

# Liberty Letter

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## Celebrating October

### Country Music Month

### MLB Playoffs

### Popcorn Poppin' Month

### World Smile Day

*October 5*

### Miniature Monday

*October 15*

### 300 Million Day

*October 17*

### Wear Pink Day

*October 19*

### Miniature Monday

*October 15*

### All Hallows' Eve

*October 31*

## October Events

I love the Fall on Cape Cod! We are starting to have those crisp, clear days that we look forward to. Autumn provides Us with a time to catch our breath and regroup before the hectic holiday season.

We hope that you will take the opportunity to enjoy one of our Liberty Commons Fall themes. We will be celebrating, World Smile Day, Miniature Monday, Columbus Day, 300 Million Day, Wear it Pink Day! the Major League Baseball playoffs, ("Go Red Sox!") and Halloween.

**"Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to it, and if I were a bird I would fly about the Earth seeking the successive autumns."** ~George Eliot



### Wear It Pink Day!

We are asking everyone to wear pink on Friday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. The Liberty Commons Resident Council will be running a bake sale for "Breast Cancer Research." in our main lobby. (10a.m. till noon)



**Costume Party!** The real fun of Halloween begins for our Residents with the activities departments craft groups and word games, then builds up to an end of the month costume party. At lunch time on October 26<sup>th</sup>, we are hosting a Halloween costume party. Harry French will be here to entertain us. Residents, staff and families are encouraged to dress in costume and walk in our costume parade. Come on in and join us for the fun! All of us love to see children and adults in costume. Happy Halloween!

Wishing you a blessed month of October!

Steve Franco, Activities Director ADC, CDP

## Shootout at the O.K. Corral



On October 26, 1881, a shootout between Wild West lawman Wyatt Earp and the Clanton-McLaury gang at the O.K. Corral in Tombstone, Arizona, lasted a mere 30 seconds.

The gunfight's legend would grow through the decades, enshrining the names Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday in western lore and spawning countless books and movies.

Thanks to the discovery of silver, Tombstone, Arizona, became a mining boomtown, attracting hardworking miners and outlaws alike. Defending the town's law and order fell to the Earps: Virgil, the town marshal, and his brothers Morgan and the now-famous Wyatt, a former gambler, saloon keeper, gunslinger, and police officer. The Clantons and McLaurys, a gang of cattle rustlers and thieves, owned a cattle ranch outside of town. The Earps and the Clanton-McLaury gang represented the two sides of power in Tombstone, and on October 26 their violent power struggle ended in bloodshed.

Antagonism between the two factions escalated on October 25, when the Clanton-McLaury gang double-crossed Wyatt Earp over the spoils of a stagecoach robbery. By the next day, news of the tussle had spread, and other members of the gang vowed revenge against the Earps. But the Earps and their friend Doc Holliday were ready. The Clanton-McLaury gang was caught mustering in a vacant lot behind the O.K. Corral, and Virgil Earp wasted no time firing the first shot. Over the next 30 seconds, 30 shots were fired, and when the dust cleared, Virgil and Morgan Earp and Doc Holliday were wounded. Wyatt was unscathed. All but two members of the Clanton-McLaury gang were dead, and the two survivors had fled into the hills. It is mostly forgotten that there was another man present: Cochise County Sheriff John Behan. The sheriff charged both the Earps and Holliday with murder, but a Tombstone judge later declared the men not guilty, a judgment that likely helped to glorify Wyatt Earp and his famous Shootout at the O.K. Corral.

## The Golden Ticket

The first day of October brings International Willy Wonka Day, in honor of the fictional candy-maker who first appeared in Roald Dahl's children's book *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. The holiday does not commemorate the popular book but rather the 1971 film adaptation, *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory*. One of the differences between the book and the movie is important to note, for it explains why Willy Wonka Day is celebrated on October 1. In the book, young Charlie Bucket wins a Golden Ticket that entitles him to enter Willy Wonka's chocolate factory on February 1. However, in the movie version, Charlie Bucket's Golden Ticket directs Charlie to the chocolate factory on "the first day of October." Why the difference? The movie was filmed in Munich, Germany, during the autumn, between August and November. The weather at the location simply did not look like a February winter, so the date on the ticket was changed to October 1.

