

GREEN TREE TIMES

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July Brings the Hot Temperatures and Lots of Fun Water Activities



Enjoying the splashing cold water like only children can do!

The heat of the last few days has us all experiencing a true blue Pittsburgh summer! The rivers are full of boats and activities, people are riding the area's bike paths, the pools and parks are filled and life seems to be getting back to normal!

Pittsburgh has removed mask restrictions but we are also proceeding with caution. Most places are still asking people to practice safety measures to keep things progressing in the right direction.

The Pittsburgh area theme parks are open and not needing advance ticket purchase. Kennywood is welcoming everyone to enjoy the rides and the park all summer long. Sandcastle is open for the season, too. Idlewild and SoakZone is also open and will even be having a fireworks display on July 4 at 9:30 p.m. You can get all of the details and safety requirements by visiting their websites.

The annual 4th of July celebrations are back in full swing in our area with many options for viewing some spectacular fireworks!

Point State Park will feature live music, food vendors and family activities. A fireworks display by Pyrotecnico will cap off the night as the main attraction.

Canonsburg 4th of July parade will be held on Sat., July 3 and starts at 10 a.m. with all of the traditional festivities to follow.

South Fayette will have fireworks on July 4 at sunset.

Crafton's *Fireworks in the Park* will be held on July 4 starting at 7 p.m.

with Kona Ice, PGH Crepes, and concessions by local non-profits. Live music featuring Trainwreck will begin at 7:30 p.m. and fireworks at 9:30 p.m. Social distancing and masks are requested.

Carnegie Fireworks will be set off on July 3 after sunset and Scott Township fireworks will be at 9:30 p.m. on July 4 at Scott Park.

Church festivals are back this summer. St. Raphael the Archangel Parish festival will be held July 15-17 and represents Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Saint Margaret of Scotland Church, and Saints Simon and Jude Church. The location will be at SS Simon and Jude Church, Parish Life Center (old school) grounds, 1607 Greentree Rd. Festivities include rides, games, prizes, and a large flea market. Entertainment will feature skydivers every night at 8 p.m., musicians, dance troops and competitive gymnastics. The famous karaoke contest returns this year and is open to anyone! Info at straphaelcgs.org.

The Saint Michael the Archangel Parish festival will be held July 29-31 representing St. Bernard and Our Lady of Grace Churches. The location will be at Our Lady of Grace Church, 310 Kane Blvd.

Activities include rides, food booths, nightly entertainment and a lot of fun! Info at smaphg.org.

Other local festivals to check out include the Whiskey Rebellion Festival, being held on July 10. This festival celebrates the heritage and unique

character of the region by focusing on the historical significance of the Whiskey Rebellion, a history that is exclusive to western PA and primarily Washington County.

Enjoy historic reenactments, period exhibitions and demonstrations, family fun, frontier art, heritage music and food.

The 11th Annual Rib & Wing Festival at Seven Springs Mountain will be held on Friday, July 30 through Sunday, August 1, 2021!

Enjoy mouth-watering ribs and wings cooked up fresh by award-winning ribbers from all over the country, rock out to live musical entertainment, cool off at the beer garden, play some games in the Kids' Zone, and more! Info at 7springs.com.

All of this hot summer weather makes for the perfect setting to enjoy the water activities around the area.

The area wave pools are open and ready for you!

Two lakes nearby with swim beaches to enjoy for free are Raccoon Creek State Park and Moraine State Park. Both have concessions and restrooms. You can rent pontoon boats, fishing boats and more at Moraine. It'll feel like a mini vacation only 40 minutes away.

Did you know that you can rent a jet ski to cruise around the rivers? It's true and it's new. Steel City Jet Ski Rentals, which opened in May, provides people the opportunity to ride a jet ski on Pittsburgh's three rivers.

They offer 30 minute, one-hour, two-hour, and four-hour rentals. Customers



must be 16 years or older to operate a jet ski, but no age restriction for passengers. Each jet ski can fit up to three people. Info at steelcityjetskirentals.com.

