

GREEN TREE TIMES

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The Colorful Month of October is Full of Treats



There's pumpkin fun all month long and for all ages!

The trees are still mostly green in our area but that won't last long. Keep your eyes open and cameras ready for some colorful leaves on the trees. Soon after, they will be on the ground and needing to be mulched, bagged or composted. I don't want to think about that yet!

Red, yellow and orange are the colors of the month. There is a very cool interactive foliage map available online at smokymountains.com to show where the best places are, and at what times, to see the beautiful autumn landscape. In addition to orange leaves, it's also the time of pumpkins and a good excuse for a festival, which we love!

The Houston Pumpkin Festival will be going strong on Oct. 13-15 with fall fun, food, games, a parade, music, entertainment and pumpkin activities.

The Confluence PumpkinFest will be held Oct. 6-8 and feature arts, crafts, food vendors, pumpkin contests, an auto show, a parade, live music and more! Info at confluencepumpkinfest.com.

Janoski's Pumpkinland in Clinton is held each weekend and features a corn maze, straw jump, pony rides, pumpkin patch, food, garden and more. Info at janoskis.com.

The Spring House in Eighty Four, PA is having The Great Pumpkin Festival every weekend throughout October including hayrides, corn maze,

giant pipe slide, yummy food and fun games! More information at springhousemarket.com.

Simmons Farm is having fun all of October and will feature hayrides, rubber duck races, hay maze and corn maze, butterfly house, apple picking, apple sling shot and more! Info at simmonsfarm.com.

Trax Farms, in the South Hills area, is having a fall festival every Sat.



Wander through a corn maze.

and Sun. until Oct. 22 that is full of activities for the entire family including music, food, games, and it's free admission. Info at traxfarms.com.

The Pittsburgh Monster Pumpkins Festival will be on Oct. 21-22, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. at the Crossings Campus between 28th and 29th streets. There will be free family fun including food, crafts, hay rides, a very high pumpkin drop and much more. Info at monsterpumpkin.com.

Some other festivals include Soergel Orchards, Conneaut Lake Fall Pumpkin

Fest, Triple B Farms, and Hozak Farms.

A unique event is the Festival of Combustion presented by US Steel on Oct. 7, 1-9 p.m. at the Carrie Blast Furnaces. There will be the usual food, music, and fireworks but then add in workshops in ceramics, metals, and glass and demonstrations in iron casting, welding, blacksmithing, glass blowing and more! Info at riversofsteel.com

Another different kind of pumpkin event is the Pumpkin Patch Trolley on Oct. 21-22 at the PA Trolley Museum in Washington, PA. Ride on the decorated trolley to the Trolley Display for a tour. Kids pick out a pumpkin and decorate it. There will be games and complimentary refreshments. There will also be a Trick or Trolley on Oct. 29, 1-4 p.m. Info at pa-trolley.org.



Pumpkin Patch Trolley
~photo courtesy of pa-trolley

About one hour from Pittsburgh, Seven Springs has a variety of weekend activities at Autumnfest. Each weekend has a different theme. There will be great food, music, artisans and crafts, novelty acts, and the beautiful fall leaves! Info at 7springs.com.

Making the longer drive will probably offer more colorful leaves earlier in the month so head to Franklin's Applefest on Oct. 6-8 for over 300 vendors, antique and classic cars, apple pie baking contests, delicious food, music, and entertainment. Info at franklinapplefest.com.

October is the last month for the Market Square Night Markets on Fri. and Sat. nights, 4-9 p.m. featuring

many creative independent vendors, food, drinks, live music and more. Info downtownpittsburgh.com.

It is also the last month for the Carnegie Crawl being held Oct. 13, 5-9 p.m.

Enjoy some spirits, beer, food tastings and live music at Pour at the Park at North Park on Oct. 14, 5:30-8:30 p.m. This event is family friendly with kids camp activities. Proceeds support Allegheny County Parks Foundation. Tickets and information at acparksfoundation.salsalabs.org.

Meadowcroft offers walks through the fall foliage all month long and will have the Fall Finale on Oct. 21 at 10 a.m. This is the final day of the season and will include a taffy pulling party, watch cooking demonstrations, cornhusk crafting and more.

