

October Facts

October comes from the Latin word octo, “eight,” because it was the eighth month of the early Roman calendar.

Stone = Opal Flower = Snap Dragon

Ireland is typically believed to be the birthplace of Halloween.

Scarecrows, a popular Halloween fixture, symbolize the ancient agricultural roots of the holiday.

Celebrities born on Halloween include Rob Schneider, Vanilla Ice, Dermot Mulroney, Peter Jackson, and Ron Rifkin.

Halloween has variously been called All Hallows’ Eve, Witches Night, Lamswool, Snap-Apple Night, Samhaim, and Summer’s End.

Halloween was influenced by the ancient Roman festival Pomona, which celebrated the harvest goddess of the same name. Many Halloween customs and games that feature apples (such as bobbing for apples) and nuts date from this time. In fact, in the past, Halloween has been called San-Apple Night and Nutcrack Night.

Because Protestant England did not believe in Catholic saints, the rituals traditionally associated with Hallowmas (or Halloween) became associated with Guy Fawkes Night. England declared November 5th Guy Fawkes Night to commemorate the capture and execution of Guy Fawkes, who co-conspired to blow up the Parliament in 1605 in order to restore a Catholic king.

Harry Houdini (1874-1926) was one of the most famous and mysterious magicians who ever lived. Strangely enough, he died in 1926 on Halloween night as a result of appendicitis brought on by three stomach punches.

Because the movie Halloween (1978) was on such a tight budget, they had to use the cheapest mask they could find for the character Michael Meyers, which turned out to be a William Shatner Star Trek mask. Shatner initially didn’t know the mask was in his likeness, but when he found out years later, he said he was honored.

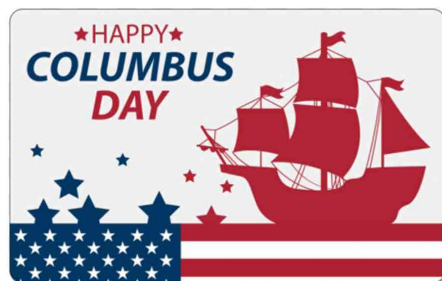
A statue of Jason Voorhees, the movie serial killer from Friday the 13th, was placed at the bottom of a Minnesota Lake in 2013 and is still there.

First created in the 1880s, Candy Corn was originally called “Chicken Feed.”

October 31st is not only Halloween, it’s also National Doorbell Day! Other holidays that fall on October 31st include National Caramel Apple Day, National Magic Day, National Candy Corn Day, and National Plan Your Epitaph Day.

In 2010, 72.2% of those surveyed by the National Retail Federation will hand out candy, 46.3% will carve a pumpkin, 20.8% will visit a haunted house, and 11.5% will dress up their pets.

The longest haunted house in the world is “Factory of Terror” in Canton, Ohio.



Halloween Fear Facts

By Karin Lehnardt

The first Jack O’Lanterns were actually made from turnips.

The word “witch” comes from the Old English wicce, meaning “wise woman.” In fact, wiccan were highly respected people at one time. According to popular belief, witches held one of their two main meetings, or sabbats, on Halloween night.

It sometimes presents itself with related phobias, such as phasmophobia (the fear of ghosts), wiccaphobia (the fear of witchcraft), and nyctophobia (the fear of darkness). Samhainophobia is the fear of Halloween.

The owl is a popular Halloween image. In Medieval Europe, owls were thought to be witches, and to hear an owl’s call meant someone was about to die.

According to Irish legend, Jack O’Lanterns are named after a stingy man named Jack who, because he tricked the devil several times, was forbidden entrance into both heaven and hell. He was condemned to wander the Earth, waving his lantern to lead people away from their paths.

Stephen Clarke holds the record for the world’s fastest pumpkin carving time: 24.03 seconds, smashing his previous record of 54.72 seconds. The rules of the competition state that the pumpkin must weigh less than 24 pounds and be carved in a traditional way, which requires at least eyes, nose, ears, and a mouth.

Trick-or-treating evolved from the ancient Celtic tradition of putting out treats and food to placate spirits who roamed the streets at Samhain, a sacred festival that marked the end of the Celtic calendar year.

“Souling” is a medieval Christian precursor to modern-day trick-or-treating. On Hallowmas (November 1), the poor would go door-to-door offering prayers for the dead in exchange for soul cakes.

The first known mention of trick-or-treating in print in North America occurred in 1927 in Blackie, Alberta, Canada.

