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## Sunshine, Blue Skies, Smiles and Summertime Fun



County Fairs are full of fun for everyone!

We are in the home stretch of summer, so we have to make every day count! There are plenty of fun events this month.

Head to the Strip and do some taste testing with Best Bites: Strip District on Aug. 2, 12 - 4 p.m. This self guided food and drink crawl will take you along Smallman and Penn Ave. enjoying delicious eats along the way. Tickets and info at [madeinpgh.com](http://madeinpgh.com).

A new and exciting addition to a fun Pittsburgh summer is checking out Shore Thing, a floating platform on the Allegheny. This new space is built on ten small barges floating off the northshore between the Sister Bridges. Enjoy free yoga, live music, art workshops, board games, food, drinks and more. This public open

space allows you to bring your own picnic, just no alcohol.

The Moraine State Park Regatta at Lake Arthur will be held Aug. 2-3 on Moraine State Park's South Shore. This fun, free event will include a ven-



Fun activities on Lake Arthur.

dor marketplace with food trucks and local crafts and artisans, boat races, car cruise, yoga, hikes, archery, fly

fishing, kayaking, paddleboarding, and of course, fireworks over the lake. Info at [morainestateparkregatta.org](http://morainestateparkregatta.org).

Pittsburgh VegFest is being held Sat., Aug. 16, 11 - 5 p.m. is an outdoor summer festival located in the heart of the city bringing together the best veg food in Pittsburgh, live music, shopping, speakers, food, yoga demos, and family friendly entertainment for of all ages. This FREE ad-



VegFest!

~photo courtesy [pittsburghvegfest.com](http://pittsburghvegfest.com)

mission event is hosted by the non-profit organization Justice For Animals. Info at [pittsburghvegfest.org](http://pittsburghvegfest.org).

There will be more summer entertainment at Jam on Walnut, the outdoor street concert in Shadyside, on Aug. 9 at 6 p.m. featuring No Bad JuJu. Shadyside is also hosting their Annual Arts Festival on Walnut on Aug. 23-24. This free street fair features shops and galleries, boutiques, activities, restaurants and a lot of art. All info at [thinkshadyside.com](http://thinkshadyside.com).

Little Italy Days in Bloomfield is being held Aug. 14-17 and will feature great Italian foods, entertainment, games and activities for kids, raffles and a bocce tournament. More info at [littleitalydays.com](http://littleitalydays.com).

The Corks and Kegs Festival will be celebrated on Aug. 16-17 at Hollywood Casino at the Meadows and will feature vendors, food trucks, wine, beer, live music, a classic car cruise, and this is a free family friendly event. Information found at [corksandkegsfestival.com](http://corksandkegsfestival.com)

South Side Works continues Music on the Lawn, every Fri. 6-9:30 p.m. Each week features different

artists, food trucks, and more fun! The last Friday is Aug. 22 They will be hosting NightMarket on Sat., Aug. 30 and will feature local art, vendors, and vintage, along with local food and drinks. Info [southsideworks.com](http://southsideworks.com).

The Rock, Reggae & Relief Festival will be held on Aug. 2 at Stage AE. This event features Chill Ville and creates the street festival vibes filled with music, food, interactive art, lawn games and more. Proceeds to help MCG Youth that provides area teens with transformative arts-based programming. Information at [rockreggaerelief.com](http://rockreggaerelief.com).

Burgh Bazaar, a new market series, will be held on Sat., Aug. 23 in the Benedum Lot from 12 - 5 p.m. This event will feature an array of local vendors, live music, food and drinks. Information at [downtownpittsburgh.com](http://downtownpittsburgh.com).

Every year at the end of August starts the Pittsburgh Renaissance Festival in Somerset County. This event runs Saturdays, Sundays and Labor Day Monday, Aug. 23 - Sept. 28.

The Medieval village features costumed jousters, jugglers, and just people living and working throughout the village. It's a step back in time! Each weekend is themed and there's a variety of entertainment each day so check [www.pittsburghrenfest.com](http://www.pittsburghrenfest.com) for schedules and details.

August is also a month full of fairs. There's the Washington County Fair, Venango County Fair, Hookstown Fair, Somerset County Fair, Westmoreland County Fair, Indiana County Fair, Crawford County Fair, Greene County Fair, Big Knob Grange Fair and the Great Stoneboro Fair. To find out the dates and more details, just search the fair and county name on the computer or call your local library for help.

With all of these choices, you could pick one or many, or perhaps something entirely different. Whatever you do, enjoy this month in a way that will bring you happiness and put a smile on your face.



Check out the new floating public space, Shore Thing.

