced a potential catastrophe.

The raging 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue fire began with an overheated stove in a small frame cottage. Percy Houch, clerk at the Borough Hall on 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue, returned to his home in the early afternoon to find the interior in flames. He alerted his neighbor Mrs. J.R. Minnich, wife of the Longport Postmaster, who helped him try to contain the fire using hand held equipment. Mrs. Minnich was later hailed as the heroine of the day because she sacrificed the furnishings of her home while rescuing the mail and other federal postal equipment.

The out-of-control fire spread next to the three-story cottage of Captain Samuel Stetzer, owner of the Polly Page, and then to the home of Captain Bolton Steelman, of the sloop Estelle Steelman. All the owners but Steelman lost their furnishings. Steelman was the only one whose building was destroyed but the furnishings were removed in time.

Seeing the flames from a distance, Captain Stetzer ran to the center of town summoning men working nearby to help him. Young Mayor Harcourt quickly organized them into a bucket brigade.

Alerted by phone calls, Ventnor City sent its Chemical and Automobile Engine to Longport. It was closely followed by a volunteer crew driving their own automobiles.

Next to arrive on the scene was Captain Black and his men from the Atlantic City Fire Department with four pieces of apparatus. Strong southwest winds were showering embers on homes in adjacent blocks, so Black deployed the Longport residents and a nearby trolley crew to attack the smaller roof fires using blankets and clubs.

By now the main fire had spread to the nearby cottages of R. A. Rosenthal and W.W. Lam-born, Philadelphia artists. Handicapped by poor water service and a feeble stream of water, Captain Black and the firemen from Ventnor and Atlantic City eventually brought the inferno under control.

Although there were no serious injuries, several of the fire fighters emerged from the last two cottages in a semi-conscious condition. The Atlantic City Boardwalk Inspector, William Lamb, had been knocked over by a stream of water from the Ventnor hose. As he rolled down the wooden shingled roof, Lamb was caught by others climbing towards the peak of the house.

According to a Philadelphia Inquirer article printed on November 27, 1912, the fire completely destroyed six cottages at a cost of \$50,000.



## Longport Historical Museum

What is disconcerting to researchers of local history are the discrepancies in various articles. The Inquirer stated that Mrs. Minnich saved thousands of letters – highly improbable in a town of about 30 year-round residences.

Shorter articles appeared the same day in Delaware, Connecticut and Washington, D.C. They reported that the damage was \$100,000 and at least 7 cottages and two businesses were destroyed. One paper stated that the fire had spread to three hotels in Longport – the Aberdeen, the Devonshire and the Elberon. There is no record of a Hotel in Longport called the Elberon. Possibly they meant the Oberon Hotel which was located on 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue and is now The Winchester Condominium.

Scott Stetzer tells us that his family first came to Longport in 1886. They lived in both of the two houses located at 106 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue in 1912. The “Little House” on the alley served as the family’s winter home because it was easier to heat. The fire destroyed the large summer house but spared their little house in the back.

Scott’s grandfather, Ed Stetzer, rebuilt the family home after he graduated from Syracuse University in 1920. Despite fire and floods, five generations of the Stetzer family have lived on 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Longport.



Captain Samuel Stetzer Home on 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue. In the rear is “The Little House” which survived the fire.



An early picture of The Longport Volunteer Fire Company circa mid 1920’s.

### **Longport Historical Museum Programs**

#### **Longport Scavenger Hunt**

Throughout town between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Complete the scavenger hunt; win a prize.

#### **Porch Store**

The porch store opens Saturday, May 28.

(Items can also be purchased now during normal museum hours.)

#### **History Lecture**

*The Daughters of Yalta*-Monday, June 27th at 6:30 (this event will be held at the Library)

#### **Open House**

Museum Open House—Friday, July 1, at 5:30 pm