With their link to the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain (a precursor to Halloween) and later to witches, cats have a permanent place in Halloween folklore. During the ancient celebration of Samhain, Druids were said to throw cats into a fire, often in wicker cages, as part of divination proceedings.

“Halloween” is short for “Hallows’ Eve” or “Hallows’ Evening,” which was the evening before All Hallows’ (sanctified or holy) Day or Hallowmas on November 1. In an effort to convert pagans, the Christian church decided that Hallowmas or All Saints’ Day (November 1) and All Souls’ Day (November 2) should assimilate sacred pagan holidays that fell on or around October 31.

Black and orange are typically associated with Halloween. Orange is a symbol of strength and endurance and, along with brown and gold, stands for the harvest and autumn. Black is typically a symbol of death and darkness and acts as a reminder that Halloween once was a festival that marked the boundaries between life and death.

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Year Round Activities						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3:00-5:00 Ladies Only Pickleball/Courts 	7:30-9:30 Social Tennis 8:00-3:00 GATORZ BOCCE/Cts 12:00-3:00 Mahjong/Card Rm 5:00 Mixed Bridge M&W/Card Rm 6:30 Texas Hold'em/AR	7:30-9:30 Social Tennis 8:00-9:30 Pickleball Lessons/Cts (by Appt Only) 12:45-4:00 Mahjong/Card Rm 2:30-6:30 Ladder Tournament/Cts 6:15 Hand and Foot/Card Rm 6:30 Trivia/AR 7:00 Shuffleboard/Cts	7:30-9:30 Social Tennis 8:30 Ladies Golf 8:30 Nifty Niners/GC 9:00-5:00 Bocce/CT 12:30-4:00 Ladies Bridge/Card Rm For Beginner One Stroke Lessons, please contact Mo Keary @ 239-826-3673 	7:30-9:30 Social Tennis 9:00-12:00 Mixed Bridge/Card Rm 8:30 Men's Golf	7:30-9:30 Social Tennis 12:00-4:30 Pinochle/Card Rm	Reception Hours: 9:30am til 3:00pm Monday - Friday Changes made up till the 25th of each month.
October 2026 		P.L. CLUBHOUSE ROOM ABBREVIATION CODE BR - Ballroom GC - Golf Course BDS - Billiards P - Patio CR - Crafts Room LF - Lake Fairways FS - Fitness Studio LR - Living Room K - Kitchen LL - Library/Loft AR - Activity Room DR - Driving Range Card Room F - Foyer M & W - Men & Women	PLEASE NOTE: When making reservations for the use of the clubhouse or any of its rooms more than six months in advance, please submit your request in writing to eliminate misunderstandings. Also, when reserving a room please be sure to clean up after each use. a.m. regular • p.m. bold	8:30-10:45 Management/LR 9:15-9:30 Beginner Tai-Chi/BR 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi/BR 11:00-1:00 Line Dancing/BR 11:00-1:00 Steering Committee/LR 6:00-9:00 Billiards Practice/BDS 6:30 Women's Club Meeting/BR/AR/K 6:30-8:30 Pictionary/Card Rm 	8:00-9:00 Yoga/BR 7:45 Set-up 11:00-12:00 Easy Does It/BR 11:00-1:00 Beautification Committee/LR 	8:30 Pancake Breakfast/BR/AR/K 9:30 Bike Ride/PLCH 