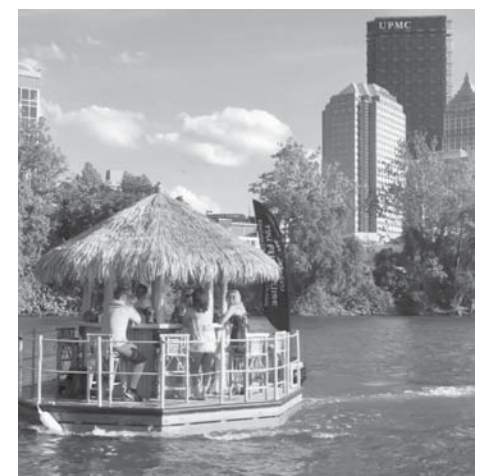
Rent solo and tandem kayaks to paddle along Pittsburgh's waterways.

Explore downtown Pittsburgh and our 3 rivers from a unique perspective. Info at ventureoutdoors.org.

If you want to be *on* the water and not *in* the water try the somewhat newer floating tiki bars. You bring your own drinks so it can be alcohol or completely alcohol free.

Cruisin' Tikis Pittsburgh offers 2 hour sightseeing charters on the Three Rivers. The cruises are \$400.00 for up to six people and include an experienced, fully licensed Coast Guard certified Captain. Info at cruisintikispittsburgh.com.

Another unique trip on the river is the first and only pedal powered



party boats by Pittsburgh Pedal Boats. Pedal along the scenic downtown Pittsburgh three rivers. These cruises are perfect for groups of up to 15. These cruises can be booked as an individual, small or a private cruise! USCG licensed captains will be in charge of the vessel and your journey.

In addition, the Pittsburgh Party Pontoon has officially made its debut in the 'Burgh! No pedaling required, just relaxing and enjoying the sites. With seating for up to 18 people, in a bar style layout with additional benches, this boat is perfect for your next day out. Info at pittsburghpedalboats.com.

The Gateway Clipper Fleet offer cruises every week. Go to gatewayclipper.com to find the perfect match for you.

Enjoy each day that you can doing whatever brings you joy and peace. After this last year we all need a bit of fun, friends and family!

MUSINGS...RESPONDING TO DEATH



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.

A tiny bird was moving around erratically on the shed roof outside my office window. Broken leg or wing, I thought. The mama showed up and talked to the baby, encouraging it. Mama left. Baby limped around some more. Mama returned and nudged a bit. By now I was riveted. Baby hesitated, reluctant to fly. I've seen this before. Many baby birds have fledged in my yard. When they

finally are mature enough, encouraged enough, courageous enough – they jump and then fly. It feels gleeful. This time it didn't happen like that. The baby finally made the leap and crashed on the cement below. The mama came back twice. I made up that she was sad, because I was sad. This baby bird died. A tear actually fell onto my cheek. I waited awhile, said a little prayer, and buried the baby bird in my backyard near where my cat Bonkers is buried.

Maybe it affected me so much because a friend had just lost her beloved husband, and a good friend of mine was in the hospital, in the process of dying. Maybe it just added to a year of deaths...from COVID 19. And tapped into my own reservoir of grief, from losing my precious parents, one ex and two dear husbands and numerous treasured friends.

You will lose someone you can't live without, and your heart will be badly broken, and the bad news is that you never completely get over the loss of your beloved.

But this is also the good news. They live forever in your broken heart that doesn't seal back up. And you come through.

It's like having a broken leg that never heals perfectly – that still hurts when the weather gets cold, but you learn to dance with the limp.
Anne Lamott

Responding to Death

Because our culture generally is uncomfortable talking openly about death, it is often awkward to see someone who has just lost a loved one. We may not know what to say or do. From my experience, here are some suggestions.