~photo courtesy River Life Pittsburgh



# MUSINGS...DEATH IS NATURAL



*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.*

*Death is a certainty, an inevitable realization.*

~Mesa Selimovic

**What is Death?**

My late husband, Gene, called himself an “old school doctor,” by which he meant he had a healthy respect for death. He was critical of “modern doctors” who seem to believe the goal of medicine is to

keep people alive forever. Gene felt that acknowledging death’s inevitability could help us live more fully and appreciate every moment.

I was glad Gene and I were in agreement about death. When Gene himself was dying (I’d already seen the flat line), three dear “modern doctors,” friends of his, came to me, wanting to do surgery to save him. My “no” was calm and clear. Gene preferred death to a severely compromised life.

In the past couple of months, two of my dearest friends, Astrid and Janet, died. These were long-time friends, Astrid more than 20 years, Janet more than 40. With both I shared work, play, struggles, creativity and the slow, beautiful unfolding of time. I miss them deeply. There is an ache, yes — but it’s softened by a quiet joy. Their lives, so full and well-lived, came to a natural close. The suffering that clouded their final days has lifted. What remains is light.

We often speak of death in whispers, as though it were a mistake, an unwelcome intruder. I’ve come to see it as so much more. The Bahá’í Writings call death “a messenger of joy.” That thought has settled gently

into my heart— grief is the echo of love, and love, after all, does not end at the grave. Death is not the end of the story. I imagine Gene and my friends now beyond the veil—free of pain, radiant with peace, their souls unfolding into realms I cannot yet fathom.

Death’s inevitability makes it the ultimate equalizer, touching every life regardless of wealth or status. This universality, rather than being morbid, can be liberating. When we truly accept death as natural, we free ourselves from the exhausting pretense of permanence.

**Love Persists**

The messenger of joy that death brings isn’t found in the event itself, but in what it reveals about love’s persistence. The depth of my sadness reflects the depth of connection we shared. Their deaths ask me to let their influence continue growing through my actions. This is how love transforms death.

**Living Well**

Living well until we die becomes an act of defiance against meaninglessness. When we recognize death as life’s boundary rather than its enemy, we can approach our remaining days with intentionality.

Every conversation becomes more genuine, every sunset more vivid, every act of love more deliberate. Death’s certainty paradoxically makes life more worth living.

Celebrating those who die means remembering them as complete stories rather than interrupted narratives. Gene’s and Astrid’s and Janet’s lives were whole, meaningful, and beautifully human.

**Love, Meaning and Gratitude**

Perhaps death truly is a messenger of joy because it delivers the ultimate truth: that love persists beyond physical form, that meaning transcends mortality, and that our brief time together is reason enough for profound gratitude. In accepting this message, we honor both the departed and the precious gift of our own continuing journey.

**COACHING QUESTIONS:**

1. How fearful are you about death...your own and others’?
2. How do you envision this dual response to death – sorrow and joy?
3. How might being friendlier with death help you live more fully?

**Note from the Publisher:** If you enjoy reading Musings, Sharon has gathered them together in a book, titled “Fresh Views on Resilient Living.” It would make a great holiday gift! It’s available on Amazon or you can scan the QR code to go to the link.



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## Community News and Events

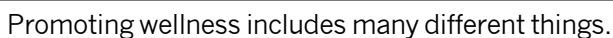
The **Association of University People (AUP)** invites singles 50+, who are 4-year college graduates, to join them for activities and to meet new people. Activities include spring/summer picnics, monthly dinners, a book group, Scrabble, meeting up at local outside concerts and wineries. Those interested can attend three activities as guests before joining. To obtain more information about AUP or become an AUP member, call and leave a message at 412-353-9088 or email [Aupsingles@gmail.com](mailto:Aupsingles@gmail.com)

The **Rotary Club of Green Tree** invites you to attend the Annual Green Tree Rotary Charity Golf Outing at Chartiers Country Club Mon., August 11, 2025. Tee time 12:00 p.m. Lunch and Dinner provided as well as beverages on the course. Skill prizes will be awarded at Dinner. Chances for Auction Baskets and 50/50 will be sold as well. \$185 per Golfer. Proceeds to benefit various charities. Contact: Rick Canello 412- 996-0021 or [rcanello@fedmc.com](mailto:rcanello@fedmc.com).

The **Catholic Singles of Greater Pittsburgh** invites singles 21+ who are looking for a new way to meet people and have some fun. They offer a variety of different activities including dinners, cultural, mini golf, hikes, biking, community service, volleyball, sports leagues, trips, and many other great events. For more information, visit their website at [cacpittsburgh.org](http://cacpittsburgh.org) or email [CACPittsburgh@gmail.com](mailto:CACPittsburgh@gmail.com) or call 412-341-4070, option 1.

