

OCTOBER 2016

Windsor Manor

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Celebrating October

Italian-American Heritage Month

Popcorn Poppin' Month

Computer Learning Month

International Frugal Fun Day
October 1

Do Something Nice Day
October 5

Columbus Day (U.S.)
October 10

International Skeptics Day
October 13

World Pasta Day
October 25

Halloween
October 31

Dino-Mite Discoveries

They may have roamed the earth 220 million years ago, but dinosaurs are still in style. In fact, new dinosaur species are being discovered all the time. The year 2015 recorded 45 new species of dinosaur. Anyone from the most seasoned archaeologist to a six-year-old kid may find this to be news worth sharing during Dinosaur Month in October.

Archaeologists aren't the only ones who can find a new dinosaur. In 2005, a retired nuclear physicist named Bill Shipp was strolling his property along the Judith River Formation in Montana when he discovered a giant bone protruding from the earth. After two years of excavating, two more years of cleaning the fossils, and many more years of research, the discovery of a new plant-eating, horned species of dinosaur was announced this past May. It was named Judith, due to the location of its discovery, and has been classified as *Spiclypeus* (meaning "spiked shield") *shipporum*, after its discoverer, Bill Shipp.

April of 2016 brought the announcement of another new dinosaur excavated in Argentina. This was a titanosaur, one of the largest dinosaurs to ever roam the earth. Of the 60 known titanosaur species, this is only the fourth discovered with its skull. Most titanosaurs have such long necks that the skull ends up so far from the body upon death that the skull is lost, especially after millions of years of waiting to be found.

What should you do if you find a dinosaur fossil? In America, if it's found on your property, it belongs to you. You can name it, mount it on your wall, or give it to a museum. Fossilized remains may be worth millions. Some discoverers choose to auction their fossils off to the highest bidders. But, like any business during an economic downturn, dinosaur auctions don't bring in the big bucks like they used to. Maybe it's best to give your fossil to your dog as a dino-sized snack.

The Sweet Smell of Failure

Behind almost every great success story is a story of failure. Even American musical icon Bob Dylan once lost a high school talent competition to a group of tap dancers. Success should never be a foregone conclusion, and for this reason, we celebrate International Day for Failure on October 13.



Bill Gates is one of the world's most successful billionaires, but that wasn't always so. Before Microsoft, Gates and Microsoft partner Paul Allen founded a company called Traf-O-Data, which attempted to analyze traffic flows. The company, and the computer designed to record traffic, was a failure, but the venture was an important stepping-stone to what would become Microsoft.

The name George Steinbrenner is synonymous with the World Champion New York Yankees teams from 1996–2003. Before taking the helm of the Yankees, Steinbrenner owned the Cleveland Pipers basketball team. His poor ownership and sometimes rash decision-making (he once sold one of his players to the opposing team during a game's halftime) caused the team to fold after just two years, and Steinbrenner personally lost two million dollars.

Oprah Winfrey is one of the world's most recognizable public figures and a self-made billionaire. But early in her career, struggling in the world of Baltimore television news, one of her bosses told her she was too emotional and "unfit for television news." She went on to run *The Oprah Winfrey Show* for 25 seasons.

The list of successful failures goes on and on: Steve Jobs was once fired from Apple; Walt Disney was told he wasn't creative enough; JK Rowling was fired from her job as a secretary; Julia Child was fired as an advertising manager for "gross insubordination"; Jerry Seinfeld was fired from a sitcom. Take it from Oprah, failure is often a gift leading to "life-changing opportunity."