Do:

1. At the first opportunity, acknowledge the loss. Say something simple like, "I'm sorry for your loss."
2. Send a card – As a new widow, I even read all the text on Hallmark sympathy cards, as if they were written just for me. Include any good stories or memories you have of the person who's died.
3. Bring comfort food or drink – Patty brought me a huge decanter of freshly squeezed orange juice, Marnie brought a pot of homemade Minestrone soup. When you've just lost a loved one, you don't feel like cooking.
4. Offer concrete help. Kathy arrived at my door after Gene died, saying "I'm here to help. Put me to work." After Hal died, my friend Sallie said, "I'm going to drive you wherever you need to go for a couple of days."
5. Offer to be a sounding board. People often get tired of hearing about someone's grief. But the bereaved may need to talk about their loved one a lot. Offer to listen...a lot

Know:

1. Grief is very individualized. It may take a long time and there is nothing wrong with that. Give the person time and space.
2. Miscarriages are deaths. For many people they are devastating, and it hurts that the culture doesn't recognize that.
3. If the death was an overdose or a suicide, the loved ones need extra support.
4. If the relationship between the deceased and the bereaved was complicated or unresolved, the pain and grieving can be worse than if there was unconditional love. I grieved deeply when my ex-husband died, though we had been divorced for years. He was the father of my children, and although I'd already grieved the relationship, when he actually died, I grieved the man and the dreams we shared.

Life and Death

When someone we know and care about dies, it forces us to look at our life. To ask questions like, "How can I live so that I have no regrets when I die?" Being close to a death brings us closer to life. In that way, death is a gift.

COACHING QUESTIONS:

1. What do I need to do to feel friendlier with death?
2. How can I best support friends or family members who are grieving?
3. What can I change so that I will have no regrets when I die?

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Publisher/Editor

Shelly Davis, 412-956-9265

Writers

Shelly Davis

Sharon Eakes

Sam Hall

Jayesh Gosai, M.D.

Marketing

Shelly Davis, 412-956-9265

Dena Rose, 412-498-2872

greentreetimesonline.com

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412-956-9265

pittsburghjuniortimes@comcast.net

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Don't:

1. Don't share your own grief stories. It may feel like you're being compassionate, but right then the focus needs to be on the person whose loss is new.
2. Don't share negative stories or memories of the deceased.
3. Don't avoid the bereaved person because it's uncomfortable. I once had a good colleague at work run the other way down a hall when she saw me coming after I'd lost my husband. I ran after her because I didn't care how awkward she felt, I needed her support.

Dr. Frank C. Tinnemeyer, DMD

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The Fishin' Hole



Sam Hall

Success comes in all shapes and sizes and we will take a peek at a few of those in this Fishin' Hole. Last month I shared with you my reluctance to use guides. I missed another opportunity to fish with a guide in the last couple weeks. The friends and family I was with on vacation did make use of the guide and they had the time of their lives. A couple of us though decided to fish without a guide or a boat. We surf cast all week long, and guess what. We also had the time of our lives.

First, let's start with the group that went for the inshore trolling along the Atlantic for about three hours and caught over 50 beautiful Spanish Mackerel. They had a great time and just caught fish after fish for the entire trip. The fish were filleted by the guide team as well! Everyone enjoyed a delicious dinner of Spanish Mackerel and in fact there was so

much bounty the feast expanded to three different households with friends, family and even complete strangers enjoying the "catch of the day!"



An adventure on the ocean and a lot of Spanish Mackerel.

Meanwhile back on the shore the surf casting was very gratifying all week long. A tremendous variety of ocean fish were caught including spot, croaker, drum, mullet and sea trout. The biggest fish of the week award went to Lexi Hall who pulled in a two pound mullet. The most beautiful fish though, a 14 inch spotted sea trout was caught by her father. The lesson learned this vacation was, no matter where, and, no matter with



The winning fish, a mullet, measuring 2 pounds.

whom, fishing is always its own reward. Be sure to check the photos for Lexi's mullet and the whole gang with their Spanish Mackerel haul.

This month the Fishin' Hole will hit the road again for some freshwater action on Deep Creek Lake in Maryland. This lake can be tough in the summer because it is very deep (thus the name) and the heat can drive the fish to the bottom for comfort even close to the shore. Suspending bait just off the bottom has in previous years proven to be one of the most successful attacks in this situation and can also work great around here when the weather turns as hot as it has the last week. Suspending your bait is very easy. Start with a sliding egg sinker and a small bubble float attached to your line

before you put on the sinker. For added awesomeness, I recommend a "worm blower." This is a small plastic bottle with a needle as the attached lid that allows you to inject air into your night crawler. This will cause the worm to float above the sinker as it sits on the bottom of the lake. It also has the added bonus of making the worm look like a much bigger meal than it really is to the fish. Suspension will also work tremendously with live minnows who will swim in a circle above the sinker.