On Thurs., August 7, the **Green Tree Garden Club** will have 6:15 p.m. refreshments and 7:15 p.m. presentation on Fall and Winter Gardening for Wildlife. This will take place at the Green Tree Municipal Center. Guests are welcome.





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# The Fishin' Hole



by Sam Hall

We are in the heart of summer now and while it has been a crazy year in terms of torrential rains from time to time it has also been very, very hot. The heat is definitely having a major effect on the fish and their feeding patterns. Water temperatures in the three rivers are very high. I wade a lot and what I've noticed this year is how much more warm the rivers are than the creeks that are feeding them. I wade fish in the river quite a bit at the mouth of different creeks.. It has been very clear the past month that the river is running no fewer than ten and maybe even sometimes fifteen degrees warmer than one specific creek that I favor. This is making the fish that are in the river do one of three things. They will either

go up into the creek where the oxygen is better and the baitfish are schooling to eat, or they will go out to deeper, cooler spots in the river, or, and this is what I think they are doing the most of, they will limit the efforts they are making to eat strictly to the cooler night time hours. I can offer you this story from last Sunday morning. I walked into the river at 4:30 a.m. It was full dark outside. Let me preface this story with a warning that you should never, ever walk into the river unless you are fully, and completely familiar with the area you are walking into and the conditions for that is okay. Otherwise, it can be very dangerous. I fished that morning for exactly three hours in roughly the same stretch of river. I caught a ton of fish, all morning long, right along the line of the river where the cooler creek water was pouring in. I could take a step in either direction and feel very clearly the water change temperatures dramatically through my boots. The fish were on that line. For the first hour and a half, I got nothing other than walleye and striper. I caught at least a dozen, then at six a.m. the sky began to lighten. From the moment the sky started to whiten up, not another walleye or striper hit

my line in the exact same spot using the exact same bait. The good news is that at that moment, the small-mouth bass began to eat, in the same spot and eating the same soft plastic minnow I was using the entire time. It was like the walleye and striper punched out and the smallies clocked in for the morning shift. Bonus of fishing in the predawn hours is, I still had the entire day left over when my fishing was done and I didn't kill myself fighting another 90 degree Pittsburgh day. Try some night time action. It is quite fun but again, I urge you to only fish in the dark if you are very familiar with the terrain and waterbody you are fishing.

Shout out to William Linsenbigler and Lisa Sinclair who are featured in this month's Fishin' Hole with a pair of beautiful walleyes from a trip they made this July to Lake Erie. William has a 24 incher, which is his personal best, while Lisa betters him by an inch with a 25 inch beauty. Both fish were part of six keepers each for William and Lisa and they are just the perfect eating fish from Erie. I am jealous of both the fish and the meal they became. Football season is here and that means the fishing is only going to get better. Keep those lines tight and send your pictures and stories to [samdhall@comcast.net](mailto:samdhall@comcast.net).



Two beautiful walleyes caught by William and Lisa Linsenbigler

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*Schedule subject to change. Please visit [greentreeboro.com](http://greentreeboro.com) for an updated list of vendors and weekly food trucks.*

## LIBRARY INFORMATION

### Ask a Librarian!

Check out the Summer Reading Programs offered at most libraries!

<b>GREEN TREE PUBLIC LIBRARY</b> 10 Manilla Ave., Pittsburgh, 15220 <a href="http://greentreelibrary.org">greentreelibrary.org</a> , 412-921-9292	<b>SCOTT TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY</b> 301 Lindsay Rd., Scott Twp., 15106 <a href="http://scottlibrary.org">scottlibrary.org</a> , 412-429-5380
<b>CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH MAIN - OAKLAND</b> 4400 Forbes Ave.,Pittsburgh, 15213 <a href="http://carnegielibrary.org">carnegielibrary.org</a> ., 412-622-3114	<b>CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH MT. WASHINGTON</b> 315 Grandview Ave., Pittsburgh, 15211 <a href="http://carnegielibrary.org">carnegielibrary.org</a> ., 412-381-3380
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# Fun and Games for Kids