The Fall Flower Show, Hometown Harvest begins on Oct. 7 and will run for only three weeks. This display will feature chrysanthemums inspired by fall moments like harvesting grapes, a pumpkin patch, bees making honey and more. The Garden Railroad opens on the 7th as well showcasing the four seasons. Information available at phipps.conservatory.org.

Save the date for Hometown Homegrown food festival at the Heinz History Center on Nov. 4, 10-3 p.m. This event will offer 40+ food and drink vendors, with free sampling, live cooking demonstrations, family-friendly activities throughout the 6 floors. Info and tickets at heinzhistorycenter.org.

Enjoy every moment you can of this colorful month! Soon we'll be finding ways to have fun in snow.



MUSINGS...TURNING 80



Editor's Note: Sharon Eakes is a personal and executive coach, who is a regular columnist for our paper as well as for the Huffington Post. She is the author of Fresh Views on Resilient Living. She may be reached by calling 412-741-1709 or email Sharon @hopellc.com.

Sharon and Nancy Smyth, her business partner in Two Wise Women, together published, "Chocolate or Lunch, How Choices Impact Relationships." If you have tense relationships, this book is for you. Both books are available through Amazon.

*Count your age by friends, not years.
Count your life by smiles, not tears.
~ John Lennon*

Amazingly, I turned 80 this month. Amazing because I don't feel old...but I was alive during World War II and the founding of the UN, not to mention before most people had TVs, and before anyone had a computer or a cell phone. So I AM old!

To celebrate this achievement – living so long – my kids, Lisa and Gordon, staged a This is Your Life production for me, while I was in California. It included live appearances by childhood friends, high school boyfriend, ex-sister-in-law and Zoom appearances by more recent loved ones (last 50 years). What a joyful celebration! I feel so blessed.

One of the people at that party asked me, "How do you account for the fact that you are such a spunky 80 year old?" I gave some off-handed answer, but it got me to thinking, and I want to answer the question more seriously here.

•**Love** - I chose my parents well, and not only did they have good genes, they loved each other and me and my siblings deeply.

After I divorced my first husband, Roger, and got over being mad at him (which took about 5 years), I owned the fact that I had not loved him very well. I spent too much time looking for signs that he loved me. I set out to learn how to love better, to love past irritations and criticisms. I had two more marriages, with Gene and Hal, and grew in my ability to love more fully. I continue to practice loving well with friends and family and clients. In my estimation, learning to love well is the most important ingredient to being happy.

•**Gratitude** – I am grateful for many things every day: the sparrow out my window this minute, my health and energy. I'm grateful that my brain still works and enjoys learning, and that I have friends and family and a place to live and a beautiful garden on the Ohio River.

•**Sense of humor** – keeps me laughing, and keeps me having fun. I often laugh outloud several times every day, just by myself...over silly stuff, or the way a chipmunk jumps off my porch, or a joke someone tells me.

•**Staying Healthy** – I eat well and exercise regularly. Staying healthy feels even more important since I had cancer years ago. I can't keep all the

tell-tale signs of aging away, but I can do a lot. Funny, but even a week without exercise, or a few days of eating poorly and I feel older!

•**Faith** – As a member of the Baha'I Faith, I believe civilization will eventually advance to a place where there is no prejudice, where we all get along, where there is unity. Getting there will be hard, though. Lots of old beliefs and institutions must crumble on the way. Pain and chaos is inevitable. I figure that's where we are now. I don't watch news, because it hurts to be reminded of the suffering during this decline. I do what I can day to day to be of service to others, to make the world a better place.

It's hard to believe I'm 80. That sounds old. And I feel young. I am glad to be alive. Each day I try to see what I haven't seen before.

COACHING QUESTIONS/TIPS:

1. How could you love more? Reconnect with old friends? Forgive? Make new friends?
2. What are you grateful for? (Write down 3 things every day. It will change your experience of life.)
3. See the humor in things. If you have trouble, get the Garrison Keillor Joke Book. Call and share a joke with an older person every day.

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or 412-689-2889

Back-to School Health and Safety Routines



Jayesh Gosai, M.D.

A month into the school year and families are just adapting to the back-to-school routine - adding health and safety to your schedule is a must for children from kindergarten to college.

An annual physical is required for student athletes, but all children should receive a well-check every year to assess health, weight, growth and to stay on track with immunizations. Your doctor will tell you which shots are needed, depending on age. College students should receive the meningitis vaccine and flu shots. Schedule a vision and hearing check if it is not part of the annual exam. These are important because sometimes learning issues can be attributed to undetected vision or hearing problems. And, it's a good idea to also schedule dental check-ups and cleanings.

