

GREEN TREE TIMES

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March Brings a Sigh of Relief...Spring is Almost Here



Dressed in all green and having fun at the St. Patrick's Day parade.

I'm seeing green and it's not from envy. I'm referring to Pittsburgh in March! Home of the second largest St. Paddy's Day parade, our area will have kelly green all over the city and being the optimist that I try to be, leaf green will be budding from the trees soon. Spring is near!

If you want an immediate immersion into feeling spring, head to Phipps Conservatory.

Starting March 16 and lasting four weeks, you can enjoy the Spring Flower Show: A Closer Look. Magnifying glasses will be placed throughout to help you admire the little details of the beautiful, colorful delights. Some special features in-



Tulips are a favorite spring flower.

clude motion activated rain clouds, a spinning geometric sculpture, rotating kaleidoscopes and more. Info at phippconservatory.org

Another way to have the feeling of spring a little early, even if it's snowing outside, is a day at the Avi-

ary. Wander through and visit the birds in their habitat and in some cases, feed them. From the Flamingo to the Crow, you'll be transported for the day. Info at aviary.org.

This is also a great month for a sweet treat. The Maple Taste and Tour Weekend will be held Mar. 2-3 and 9-10 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. in



Maple sugar buckets on the trees.

Somerset County at 23 different locations. Each place offers something different so check the website at somensetcountymaple.org and look at the brochure to pick your spots. There will be everything from syrup samples to maple milkshakes!

A Stroll through Maple History is being held at Jennings Environmental Education Center on Mar. 3. This is free but register in advance. Event includes introduction, guided walk to see working evaporator and tasting some syrup.

Maple Madness at Beechwood will be held on Mar. 16, 1 p.m. and features an outdoor tour of a maple

sugar demo trail. Info at aswp.org.

Raccoon Creek State Park is holding a Maple Sugaring Workshop on Mar. 9 at 10 a.m. The day will cover everything from the collection of the maple sap through processing syrup into candies and more. End the day with a pancake dinner. Buy tickets in advance at events.dcnr.pa.gov.

You could head north for the Northwest PA Maple Association Annual Taste and Tour Weekend of 20 maple sugaring operations. This event will be Mar. 16-17 and offer tours, demonstrations, kids' activities, wagon rides, samples and products for sale. Info at pamaple.org.

Thinking green and celebrating St. Patrick's day in Pittsburgh is a very easy thing to do! Each year Pittsburgh has a parade on the Saturday before St. Patrick's Day.

This year the parade is on March 16 at 10 a.m. and is perfect for the entire family! There will be no shortage of festivities following the parade downtown, starting with Market Square.

There are Irish pubs all around the Pittsburgh area so if downtown is not where you want to be, try a place closer to home. Some of these places are Riley's Pour House in Carnegie, Mullaney's Harp & Fiddle in the Strip, Piper's Pub and Claddagh Irish Pub on the South Side, and Monterey Pub on the North Side. They are all offering something special to celebrate the holiday but call each one for specific details.

Getting in the mood for spring is easy but it's especially so while attending the Annual Pittsburgh Home and Garden Show at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. The dates this year are March 8-17. Browse the largest home event in America with over 1,500 exhibits! You can save time and get tickets online at pghhome.com.

The Farm to Table Expo: Buy Fresh, Buy Local is a part of the show and will feature ten days of speakers and seasonal cooking demonstrations. Info at pghhome.com or farmtotablepa.com.

History Uncorked: We Love The '90s returns to the Heinz History Center on Fri., Mar. 8 and will be filled with 90s nostalgia. Have fun dancing to the freshest beats from DJ Bonics and enjoying delicious bites



Farm to Table at the Pittsburgh Home and Garden Show.

and drinks at food stations from local restaurants. The event includes a silent auction, throwback karaoke, arcade and video games from the '90s, and so much more! Info at heinzhistorycenter.org.

Every Friday this month you will find delicious fish fries at various places throughout the area. Close to home try out the Catholic Church fish fries at Ascension Church in Crafton, Saints Simon and Jude Church on Green Tree Rd., St. Joseph Church in Coraopolis and St. Malachy Church in Coraopolis. Some other options are Presto Volunteer Fire Department and Rennerdale VFD. Many restaurants will be offering fish on Fridays as well. Enjoy!

Don't forget to spring ahead on March 10. Longer days are on their way! Happy Spring!



A MUSINGS CLASSIC...NAVIGATING DIFFERENCES



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.

