

# GREEN TREE TIMES

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## May Offers Promise of Warmer Temps, Outdoor Activities, and Fun



OpenStreets Pgh is starting the season for fun biking, rollerskating or blading, walking and more.

May is a month full of promise. It's the time of year to plant your annuals and hang your flower baskets. Prepare your yard area or bring out the containers for an herb or vegetable garden. Put out the patio furniture or lawn chairs. Create a space for yourself to enjoy the colorful spring season and warm temperatures.

This is the month when the Farmers' Markets come to life. These markets all offer locally grown produce as well as other goodies including baked items, cheeses, meats, flowers and more. Shop them all and compare to find your favorite.

The Green Tree Market starts on Thursday, May 19, 4-7 p.m. and will run every Thursday through October.

The Citiparks Farmers' Markets are held weekly in four neighborhoods. Info at [pittsburghpa.gov](http://pittsburghpa.gov).

South Side's starts on May 10, 3-7 p.m. and is at the corner of E. Carson and 18th Street.

Market Square has a huge Farmers' Market that will run every Thursday from May 12 - Oct. 27 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. There will be a variety of vendors along with live music, entertainment and more!

There are markets in the West End, Bridgeville and Mt. Lebanon. Contact your borough or local library to look for any others that may be near you. Buying fresh and local is well worth

any extra effort getting there to shop.

Phipps' Conservatory is having the open-air May Market and Public Gardens Day on May 6-7 again this year. It is free and open to the public. The market will feature gardening accessories, lawn decor, and a plant sale including organic herbs, seedlings, perennial, shrubs and more. Staff will be on hand to share advice. [phipps.conservatory.org](http://phipps.conservatory.org).



Farm Heritage Day is another event being held in Washington at The Spring House. It will be on May 28 from 11 a.m.- 4 p.m. Take a step back "just a bit" in time and enjoy some good old fashioned fun.

Enjoy games, activities, listening to live music and eating down home food. Info at [springhousemarket.com](http://springhousemarket.com).

You can walk, bike, or roller blade to go have fun on the car-free streets of Downtown and the South Side on Sunday, May 29 from 10 a.m. -2p.m. OpenStreetsPGH is starting again this season and is a free event for all-ages.

OpenStreetsPGH temporarily closes roads to car traffic, and invites

Pittsburghers to reimagine our streets as places for people. You can go at your own pace and even grab food from local vendors, and enjoy fun activities hosted by local organizations such as free fitness classes, community arts performances, food trucks, activity stations and special promotions.

BikePGH will be offering free "Learn to Ride" classes at the BikePGH Kids Hub at 22nd Street and East Carson Street in the South Side. Info, maps and schedule at [openstreetspgh.org](http://openstreetspgh.org).

Another May favorite is the Annual Greek Food Festival at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral from May 1-7. Enjoy delicious homemade Greek food, live Greek bands, Dance Performances, outdoor grill, and dining under the tent. Hours and more info at [stnickspgh.org](http://stnickspgh.org).

The South Shore Riverwalk and Chalk Fest will be held on the Saturday of Memorial Weekend to kick off the summer on Pittsburgh's riverfronts with interactive chalk art and an amazing food truck line up! Over twenty international chalk artists will be visiting to create stunning interactive murals on the sidewalks. The event will also offer public art, live entertainment, and local brews. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Riverlife's work to create, activate, and celebrate Pittsburgh's riverfronts. Info at [southsideworks.com](http://southsideworks.com).

The National Aviary Birding Expedition is a great opportunity to get outside and do something a little different. It will be held Sat., May 14, 8 - 11 a.m. at Presque Isle.

Visit during the peak of spring migration for the potential to see scores of species, including warblers, vireos, and flycatchers. Stop by Erie Bird Observatory's bird banding station to watch researchers in action, and learn techniques to enhance your birding skills during this meet up-style program. Info at [www.aviary.org](http://www.aviary.org).

The Annual National Pike Festival/National Road Festival will be held the third weekend in May. It is known as the "world's longest festi-

val" happening along 90 miles of the Historic National Road in Pennsylvania (Route 40) through Somerset, Fayette, and Washington Counties.

Various communities and towns along the Route 40 hold their own activities – some with festivals, arts and crafts shows, music, vendors, entertainment, food, etc.