## Liberty Commons Special Events for October 2018

- Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> 2:30p.m. *"The Piano Man" Ken Leray*
- Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> 2:30p.m. *The Eddie Dillon Show*
- Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> 10:30a.m. *Richie Berns Coffee Shop*
- Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> 2:00p.m. *Companion Animals*
- Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> 10:30a.m. *Arts & Conversation*
- Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> 2:30p.m. *Chris Callahan on the pond*
- Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> 2:15p.m. *The Dave Cuddy Show*
- Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> 10:30a.m. *Lunch Outing to 400 East*
- Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> 2:15p.m. *Resident Council Meeting*
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- Oct 26<sup>th</sup> 11:45a.m. *Halloween Costume Party with Harry French*
- Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> 2:30p.m. *Resident Birthday Party w/ Paul Ashley*



## The Wonders of Yosemite



The natural wonders of Yosemite Valley, located within California's Sierra Nevada mountain range, are easy to observe: the famous Half Dome, the granite cliffs of El Capitan, the giant sequoia trees, the delicate waterfalls.

While the valley's scenic natural beauty brings peace to its visitors, its journey to becoming a national park in October of 1890 was anything but peaceful.

The Yosemite Valley had been inhabited for 3,000 years by Native American tribes, most recently the Ahwahnechee, a band that did not hesitate to fight off other tribes and invaders to their territory. A neighboring tribe, the Miwok, called the Ahwahnechee *Yos s e'meti*, a word meaning "those who kill." It is from this word that Yosemite valley got its name. This word, it seems, could also refer to the white European settlers in the region. Once gold was struck in California in the mid-19th century, white Europeans overran the valley. A California State militia, led by Army Major Jim Savage, was eventually tasked with clearing Yosemite of the Ahwahnechee. As news of California's gold spread, more settlers arrived, and in 1864, President Abraham Lincoln moved to preserve seven square miles of the valley and the Mariposa Grove of sequoia trees as a public trust of California, marking the first time the U.S. government set aside land for public enjoyment.

It wasn't until 1889 that naturalist John Muir ventured into Yosemite. He was awed by its beauty and also worried that the vast meadows surrounding Yosemite valley were unprotected. Sheep, which Muir called "hoofed locusts," were grazing the land into destruction. Muir solicited the help of Washington, D.C., magazine editor Robert Underwood Johnson to lobby Congress to protect Yosemite as a national park. On October 1, 1890, Congress set aside over 1,500 square miles of land, almost the size of Rhode Island, as Yosemite National Park, America's third such federally protected land after Yellowstone and Sequoia. Today, more than 4 million people visit Yosemite each year.

## Intuitive Magic

On October 31, Halloween, strange things may go bump in the night. Perhaps this is why this date is also Increase Your Psychic Powers Day. Psychic powers derive from extrasensory perception (ESP), senses beyond our physical five senses. Although there is no scientific evidence to confirm the existence of psychic powers, clairvoyants believe in abilities such as reading minds, divining the future, and communicating without speaking. Perhaps another way of looking at psychic ability is by redefining it as *intuition*. Hindus believe in the third-eye *chakra*, an energy center located between the eyes that is the center of our power of intuition, or inner knowledge, guided by a sixth sense. So even if you do not believe in psychic ability, consider October 31 an opportune time to open yourself up to new and wondrous possibilities.