*"All the world is strange
Except thee and me,
And sometimes I even wonder about thee."*
(Based on Robert Owen quote)

My mother used to say this Robert Owen quote to me when I was being weird. And then we would laugh uproariously. She had a deep appreciation of differences.

People ARE Different

Even though we are more than 99% genetically similar to each other, people are amazingly different from each other. This is so obvious it is a cliché. Still, the simple notion is profound. People ARE different.

Differences come in many forms. Here are a few:

- Gender
- Age
- Ethnicity
- Personal history
- Beliefs
- Assumptions
- Values
- Burdens
- Approach to stress
- Sense of humor
- Learning style
- Pain threshold
- Thinking style preference
- Political leanings
- Hopes and dreams

Differences Work Together

Some of the strongest, longest lasting, marriages I know are of people who are different. They compliment each other. When they make it through the hard first years, learning to appreciate each other, they are happy, bringing incredible resilience to their lives.

For years Hal and I worked with teams in companies, using the HBDI, a tool that assesses people's thinking style preferences. Without exception, "whole brained" teams were able to solve problems more efficiently and creatively than teams composed of like-minded people. Solutions are stronger when they embrace differences.

This quote from the Founder of the Baha'i Faith says it well:

Consider the flowers of a garden. Though differing in kind, color, form and shape, this diversity increaseth their charm and addeth unto their beauty.

How unpleasing to the eye if all the flowers and plants, the leaves and blossoms, the fruit, the branches and the trees of that garden were all of the same shape and color!

Differences Divide

Even though there are many examples of the advantages of diversity, our differences often lead to frustration and fighting, divorce and war.

We cannot imagine how the world looks from that other vantage point, whether the difference is with a single loved one or a group. We go quickly to judgment. In these days of the internet and targeted information, we can research and get different evidence. Then we gather allies and go to war.

The Choice

What if, instead of getting mad at differences, we get curious? See the differences as a puzzle. Acknowledge that when we don't understand, we make stuff up. Question both our own and the others' assumptions and history. Research by reading things we wouldn't usually read. Then use our findings to do one of these:

COACHING TIPS:

Honor the difference – remembering you can like and love people with whom you disagree.

Use the difference - hire people who like to do what you don't like doing.

Get curious. Examine both your own and other people's histories and assumptions. Be in learning mode rather than fighting mode.

Celebrate the difference. Just as music is more joyful with many instruments and varied rhythms, life is richer because we're not all alike!

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St. Patrick's Day Party Pointers



Decorating green sugar cookies is a fun St. Patrick's Day party event.

St. Patrick's Day is a beloved holiday, and that popularity is reflected in celebrations that take place across the globe. According to World Popu-

lation Review, more than 200 countries celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

Russia, Singapore and Japan are among the nations that celebrate St.

Patrick's Day each March, proving that proximity to Ireland is not a prerequisite for partying on March 17. With that in mind, anyone in the mood to celebrate St. Patrick's Day need not hesitate to plan a party this March. The following St. Patrick's Day party pointers can make the festivities even more fun this year.

Go green. It goes without saying that green is the color of St. Patrick's Day. St. Patrick is the primary patron saint of Ireland, a country known for its rolling green hills. Hosts can decorate party spaces in green, hanging green streamers and green balloons. Encourage guests to wear green and keep the theme going with the menu, serving green baked goods and beverages.

Curate a St. Patrick's Day playlist. In addition to its rolling green hills, Ireland is known for music. It's hard to find a pub anywhere on the Emerald Isle without a local musician playing traditional Irish music for a captivated crowd. Hosts can keep that in mind when curating their St. Patrick's Day playlist, which can include music from artists and bands such as Finbar Furey, The Dubliners, The

Clancy Brothers, The Chieftains, The Pogues, The High Kings, The Dropkick Murphys, Flogging Molly, and more.

Serve traditional Irish fare. It might take some advanced planning and effort to provide a menu one might find in Ireland. Blood pudding is served in many pubs across the Emerald Isle, but it might be hard, though not necessarily impossible, to find outside the country. Some large chain grocery stores might carry blood pudding in March, and it might be possible to find it in specialty grocery stores around this time of year. Irish soda bread, bacon and cabbage, Irish stew, and boxty are some additional dishes to give a menu some traditional Irish flavor.

Cut an Irish rug. Irish dancing is another of Ireland's many exports, as dancers across the globe have embraced traditional Irish dance. Hosts can learn a dance or two and teach guests a few simple steps during the party. Keep it light and fun and allow even non-dancers to tap their toes.

These are just a few of the ways hosts can make their St. Patrick's Day parties more fun this March.