You can find schedules and maps of activities at [nationalroadpa.org](http://nationalroadpa.org).

The Maple House Music + Arts Festival will make its debut in Pittsburgh this spring on Sat., May 21, at Hartwood Acres Park. Headlining musical acts include Jason Isbell + The 400 Unit, Black Pumas, Lake Street Dive, Elle King, Pittsburgh's own Ghost Hounds and many more. Festival passes for the event start at \$59 and are on sale now at [www.maplehousefest.com](http://www.maplehousefest.com).



Music Festival Fun!

The Greater Pittsburgh Food Truck Festival will be May 27-29 at Hollywood Casino at the Meadows.

Dozens of the region's best food trucks will be in attendance, plus live music and entertainment, craft beer and wine, regional artisans and vendors, and more. Admission is free all weekend!

The event starts with Family Fun Night on Fri., May 27, 5 - 9 p.m., and will include kids' activities, Wiener Dog Races, vendors, and food trucks! Event continues Sat., May 28, 12-9 p.m. and Sun., May 29, 11-7 p.m. Info at [pghfoodtruckfest.com](http://pghfoodtruckfest.com).

May is the bridge to summer so be careful not to run across it to get to swimming pools and vacations! This advice is probably more for myself than anyone else! Happy May! Enjoy the journey!



# MUSINGS...IF YOU WANT TO BE HAPPIER STOP BLAMING



*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.*

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*"Meow did it."  
Jamie, age 2*

## The Nature of Blame

Maybe it is just human nature to blame others. When Jamie, my barely two-year-old granddaughter, accidentally knocked things off a table, she looked up and said, "Meow did it." Meow was her stuffed cat.

We think that blaming justifies us and makes us happier. It's almost addicting. Here's Arbing Institute's description of how blaming can work. It is as if we enter an illicit agreement:

"I'll mistreat you so you can blame your bad behavior on me, if you'll mistreat me so I can blame my bad behavior on you."

Trouble is, it doesn't make us happier. Even when we gather allies to our side of the blame story, we feel upset. Marilyn Paul says, "Blame is like sugar; it produces a brief boost and then a let down." Blame is 100% negative energy.

After I had divorced my husband Roger, I blamed him for our difficulties for 5 long, hard years. One day we had a particularly hostile argument on the phone. I hung up on him, then stewed around the house. Later that

day, a question blared in my head: "Why do you keep the blame alive?" I'd already divorced him. I could let it go!

When that sank in, I actually laughed out loud. I was suddenly pounds lighter. I was free.

## Options

We don't have to live with the constant drama of blame. We have options.

• Throw our blame away – stop feeding it by reliving it, sharing it. Just stop, like I did.

• Reframe it. Yes, she hurt my feelings, but think of how many times she's picked me up.

• Ask, very honestly, "How might I have contributed to what I'm blaming on the other?"

• Practice mindfulness meditation, so you notice and catch yourself before you set up a blame cycle. (See the excellent book Peak Mind by neuroscientist Amishi Jha, Ph.D.)

If you want to be happier, stop blaming. Period.

## COACHING QUESTIONS

1. Who are you blaming in your heart for offenses old or new?
2. Which suggestions above for dropping blame could help you stop?
3. How much better would you feel without the negative energy of an active blame game?
4. What step are you willing to take to stop blaming?

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# The Fishin' Hole



Sam Hall

As crazy as the weather was for the entire month of April, we did get an absolutely perfect day for the opening day of trout season in southwestern Pennsylvania. Blue skies and sunshine and, for the most part, perfect water conditions greeted anglers on the morning of April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8 a.m. There were loads of memories to be made and, fish to be caught where I was fishing. I hope you had the same kind of morning. The crazy weather for almost every other day of April

could have a bright side as well for anglers in May. This means the fisheries might not be as “fished-out” as the may have normally gotten, plus the water table remains pretty high, lending nice pools to smaller streams in our area.

The Fishin’ Hole gives a big salute to one of our favorite readers and anglers this month. Pictured here is Marena Luhn of Elliott, who celebrated her 11<sup>th</sup> birthday last month by landing this beautiful Brown Trout at her secret spot on a local stream. Happy Birthday Marena! Your secret spot is safe with us!