Check backpacks for strength and back support and be sure to talk to the doctor about the maximum weight for your child's size and health condition. If needed, you may have to alert the school about the number of

books and binders your child can haul at school and travelling to and from home.

Make sure your child has the proper safety equipment for sports: helmets, eye protection, shin guards, etc. and remember fill out/update the forms from the school to inform administrators and teachers about any of your child's special medical needs. If attending a new school, don't forget to find out about the school's emergency/crisis plan. Also, make sure strangers can't walk into the school unnoticed. Check to see that the playground is safe - it should be free of peeling paint, rust and sharp edges. The ground should be soft enough to cushion falls.

Remind your children about illness prevention. COVID and other illnesses will be on the uptick in fall and winter. To avoid getting or spreading germs, tell them to wash their hands often, and to cover their mouths when coughing and sneezing. And, not to share food or drinks with friends. Consider resetting your child's sleep schedule to ensure they get at least 8 hours of sleep per night. Enough sleep each night can keep your child's health and focus during the school day.

If your family practices good nutrition habits, this will contribute to your child's success - even through to high school and college. Studies prove that a nutritious breakfast helps students do better in school. Students who eat breakfast are more alert during class and the right foods combined with enough rest will help fight off infections.

New Speaker Series at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart (OLSH)

Dustin Dale, motivational speaker, best-selling author, and entrepreneur will speak on the topic of Servant Leadership at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart (OLSH) High School on Mon., Oct. 9, 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public, however advance registration is required. Reserve your tickets at https://www.olsh.org/apps/pages/speaker_series.

Over 9 million people have heard and been inspired by Mr. Dale's story about what dying taught him about life and leadership. In addition to sharing his story through speaking engagements at universities, schools, and corporations, Mr. Dale has written two books, "Learn to Lead by Serving" and "Learn to Lead by Serving 2." His keynote on servant leadership will inspire leaders at all levels to be the best possible version of themselves.

Mr. Dale is a former corporate senior leader whose life mission was redefined in 2021 when he received a dire medical prognosis. During his treatments, he wrote his first book and later went on to become a speaker, sharing his story and serving as an example of faith. Learn more about Dustin Dale at www.dustin-dale.com.

Community News and Events

Bird Migration is the topic of the October presentation by Chris Kubiak of the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania and sponsored by the **Green Tree Garden Club** on Thurs. Oct. 12. The meeting and presentation will be held at the Buffalo Creek Nature Park in Sarver, PA.

Carpooling will take place from the Green Tree Park 'n Ride (Upper Lot) at 9:15am. Reservations are required by contacting gardenclubgt@gmail.com by October 5.

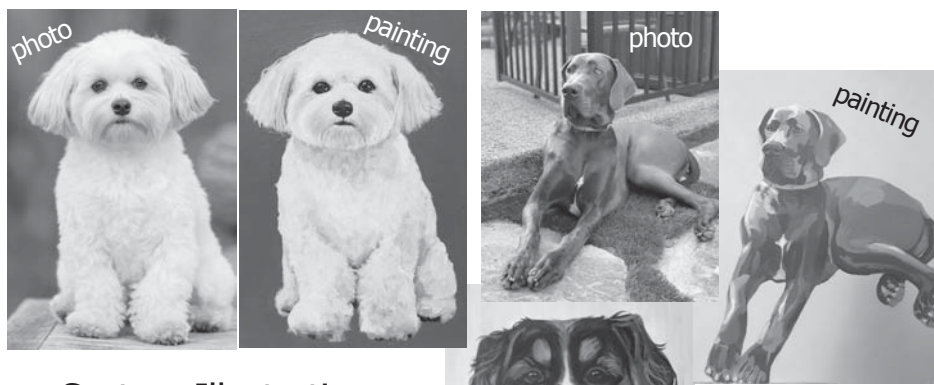
South Park Women's Club craft show will be held Sat. Oct. 14, 10-3 p.m. in Broughton Fire Hall, 1030 Cochran's Mill Rd, South Park Township. Plenty of parking. Over 50 Crafters, food, delicious baked goods, Chance Auction and raffles.