The catfish and small mouth bass are on in the city right now so no matter where you go, get out and keep those lines tight, send your stories and pictures to samdhall@comcast.net.

LIBRARY INFORMATION

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. Summer Reading programs are starting at most branches in June. Check with the library near you for the details.



GREEN TREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

10 Manilla Ave., Pittsburgh, 15220
greentreepubliclibrary.org, 412-922-9292

CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH MAIN - OAKLAND

4400 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, 15213
carnegielibrary.org, 412-622-3114

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craftonpubliclibrary.com, 412-922-6877

THE ANDREW CARNEGIE FREE LIBRARY AND MUSIC HALL

300 Beechwood Ave., Carnegie,
carnegiecarnegie.org, 412-276-3456

SCOTT TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

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scottlibrary.org, 412-429-5380

CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH MT. WASHINGTON

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CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH WEST END

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How to Keep Gardens Safe in Summer Heat Waves



Some gardening tricks can help the plants beat the heat.

Summer is a season to relax and enjoy the warm weather. Basking in the summer sun is a great way to relax, but only when the temperatures are safe. Summer heat waves can compromise the health of human beings as well as their pets. Gardening enthusiasts also may need to go the extra mile to keep their plants and gardens from wilting under harsh summer sun.

Extreme heat stress can be very harmful to plants. The online gar-

dening resource, Gardening Know How, notes that some plants can withstand summer heat waves better than others. For example, succulents conserve water in their leaves, helping them to withstand heat waves when the dog days of summer arrive. But succulents are unique, and many plants will require a little extra help to withstand a heat wave.

Take a proactive approach with mulch. Gardeners need not wait until the heat arrives to protect their plants

from searing summer heat. The sustainable living experts at Eartheasy recommend utilizing light-colored mulch during heat waves. Such mulch will reflect the sunlight and help to maintain cooler surface soil conditions. Eartheasy even notes that grass clippings, once they've turned from green to light brown, can make for the perfect mulch to protect plants from the heat. Clippings also are free, making them a cost-effective solution.

Be sure to water wisely. Most horticultural experts state that water only helps plants withstand heat waves if it's applied effectively. If water is only applied in short bursts and not long enough so it can penetrate all the way to the root zone, roots will then stay near the surface. In such instances, roots will dry out during a heat wave and plants won't make it through the season. Timing also is essential when watering. Eartheasy recommends watering in the morning to avoid heat scald and also ensure as little water is lost to evaporation as possible. When watering during a heat wave, do so by hand rather than through a sprinkler. Hand watering allows gardeners to direct all of the water onto the plants that need it most during a heat wave.

You can actually let your plants pitch in. When planting new plants, it's important that gardeners recognize it takes time for these plants to establish their roots so they are strong enough to withstand heat waves. In the meantime, strategic planting can help them make it through their first heat waves unscathed. Eartheasy notes that planting by taller, more established plants can provide new plants with shade that can help them survive heat waves. Just make sure new plants can still get the sun they need to thrive.

Heat waves are inevitable and potentially harmful to gardens. Gardeners can help their plants beat the heat in various ways.

Happy
Gardening!



How Consumers Can Show Their Support For Local Businesses

The road back to normalcy after the COVID-19 pandemic figures to have some twists and turns. Even after the rollout of vaccines began in late 2020, public health agencies like the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization emphasized the importance of people keeping their collective guard up, as previously unseen variants of the virus were still being discovered.

A slow march toward recovery has begun, but the uphill nature of

that march underscores how important it is that communities continue to come together to support each other as well as the locally owned businesses that make towns and cities so unique. Consumers who want to help the local businesses in their community rebound and thrive in the months and years ahead can show their support in various ways.

One thing can be to take charge of your to-go order. Convenience became the name of the game when ordering food during the pandemic.