May brings, hopefully, some warmer temperatures and that should trigger what has been, so far this year, a slow Smallmouth bass bite in our area. Once the waters warm, hit those riffles on your favorite streams for springtime Smallies using crayfish, minnows or night crawlers.

A few streams in the area are slated to get a stocking of trout in the first week of May. The Fish Commission says they will stock both

North Park Lake and Peters Creek in Allegheny County. They will also put trout in Miller’s Run, Mingo Creek and Little Chartiers Creek in Washington County in the next couple of days. So get out there and chase those trout in the next couple of weeks.

Coming up at the end of May, Pennsylvania will have a “fish for free” day all around the Commonwealth. On May 29, the state will allow anyone (resident or nonresident) to legally fish on Pennsylvania waterways with no fishing license required. This free day includes fishing in Erie and for trout. It is a perfect way to get a friend or family member “hooked” on fishing! The next scheduled “fish for free” day is coming up this July 4<sup>th</sup>.

The three rivers remain in good fishing condition as we begin the month of May. Use caution as always when fishing along the shoreline.

Get out there and get fishing now! This is our month. Nearly every fish you would ever fish for in our area is eating for the entire month of May.

So whatever species you prefer, there is a great chance of hooking up now. Stay safe and keep those lines tight. Send your pictures and stories to [samdhall@comcast.net](mailto:samdhall@comcast.net) and we will talk summer fishing next month in the Fishin’ Hole.



Marena Luhn with her beautiful Brown Trout.

## Community News and Events

**Green Tree Garden Club** will meet on Thurs., May 12 in the Carlisle Room of the Green Tree Fire Hall for an 11a.m. Lunch and Meeting, 12 noon presentation entitled, “Patio Planter Workshop and Container Gardening,” by Gary Baranowski. An assortment of patio planters will be created in preparation for the **May 14th Spring Festival**. The Festival will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Municipal Center and the Green Tree Fire Hall. It features a Craft/Vendor Show, Flea Market, Spring Plant Sales including flats of annuals, herbs, patio planters, and perennials. There will also be an Outdoor Cafe, Bake Sale and Basket Raffle.

The Green Tree Garden Club will hold a **Mothers’ Day Geranium Sale** on Sat., May 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the parking lot of the Green Tree Fire Hall. A variety of colors will be available for purchase.

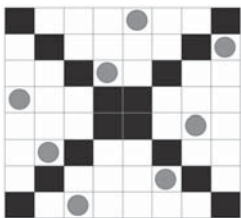
Interested in a membership? Contact Roni Canard at 717-747-6565.

**St. George Spaghetti Dinner III** will be held Sat., June 4 at 4 pm at St. Pius X Auditorium at 2336 Brownsville Road. Everyone is invited to join parishioners, alumni, family and friends of the former St. George Church & School and St. John Vianney to enjoy dinner, fellowship, door prizes & raffles.

St. George Family & supporters are encouraged to spread the word. Seating is limited! Please call or email your reservation ASAP at 412-502-5062 or [contact@SGCPS.net](mailto:contact@SGCPS.net). More details at [www.SGCPS.net](http://www.SGCPS.net).

Proceeds benefit the St. George Church Preservation Society

## Answers for Kids’ puzzles



- cotton candy  
dot on shoe  
alligator tooth  
alligator arm  
eyelashes  
girl's bangs

popcorn bag  
merry-go-round  
popcorn kernel  
star on shorts  
flag  
freckles

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**LIBRARY INFORMATION**

ask a librarian

Most libraries throughout the area are now open and offering the ability to borrow books. Some activities are in person and some are still remote. Check with the library near you for the details.