The last Carnegie Crawl will be Friday, Oct. 13, from 5-9 p.m., enjoy all of the great businesses, great food and live performances in the E. Main Parking lot. Info at visitcarnegie.com.

Spooktacular Mini Golf in Crafton is open on Fri. and Sat. evenings, 7-9pm at the Crafton Mini Golf Course located on Steuben Street across from Crafton Park and Pool. This vintage course is for all ages and is handicap accessible with plenty of parking. Get a selfie with our scary werewolf and feel free to wear your Halloween costume for added fun! Only \$2 per person and all proceeds benefit our recreational areas.

The **College Club of Carnegie** will meet on Saturday, Oct. 7, at Scoglio's Restaurant, 661 Andersen Drive, Foster Plaza, Building 7, Pittsburgh. There will be a Social at 11:30 a.m. with luncheon served at noon. "Happy Fall, Y'All", will be the meeting theme. Women with post-secondary degrees are invited to call Therese Condit, Membership Chairperson at 412-279-4458 for further information.

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The Fishin' Hole



Sam Hall

October is a month spent in transition for local anglers. The early part of this month is full of great Smallmouth Bass fishing and the end of the "summer bite" for Largemouth Bass. Later in the month we will see the Walleye bite begin to really heat up in our local rivers and, of course, soon all the questions will start about when is a good time to make the trip north to try for Steelhead on the Erie tributaries. On top of all this, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission will begin a fall stocking of trout in many of our nearby waterways. In

October, Canonsburg Dam, Dutch Fork Dam, Brady's Run Lake and Raccoon Lake are amongst many others scheduled to get a fresh stocking of fish for fall anglers.

The Fish and Boat Commission is also having an event at North Park Lake on Saturday October 14th. It's called a "Fishing Meet Up at Park 'til Dark Event." Fishing meet-up events are social gatherings for anyone interested in learning more about the basics of fishing. This informal event is the perfect opportunity to socialize, learn, and share fishing experiences with other anglers. Equipment and bait are provided; participants may also bring their own tackle. Anglers under age 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

The details from the Fish Commission Calendar are:

"Come try your hand at fishing during this family-friendly "Park 'til Dark" event at North Park. PFBC staff will provide

fishing rods, tackle, and bait; but you are also welcome to bring your own gear and/or bait. Fishing licenses will not be required for those who sign-in with PFBC at the Kolich Shelter. Participants can participate at any time during the 11-2pm time frame. New to fishing? No worries - PFBC staff and volunteers will be available to lend a helping hand."

The location of the event is at Kolich Shelter on Lake Shore Drive. Registration for the event is open at aparksfoundation.org.

I have heard reports that there are already some Steelhead in the tribs and at the mouths of the tribs in Erie. I have gone on and on in past articles about taking walks and getting away from the crowds when in Erie but this is not the month to do that. These early fish will come up a little bit but then drop back into the lake. They will be concentrated near the lake, as will the crowds. So you can try to avoid the crowds by going during Steeler football games, and yes Browns football games as well. I know that might seem a little bit like making a Sophie's Choice to go fishing but if a little extra room means to you, what it means to me, it is a choice well made. You watching and yelling at the television does NOT change the outcome of the football game. Well, that's what my wife tells me anyway.

I will be focusing on finding the fall Smallmouth Bass that are load-

ing up on calories to get them through the coming winter months during October. The water temperatures are cooling down now and the bass are moving into the slower moving pools to do their feeding, and their living. For the last couple of months I have had most of my luck in fast moving water where the fish can feel cooler, as the water cools they will want to burn less calories, so I slow down my presentations accordingly. If the fish are not where you have been finding them recently, try the slower, deeper water for October. Keep those lines tight and keep sending your stories and pictures to samdhall@comcast.net.



The Walleye bite is on in our rivers.
~photo courtesy of Sam Hall

LIBRARY INFORMATION

Back-to-School

ask a
librarian

Fall Programs have started at the libraries so try attending some events. Be sure to call or visit the website for more information.

Most libraries throughout the area are offering daily activities for all ages. Most activities are in person. Check with the library near you for the details.