Holy Mole-y

What holiday is celebrated on October 23 from 6:02 AM until 6:02 PM? Mole Day! That's not the burrowing garden pest we're talking about but rather the chemistry term. A mole measures the number of atoms or molecules in any given chemical sample. One mole is equal to 6.02×10^{23} . (Note the 6.02 and the 10/23!) This number is known as Avogadro's number, thanks to chemist Amadeo Avogadro, who discovered this measure in the 1800s. Avogadro called his number a "mole" as a shortened version of *molecule*. So, how big is a mole? 602,214,130,000,000,000,000,000 to be exact. Just think, when you drink a glass of water, you've just taken in 13 moles of water molecules. Feel full yet? While chemists may celebrate the day measuring molecules, we can celebrate by eating avocados (in honor of Avogadro) and making a Mexican mole sauce.

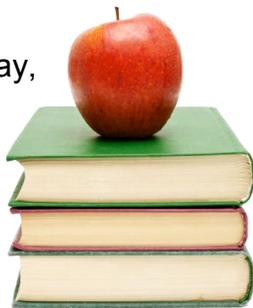
Bob's Your Uncle

Sometimes we say the silliest things, but feel free on October 13 to use as many silly sayings as you want, for it's Silly Saying Day. "When pigs fly" is a saying used when you mention something that will never happen, just like a pig flying. Did you ever stop to "chew the fat" with a friend? This means to chat or gossip, but it's a nautical expression from early sailors who, when work was slow, would talk while chewing on a snack of salt-hardened fat. You've likely never used the expression "enough to cobble dogs with," which means that you have a lot of something, just as if a shoe cobbler had so much leather he could make many tiny shoes for all of our four-legged friends. And there you have it, "Bob's your uncle." Don't know that one? It means everything is all right, done, and successful, sort of like saying, "And that's that." No word, though, on who Bob was or why things always worked out so great for him.



Teacher Appreciation

October 5 is World Teachers' Day, and people all over the world will be turning their thoughts to that special teacher in their life who offered them guidance or support. But are happy memories enough to honor these unsung community heroes? Many believe that education is one of the most important gifts we can give our children and the best way to ensure they grow up to have a better life, but which countries do the best job of honoring teachers?



According to a study compiled by professor Peter Dolton of England's University of Sussex, no place in the world respects its teachers more than in China. There is a high level of respect for learning in China, and teachers are revered on par with doctors by parents and students alike.

Interestingly, though, the highest performing students are not from China but from Finland. Finnish students consistently outperform other countries in international tests of reading, math, and science. Yet, when it comes to respecting teachers, Finland lies in the bottom half of the worldwide ratings.

Perhaps another good measure of teacher appreciation is salary. In that case, Switzerland leads the pack, paying teachers an average annual salary of \$68,000. But when it comes to compensation, one American educator recently got a big show of thanks. Nancie Atwell has been running a small K-8 school in coastal Maine for 25 years. Imagine her surprise when she was called to Dubai to receive the first ever Global Teacher Prize. Called the "Nobel Prize" for teachers, Atwell received a \$1 million award. Now that's teacher appreciation!

Of course, teachers do not take their jobs for the money. There are countless ways to thank them on World Teachers' Day: thank you cards, small tokens or gifts, or even that everlasting symbol of teacher appreciation, a red apple.

Birthdays & Events

13th Joan Mueller

15th Mary Godfredson

16th Marie Recker

19th Neva Owens

27th Verla Wegener

3rd Library 1pm

3rd Resident Meeting 2pm

4th Brab/Piano 2pm

5th Food Meeting 2pm

12th The Nords 2pm

17th Down Memeory Lane 2pm

19th Music By Jeff 2pm

24th Oakcrest Funeral Home 2:30pm

26th Creative Spirits Painting 6:30pm

31st Halloween Party 2-4pm

31st Trick or Treating 4:30-5:30pm

Feeling Squirrely

Some think of squirrels as small pests, adept at infiltrating your home or invading your bird feeders, but they are nature's most nimble and adaptable creatures.



They are extremely active in October, burying nuts and storing food for the long, cold winter. For this reason, October is Squirrel Awareness Month.