<p><b>GREEN TREE PUBLIC LIBRARY</b>                  10 Manilla Ave., Pittsburgh, 15220  <a href="http://greentreeborolib.org">greentreeborolib.org</a>, 412-922-9292</p>	<p><b>SCOTT TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY</b>                  301 Lindsay Rd., Scott Twp., 15106  <a href="http://scottlibrary.org">scottlibrary.org</a>, 412-429-5380</p>
<p><b>CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH                  MAIN - OAKLAND</b>                  4400 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, 15213  <a href="http://carnegielibrary.org">carnegielibrary.org</a>, 412-622-3114</p>	<p><b>CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH                  MT. WASHINGTON</b>                  315 Grandview Ave., Pittsburgh, 15211  <a href="http://carnegielibrary.org">carnegielibrary.org</a>, 412-381-3380</p>
<p><b>CRAFTON PUBLIC LIBRARY</b>                  140 Bradford Ave., Pittsburgh, 15205  <a href="http://craftonpubliclibrary.com">craftonpubliclibrary.com</a>, 412-922-6877</p>	<p><b>CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH                  WEST END</b>                  47 Wabash St., Pittsburgh, 15220  <a href="http://carnegielibrary.org">carnegielibrary.org</a>, 412-921-1717</p>
<p><b>THE ANDREW CARNEGIE FREE LIBRARY                  AND MUSIC HALL</b>                  300 Beechwood Ave., Carnegie,  <a href="http://carnegiecarnegie.org">carnegiecarnegie.org</a>, 412-276-3456</p>	<p><b>CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH                  SHERADEN</b>                  720 Sherwood Ave., Pittsburgh, 15204  <a href="http://carnegielibrary.org">carnegielibrary.org</a>, 412-331-1135</p>



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# Fun and Games for Kids

(Answers on page 3)



Find the 12 differences between the pictures below.



## Spring Time Word Search

### Find the Spring Words!

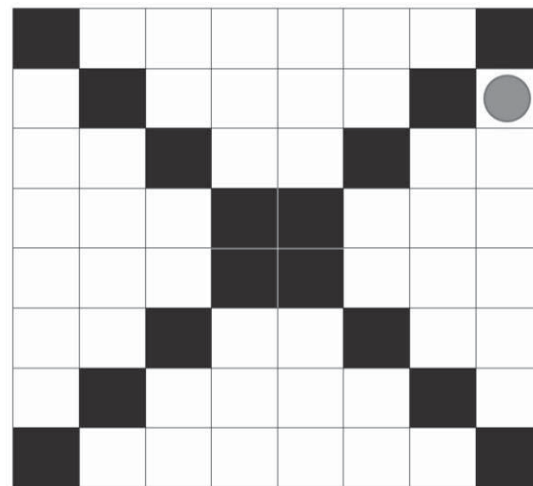
Y D B U X Z M E X S D O K H N  
S A F A U S N Y H Z N U F F D  
T F D O S I J O U J U R T P I  
Y S O L H E W N T C O Y B F C  
I E D S A E B I K N R K N M O  
S P N R R I K A M Y G W W Q K  
J U I S I U R N L I Y O B F B  
S F P Y W B Z O X L A M J P A  
O Z J I E R V K M T L S B F W  
C R F U N O R Y Y E P E I L Z  
S T R O P S A K Y A M T U O F  
G O B I N M J F O X C I L W R  
I Y X Q T U L A U L D K A E R  
I M N B Z R A I N B O W S R E  
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KITES

SUNSHINE  
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412-279-5868  
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[Facebook.com/ststephenpittsburgh](https://www.facebook.com/ststephenpittsburgh)

## The Parish of St. Raphael the Archangel

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and Jim Mackin

## All Saints Polish National Catholic Church

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[www.allsaintspncpa.org](http://www.allsaintspncpa.org)  
[all.saints.pnc.church@verizon.net](mailto:all.saints.pnc.church@verizon.net)  
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[facebook.com/unitypresbyterianchurch](https://www.facebook.com/unitypresbyterianchurch)  
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Rev. Phil Golden Jr., Pastor

## First Christian Church at Carnegie

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[carnegiechristianchurch@gmail.com](mailto:carnegiechristianchurch@gmail.com)

## Hawthorne Avenue Presbyterian Church

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## Mount Washington Baptist Church

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## Saint Philip Parish

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Ascension Church, 114 Berry St.  
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## 1<sup>st</sup> United Presbyterian Church of Crafton Heights

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Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.  
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Mt Pisgah  
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Friday, Apr. 15, 12-3 p.m. Prayer,  
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Daytimers will meet April 26 at  
11 a.m.

NOTE: Contact churches di-  
rectly or visit their website to  
see in-person services, virtual  
activities, and Easter activities  
for the month.

## United Presbyterian Church in Ingram

30 West Prospect Avenue  
412-921-2323  
Website: [ingramupchurch.org](http://ingramupchurch.org)  
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## Church of the Nativity (Episcopal)

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