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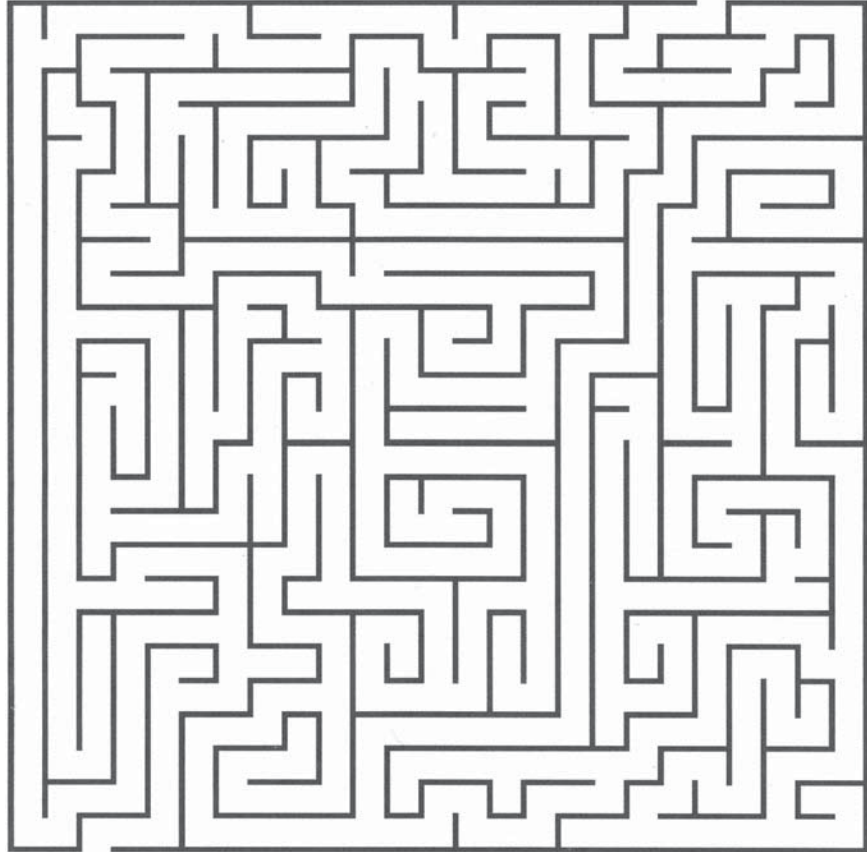
Fun and Games for Kids

(Answers on back page)



Help the Trick-or-Treaters find each other!

Find the 12 differences between the pictures below.



Hey Kids,

I'm pleased to announce that the winner of our Big Kit Lil' Kaboodle Summer contest is Jackson.

Jackson sent in a picture of himself posing with the pink flamingos at the Pittsburgh Zoo. Thanks for reading Jackson!

Congratulations!!



WANTED: Junior Writers

If you are in 2nd - 5th grade and like to write and have fun doing it, **we need you!**

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or email: pittsburghjuniortimes@comcast.net

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412-279-5868
Pastor Maurice C. Frontz III, STS
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[Facebook.com/Dave.Carver](https://www.facebook.com/Dave.Carver)
All are welcome!
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www.allsaintspncpa.org
all.saints.pnc.church@verizon.net
The Rev. John Dinello
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412-279-5030
carnegiechristianchurch@gmail.com

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412-921-4103
www.nativitychurch.org
The Rev. Shawn Malarkey

Mt. Pisgah Presbyterian Church

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Rev. Douglas Kinsey, Pastor
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Virtual Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Rev. Dr. Colleen F. Molinaro
www.carnegiepresby.org
Go to website for virtual worship.

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DeRose pghbarber981@aol.com
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Pittsburgh, PA 15205
412-922-6300
Rev. James R. Torquato, Pastor
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112 W. Sycamore, Mt. Washington
412-431-8396
mtwashingtonbaptistchurch.org
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Rev. Ray G. Cunningham, Pastor

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carnegiepmc.com
412-207-2233
Todd Pastorius, Pastor

Crafton United Presbyterian Church

80 Bradford Avenue
412-921-2293 Fax: 412-921-0348
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www.CraftonUP.com
Office: 9-1 p.m., T, Th, Fri

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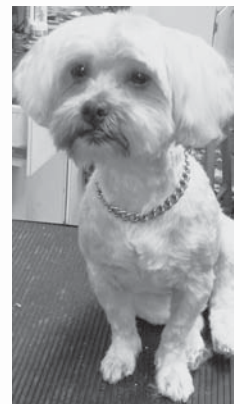
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