Community News and Events

On Thurs., Apr. 11, the **Green Tree Garden Club** will have refreshments at 6:15pm, followed by a presentation entitled, "Vegetable Gardening" by Penn State Master Gardener, Pat Morgan at the Green Tree Fire Hall.

Growing your own food is one of the most satisfying forms of gardening. This class will cover everything there is to know about planning and executing your vegetable garden. Guests are welcome to attend the meeting at 7:15pm at no cost. Reservations are required.

Interested in Membership? Contact Kevin Maurer at 412-922-8816.

New to the North Hills this performance season will be the **Carnegie Performing Arts Center** presenting the children's ballet **Madeline** at the Greater Pittsburgh Masonic Center located at 3579 Masonic Way in the North Hills.

Madeline will be presented April 13 and April 14, 2024, and the Carnegie Performing Arts Center Spring Recital will be held on Fri., June 21, 2024 which features choreography from graduating seniors and teachers from the school.

Tickets for the performances range from \$18-\$24 and can be obtained by going to the Carnegie Performing Arts Center website, www.carnegieperformingartscenter.com and clicking on the ticket link. For information about the school, please call 412-279-8887 or email info@carnegieperformingartscenter.com. (See ad on back page)

Green Tree Woman's Civic Club is having their **Spring Luncheon: Sparkle and Shine** on Sun., Apr. 21 at 12 p.m at the Double Tree Hotel in Green Tree. Lunch will be served at 1 p.m. Fashions by White House Black Market. Event includes basket raffles, cash bar and share the wealth. For tickets contact Jo Ann Whitaker at 412-337-2000 or gtjoann@gmail.com. Cost \$40. Proceeds benefit the GTWCC Annual College Scholarship.



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The Fishin' Hole



Sam Hall

Thirty-six days are all that remain until April 6, at 8:00 a.m., the Pennsylvania statewide opening day of trout season. sixteen of those days are either a Saturday or a Sunday which, let's be honest, they don't really count as actual days so we are talking about less than three weeks until trout season is in full swing for 2024.

Here is what you need to know. First, you can purchase your fishing license online at the Fish and Boat Commission website at fishandboat.com, or in any number of retail stores. The annual license

for an adult resident of Pennsylvania is pricing at \$27.97 this year and the trout permit will cost you an additional \$14.97. If you are 65 years old or older your annual license will cost \$14.97 with the trout stamp remaining the same. If you are less than 16 years of age, you do not need a fishing license.

The season will begin at 8 a.m. on Saturday April 6, with minimum size for keeping any trout being seven inches. The creel limit from opening day through Labor Day is five trout, combined, of any species. After Labor Day that limit is reduced to three trout combined, of any species.

Almost every trout fishery will receive a stocking of trout in these next 36 days and one of the best things you can do is go onto the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Website, click on trout stocking, click county, and the list of all places and the date of stocking will come up. It's fun to go out and volunteer to help with the stocking. It is a great way to meet other anglers, as well as know where the fish are located to start their lives in your preferred stream or lake.

If you need to go fishing to keep yourself sane before trout season opens, Erie has good steelhead still running and of course, the three rivers are all still open for fishing. Please use a lot of caution as the waters can be very high and dangerous at this time of year. Good news that comes with that high water, if you are a stream angler, is there will be a lot of places for trout to hold and good fishing spots when the first day does arrive.

Now, it is up to you to prepare. Cleaning out the vest or tackle box the night before or, even worse, the morning of, will inevitably lead to problems. Make some time over the next couple of weeks to make sure you have all the proper equipment and terminal tackle. Changing of the line and a serious check of my boots are

top priorities for me each season. I have had the leaky boot situation happen to me first day on more than one occasion. Why it took multiple times to learn my lesson is a mystery! Not good, not good at all! Another helpful tip that I've mentioned before but needs repeating (due to "learn the lesson the first time") is to wear a waterproof watch that first morning. Many people rely on their phones for the time now and pulling your phone out, time and time again on a cold morning, near the water is just begging for trouble! Every thirty seconds from 7:50 until 8:00 a.m., someone will be asking you what time it is, so you will be one popular angler! Keep those lines tight. Send your pictures and stories to samdhall@comcast.net



Local angler, Sarah (@the.girl.that.fishes) caught a beautiful rainbow trout.

~photo courtesy of Sarah Beth

LIBRARY INFORMATION

Fun Programs

ask a
librarian

Fun programs for all age levels are available at the libraries so try attending some events. Be sure to call or visit the website for more information.