Curbside pickup service was offered as a safety measure, and many restaurants that never previously offered delivery or takeout started to do so to generate revenue at a time when in-person dining was limited if not disallowed. Some restaurants began offering delivery through apps like Grubhub or Uber Eats, and though that may be convenient for diners, restaurants must pay a fee to utilize those apps. In lieu of ordering through a third party delivery service, consumers can take charge of their to-go orders and pick up the food themselves. That saves restaurants the delivery app surcharge, allowing them to increase net profits on the meals they sell.

Continue to be loyal to your local places of business. A recent study from researchers at the Harvard Business School found that a customer's eighth purchase was an average of 80 percent higher than his or her first purchase. That highlights just how valuable repeat customers are to small businesses. Consumers who have had positive experiences with small busi-

nesses in their communities in the past can continue to support those companies by looking to them first when they need new products or services. Doing so not only helps small businesses retain more customers, but it increases the likelihood that consumers will again have positive buying experiences.

Help with promoting your favorite spots by sharing experiences via social media. Small businesses recognize the value of social media. A 2021 survey from Visual Objects found that 74 percent of small businesses in the United States are active on their social media accounts at least once each week. Social media can become even more valuable to small businesses when their customers utilize such platforms to share positive experiences and encourage their friends and neighbors to patronize local businesses.

Consumers can take various steps to support small businesses in their communities as such establishments look to regroup and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.





Fun and Games for Kids

(Answers on back page)



Summertime Riddle Fun

- What kind of tree fits in your hand?
 What animal is always at a baseball game?
 Where do sharks go on vacation?
 What part of the fish weighs the most?
 How do we know that the ocean is friendly?
 Why did the robot go on vacation?

Find the 10 differences between the pictures below.



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Go to: mtpisgahgreentree.com
Joyful Journey Preschool
Rev. Tom Ribar, Pastor

Saint Stephen Lutheran Church

55 Forsythe Road, Pittsburgh 15220
Off Greentree Road in Scott Twp.
ststephenpittsburgh.org
412-279-5868
Pastor Maurice C. Frontz III, STS
Live Streaming Service
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All Saints Polish National Catholic Church

500 Fifth Street, Carnegie
412-276-2462 Fax: 412-276-9677
www.allsaintspnccpa.org
all.saints.pnc.church@verizon.net
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Office: 9-1 p.m., T, Th, Fri

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Carnegie, PA 15106
412-276-7717
bbcpittsburgh.com
Sunday Services:
Live stream at 11 a.m. on
[Facebook.com/bbcpittsburgh](https://www.facebook.com/bbcpittsburgh)
Rev. Phil Golden Jr., Pastor

Carnegie Presbyterian Church

219 Ewing Road, Carnegie
412-279-3223
Virtual Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
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www.carnegiepresby.org
Go to website for virtual worship.

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Rev. Shawn Markarkey, Pastor

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Pastor Paul Nigra
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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.

The Parish of St. Raphael the Archangel

412-857-5356
straphaelcgs.org
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33 Alice Street, Crafton
412-921-4103
www.nativitychurch.org
The Rev. Shawn Malarkey

Carnegie Primitive Methodist Church

640 Dow Ave., Carnegie, 15106
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Daniel Pastorius, Pastor

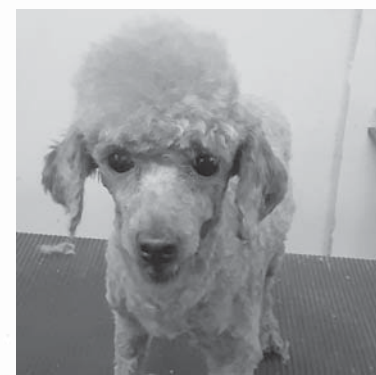
Church of the Atonement (Episcopal)

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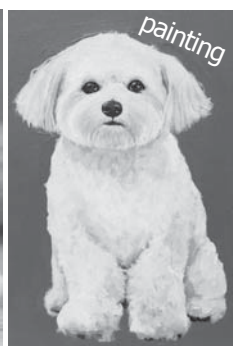
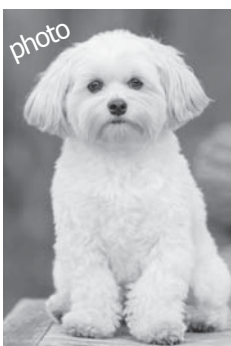
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