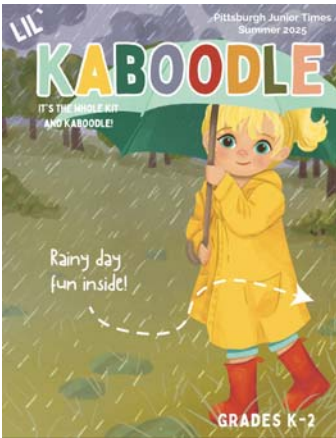
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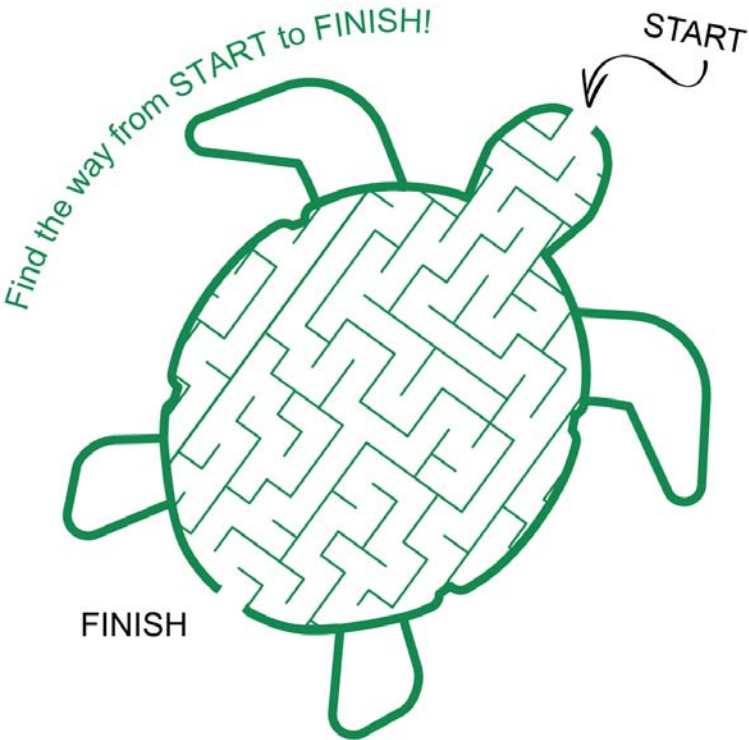
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412-279-5868  
Pastor Maurice C. Frontz III, STS  
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## Saint Philip Parish

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.

## United Presbyterian Church in Ingram

30 West Prospect Avenue  
412-921-2323  
**Website: ingramupchurch.org**  
Rev. Wayne D. Meyer

## 1<sup>st</sup> United Presbyterian Church of Crafton Heights

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## All Saints Polish National Catholic Church

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all.saints.pnc.church@verizon.net  
The Rev. John Dinello  
Independent - Catholic - Sacramental  
Contact regarding services.

## Pittsburgh Baptist Temple

112 W. Sycamore, Mt. Washington  
412-431-8396  
**pittsburghbaptisttemple.com**  
pastor@pittsburghbaptisttemple.com  
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Rev. Ray G. Cunningham, Pastor

## Mt. Pisgah Presbyterian Church

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Noblestown Shopping Center  
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412-921-8444  
Sunday Live Stream  
Worship at 9:45 am  
Go to: mtpisgahgreentree.org  
Rev. Tom Ribar, Pastor

## Church of the Nativity (Episcopal)

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

## Carnegie Primitive Methodist Church

640 Dow Ave., Carnegie, 15106  
(Corner of Fountain St. & Dow Ave.)  
Worship Sundays 11 a.m.  
carnegiepm.com  
412-207-2233  
Todd Pastorius, Pastor

## Crafton United Presbyterian Church

80 Bradford Avenue  
412-921-2293 Fax: 412-921-0348  
Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.  
Office: 9-1 p.m., T, Th, Fri  
Jin Kyung Ko, Pastor

## Hawthorne Avenue Presbyterian Church

90 Hawthorne Ave.,  
Crafton, PA 15205  
412-921-2504  
Handicapped Accessible  
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Bible Study - 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School - 10:30 a.m.  
Pastor Paul Nigra  
**www.hawthornechurch.org**

## St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Steuben St. & Lincoln Ave.  
412-921-1125  
Sunday Service 9:15 a.m.  
Pastoral Office Hrs. by Appointment  
Jin Kyung Ko, Pastor

## Carnegie Presbyterian Church "New Hope Worship Center"

1100 Washington Ave. #104, Carnegie  
412-279-3223  
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Rev. Dr. Colleen F. Molinaro  
**www.carnegiepresby.org**

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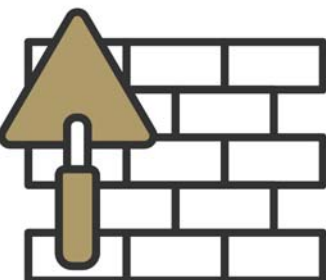
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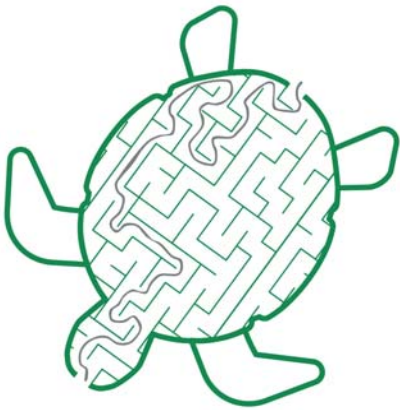
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- shirt decal
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