Most activities are in person. Check with the library near you for the details.

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greentreepubliclibrary.org, 412-921-9292

SCOTT TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

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CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH MAIN - OAKLAND

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Fun and Games for Kids

(Answers on back page)



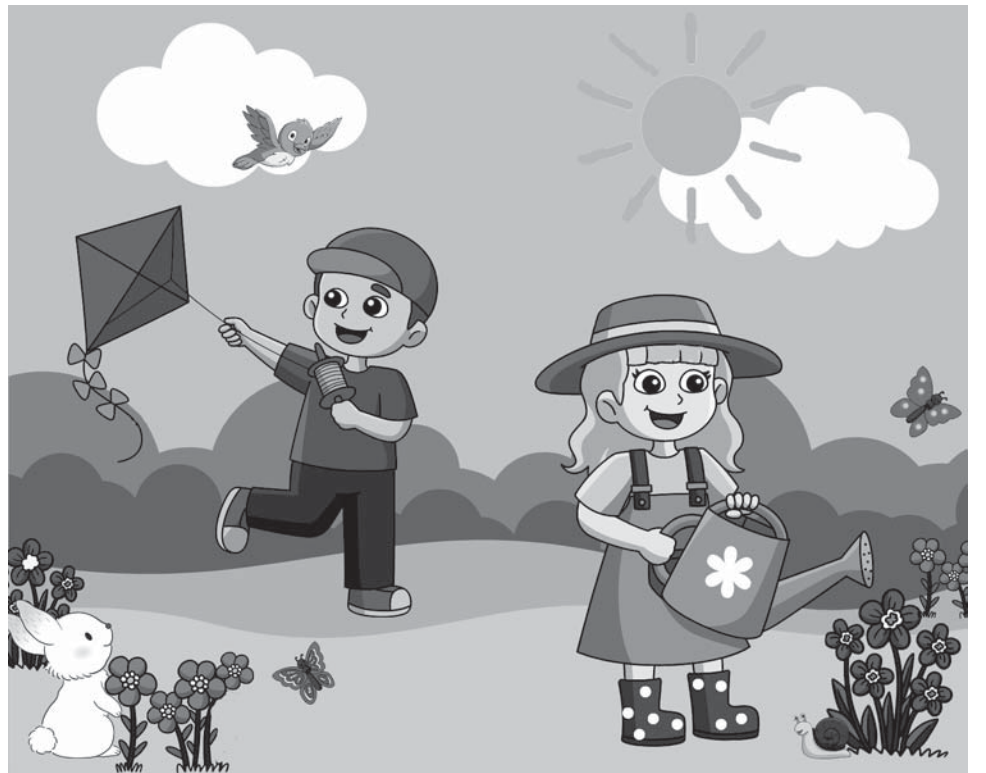
Find the 10 differences between the pictures below.



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- Each row must include the numbers 1-4 only once.
- Each column must include the numbers 1-4 only once.
- Each 4x4 block must include the numbers 1-4 only once.

	3	4	
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MATTER MATH

Matter changes! Complete the math puzzles below by drawing the next phase.

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ststephenpittsburgh.org
412-279-5868
Pastor Maurice C. Frontz III, STS
[Facebook.com/ststephenpittsburgh](https://www.facebook.com/ststephenpittsburgh)

First Christian Church at Carnegie

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Anthony and Lydia Streets
Carnegie, PA 15106
Minister Robert W. Hale,
412-279-5030
carnegiechristianchurch@gmail.com

Saint Philip Parish

St. Philip Church, 50 W. Crafton Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
Ascension Church, 114 Berry St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
412-922-6300
Rev. James R. Torquato, Pastor
Call church for any service updates.

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Website: ingramupchurch.org
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Rev. Tom Ribar, Pastor

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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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Crafton, PA 15205
412-921-2504
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www.hawthornechurch.org

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www.carnegiepresby.org
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412 Old Washington Pike
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bbcpittsburgh.com
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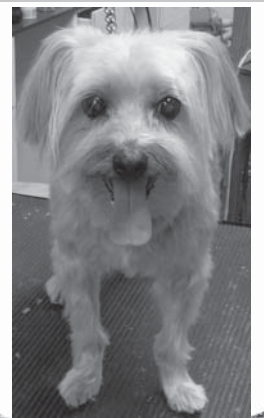
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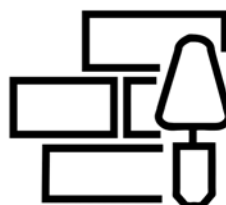
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