## Bottled Art



Artisans have been creating miniature models of fully rigged ships inside bottles for centuries. Perhaps you, too, could master this secret

art on October 4, Ship in a Bottle Day. The first mention of putting objects, including ships, in bottles dates back to 1719, when the art was popularized by a German named Matthias Buchinger. What made the feat even more spectacular was that Buchinger was born without hands or legs and grew to only 29 inches tall. Despite these handicaps, Buchinger earned renown throughout Europe as an artist, magician, musician, marksman, calligrapher, and performer. From 1719, it became a common German folk art form to place objects in bottles, mainly depictions of saints. The oldest surviving ship in a bottle dates back to 1784. The three-masted Portuguese warship resides in a closed egg-shaped bottle. Ships in bottles were not only made by sailors to pass time on a long journey or to give as gifts, but historians think that many ships in bottles were created by lighthouse keepers, who had both the time and access to materials for creating these maritime models.

## Skating Through History



The first wheels, invented around 3500 B.C., were not used for transportation but as potters' wheels for molding clay. It took 300 years before wheels were used to move chariots. And it took almost another 5,000 years for someone to invent the first roller skate. Consider the colorful history of this wonderful mode of transportation during October, Roller Skating Month.

The first recorded instance of someone affixing wheels to shoes came in 1760 when John Joseph Merlin embedded metal wheels into his shoes. Merlin planned to debut his invention at a London masquerade party. He wanted to shock the party-goers by gliding into the salon while playing the violin. Unfortunately, Merlin hadn't yet perfected his skating technique and his wheels were not engineered to turn, so instead of gliding gracefully, he sped into a mirror and crashed, suffering injuries to both his body and his pride.

Over the next few decades, various designs of roller skates showed up everywhere from Germany to France and Sweden and London, but they all suffered the same design flaw: the fixed wheels made it almost impossible to turn. Finally, in New York City in 1863, James Leonard Plimpton invented his "quad skates" or "rocker skates." His skates consisted of four wheels attached to springy rubber cushions that allowed wearers to easily turn by shifting their weight from side to side. Plimpton capitalized on his invention by establishing the first roller rink at his New York City furniture business. He also organized the first roller skating club, the New York Roller Skating Association, to both promote his new sport and sell his skates.

By the 1880s, roller skates were a booming industry. Rinks opened across America and all around the world. By the 1950s, food was being delivered to cars by roller-skating "carhops" at drive-ins. And by the 1970s, the roller revolution reached its height. It was no surprise when, in 1983, President Ronald Reagan declared October Roller Skating Month.

## October Birthdays

In astrology, Libras are those born between October 1–22. Libras, symbolized by the scales, strive for balance, avoid conflict, and desire fairness for everyone. To achieve this, they are sociable, strategic, charming, and diplomatic. Those born between October 23–31 are Scorpios. Scorpios are passionate and deep, qualities that help them counsel others in meaningful ways. Resourceful and determined, Scorpios make good managers.

Groucho Marx (comedian) – October 2, 1890  
Buster Keaton (comedian) – October 4, 1895  
Desmond Tutu (archbishop) – October 7, 1931  
Eleanor Roosevelt (first lady) – October 11, 1884  
Paul Simon (musician) – October 13, 1941  
Lee Iacocca (executive) – October 15, 1924  
Evel Knievel (daredevil) – October 17, 1938  
Mickey Mantle (ballplayer) – October 20, 1931  
Dizzy Gillespie (musician) – October 21, 1917  
Minnie Pearl (comedian) – October 25, 1912  
Dylan Thomas (poet) – October 27, 1914  
Jonas Salk (doctor) – October 28, 1914  
Dan Rather (journalist) – October 31, 1931

## Thank You, Sir Frobisher



On October 8, be sure to wish all your Canadian friends a Happy Thanksgiving. In 1578, more than 40 years before the Pilgrims celebrated their first Thanksgiving in the Americas, English explorer Martin Frobisher held a Thanksgiving celebration in present-day Newfoundland. He and his crew were giving thanks for surviving their exploration looking for the Northwest Passage. This Thanksgiving celebration was finally formalized as a national holiday in 1879. Today, it does not honor Frobisher but is a harvest celebration similar to America's Thanksgiving, complete with turkey and pumpkin pie. And as far as Frobisher's claim to the first Thanksgiving, some historians think that Spanish explorers may have conducted Thanksgivings even before Martin Frobisher.