	6:00-8:00 Bible Study/LR 	9:15-9:30 Beginner Tai-Chi/BR 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi/BR 11:00-12:00 Easy Does It/BR 1:00-3:30 Adv. One Stroke/CR 7:00 Texas Hold'em/AR 6:30 Set-up 	9:30-12:00 Watercolor-Paint for Fun/CR 10:30-11:40 Beg Line Dancing/BR 11:45-1:00 Int Line Dance/BR 12:00-3:00 Quilting/LFCH-MH 1:30-3:30 Veterans Group Mtg/AR/BR 3:00-5:00 Corn Hole/BR 4:00-5:00 Gardening/CR 6:00-9:00 8 Ball Billiards League/BDS 6:15 Hand & Foot/Card Room 6:30 Trivia/BR/AR 	11:00-12:00 Easy Does It/BR 6:00 BINGO/BR/AR/K Doors Open 5pm 	9:15-9:30 Beginner Tai-Chi/BR 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi/BR 11:00-1:00 Line Dancing/BR 2:00-4:00 Liaison Meeting/LR 6:00 Men's Club Meeting/BR/AR/K 6:00-9:00 Billiards Practice/BDS 6:30-8:30 Pictionary/Card Rm 	9:30 Bike Ride/PLCH 
	6:00-8:00 Bible Study/LR 	9:15-9:30 Beginner Tai-Chi/BR 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi/BR 11:00-12:00 Easy Does it/BR 1:00-3:30 Adv. One Stroke/CR 7:00 PLEHOA Bd Mtg/BR 7:00 Texas Hold'em/AR 6:30 Set-up 	9:30-12:00 Watercolor-Paint for Fun/CR 10:30-11:40 Beg Line Dancing/BR 11:45-1:00 Int Line Dance/BR 12:00-3:00 Quilting/LFCH-MH 2:00-4:00 Men's Club Bd Mtg Bd Mtg/LR 3:00-5:00 Corn Hole/BR 4:00-5:00 Gardening/CR 4:00-6:00 FISH/LR 6:00-9:00 8 Ball Billiards League/BDS 6:15 Hand & Foot/Card Room 6:30 Trivia/BR/AR 	11:00-12:00 Easy Does It/BR 11:00-12:00 Soloist Group/LR 11:00-1:00 Mixed Media Arts/CR 10:30 Set-up 12:00-12:30 Soloist Group Bd Mtg/LR 6:00 BINGO/BR/AR/K Doors Open 5pm 	8:00-9:00 Yoga/BR 7:45 setup 11:00-12:00 Easy Does it/BR 5:00-8:00 Sadie Hawkins Dinner Dance/All Rooms 	8:15 Coffee Social/BRAR/K Cul-de-Sac 23 9:30 Bike Ride/PLCH 6:00 Women's Club Presents Dancing Through the Decades with Robert/All Rms Doors Open at 5:30 
	9:00-6:00 Private/All Rms 6:00-8:00 Bible Study/LR 7:00 Euchre/Card Rm/6:45 Sign up 	9:15-9:30 Beginner Tai-Chi/BR 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi/BR 11:00-12:00 Easy Does it/BR 1:00-3:00 PL Tennis League/AR 1:00-3:30 Adv. One Stroke/CR 7:00 Texas Hold'em/AR 6:30 set up 7:00 HOAll Bd Mtg/BR 	9:30-12:00 Watercolor-Paint for Fun/CR 10:30-11:40 Beg Line Dancing/BR 11:45-1:00 Int Line Dance/BR 12:00-3:00 Quilting/LFCH-MH 2:00-4:00 PLGA Bd Mtg/LR 3:00-5:00 Corn Hole/BR 4:00-5:00 Gardening/CR 6:00-9:00 8 Ball Billiards League/BDS 6:15 Hand & Foot/Card Room 6:30 Trivia/BR/AR 	10:30-12:00 Nifty Niners/AR 11:00-12:00 Easy Does It/BR 6:00 BINGO/BR/AR/K Doors Open 5pm 	9:15-9:30 Beginner Tai-Chi/BR 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi/BR 11:00-1:00 Line Dancing/BR 1:30-3:30 Theatre Try Outs/BR 6:00-9:00 Billiards Practice/BDS 6:30-8:30 Pictionary/Card Rm 	9:30 Bike Ride/PLCH 9:30-1:00 Book Club-Book Exchange/CR 11:00-3:00 Private/LR 
	6:00-8:00 Bible Study/LR 7:00 Euchre/Card Rm/6:45 Sign up 	9:15-9:30 Beginner Tai-Chi/BR 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi/BR 11:00-12:00 Easy Does it/BR 1:00-3:00 PLTL/AR 1:00-3:30 Adv. One Stroke/CR 6:30 Book Club/LR 7:00 Texas Hold'em/AR 6:30 set up 	9:30-12:00 Watercolor-Paint for Fun/CR 10:30-11:40 Beg Line Dancing/BR 11:45-1:00 Int Line Dance/BR 12:00-3:00 Quilting/LFCH-MH 3:00-5:00 Corn Hole/BR 4:00-5:00 Gardening/CR 6:00-9:00 8 Ball Billiards League/BDS 6:15 Hand & Foot/Card Room 6:30 Trivia/BR/AR 	11:00-12:00 Easy Does It/BR 11:30-12:30 Ladies 18 Holer's General Mtg/AR 6:00 BINGO/BR/AR/K Doors Open 5pm 	9:15-9:30 Beginner Tai-Chi/BR 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi/BR 11:00-1:00 Line Dancing/BR 6:00-9:00 Billiards Practice/BDS 6:30-8:30 Pictionary/Card Rm 	9:30 Bike Ride/PLCH 7:00 Halloween Dance with the Boom Town Juke Box/All Rms Doors open 5:30 Costume Parade at 6:15 