Squirrels inhabit every continent except Australia and Antarctica. There are 265 different species but three basic kinds: tree squirrels, ground squirrels, and flying squirrels. They come in all different sizes, from the mouse-sized African pygmy squirrel, which is only three inches long, to the Indian giant squirrel, which grows up to three feet. Squirrels are very cunning, often pretending to bury nuts in order to fool other spying squirrels. The problem is, they sometimes forget where they have buried the real nuts! As a result, you may spy new trees growing in your yard come springtime. Perhaps we should consider ourselves lucky to live in such close quarters with these amazing little beasts.

Enchantress of Numbers

Ada Byron was born in 1815, the daughter of famed English poet Lord Byron and Anne Isabelle Milbanke, but the girl never met her father, for her parents separated just a month after she was born. Four short months later, Lord Byron died in Greece. Ada's mother, Lady Byron, wanted Ada to be wholly different from her father. Instead of poetry, Ada was tutored in mathematics. The fruits of her education were apparent early in her life when at age 12 she designed a flying machine. Her skill and contributions in her field have earned Ada her own holiday, Ada Lovelace Day on October 11, a day to celebrate all women in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.



Lady Byron raised Ada in high society, where many wealthy and privileged men dabbled in scientific pursuits like botany, astronomy, and geology. There weren't professional scientists back then, so any scientific pursuit was purely a hobby or pastime. When Ada grew up, she befriended one of these curious-minded men, a scientist named Charles Babbage, who studied mathematics. The two wrote to each other often, deeply discussing topics of math and logic.

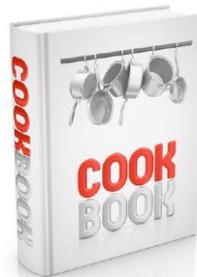
Ada became known as Ada, Countess of Lovelace, in 1838, after marrying William King, Earl of Lovelace. It was not long after her marriage that her old friend Charles Babbage asked her for help with his newest invention, a calculating machine he called an "analytical engine." This was a precursor to modern-day computers, earning Babbage the nickname of "father of the computer." Ada, working on the machine, called herself an "analyst." She predicted that such machines would not just crunch numbers but incorporate text, pictures, and music. Historians now call her the world's first computer programmer. Babbage, although not a poet like Ada's father, bestowed on his protégé an even better title: "Enchantress of Numbers."

October Birthdays

In astrology, those born between October 1st and 22nd balance the scales of Libra. Libras seek equality, justice, and harmony. Eager to cooperate, Libras are charming diplomats who seek compromise and good will. Those born between October 23rd and 31st are Scorpios. Scorpios are passionate and assertive leaders who value honesty and fairness above all, but betray a Scorpio and suffer the scorpion sting. Befriend a Scorpio and you will have not just a friend for life, but an advocate and confidant.

Buster Keaton (comedian) – Oct. 4, 1895
Thor Heyerdahl (explorer) – October 6, 1914
Jesse Jackson (politician) – Oct. 8, 1941
Henry John Heinz (magnate) – Oct. 11, 1844
Ralph Lauren (designer) – Oct. 14, 1939
Emeril Lagasse (chef) – October 15, 1959
Annette Funicello (actress) – October 22, 1942
Michael Crichton (writer) – October 23, 1942
Dylan Thomas (poet) – October 27, 1914
Richard Dreyfuss (actor) – October 29, 1947

Cook the Books



If you've got an idea for a cookbook, October 12, Cookbook Launch Day, may be the time to publish it. Remember, the cookbook industry is competitive, and you need an original idea. Take, for example, the cookbook *Manifold Destiny*, which includes recipes for cooking on your car engine. Feeling blue? *The Happy Baker* cookbook provides recipes to pick you up after a romantic breakup. *Mini-Mart à la Carte* is a cookbook for people who do their shopping at gas stations. And of course there are cookbooks not for humans, but for our pets. It seems that even the most outlandish cookbook ideas can be appetizing. A more traditional route might be to gather your friends and compile a homemade cookbook out of all your favorite recipes.