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Information

October 2021

# Windsor News

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**Country  
Music Month**

**Pizza Month**

**Positive  
Attitude  
Month**

**International  
Coffee Day**  
*October 1*

**World  
Teachers Day**  
*October 5*

**Columbus  
Day &  
Indigenous  
Peoples' Day**  
*October 11*

**Wear  
Something  
Gaudy Day**  
*October 17*

**All Hallows'  
Eve or  
Halloween**  
*October 31*

## October Birthdays

In astrology, those born from October 1–23 balance the scales of Libra. Libras are peaceful and fair, and value balance and symmetry. Those born from October 24–31 are Scorpions of Scorpio. Scorpions are passionate, dedicated, and resourceful. Scorpions may seem intimidating, but they are no-nonsense people who value honesty.

Donna Karan (designer) – Oct. 2, 1948  
Chubby Checker (singer) – Oct. 3, 1941  
Chevy Chase (comedian) – Oct. 8, 1943  
Henry Heinz (food magnate) – Oct. 11, 1844  
Marie Osmond (entertainer) – Oct. 13, 1959  
Penny Marshall (director) – Oct. 15, 1943  
Naomi Osaka (tennis star) – Oct. 16, 1997  
Kamala Harris (vice president) – Oct. 20, 1964  
Pele (soccer player) – Oct. 23, 1940  
Jonas Salk (doctor) – Oct. 28, 1914  
John Candy (comedian) – Oct. 31, 1950



## ImPASTable *cont. from pg. 1*

Historians think it is far more likely that Italy's famous pastas originated in the Middle East. Written records show that by the fifth century, Arabs were eating *itriyah*, a dough made of flour and water that could be rolled thin, cut into strips, dried, and reconstituted with water. Arab traders traveling the famed Silk Road could easily pack and store this nutritious staple. As the Arabs expanded westward into the Mediterranean, they likely introduced their version of pasta to the region.

But it was in Italy that pasta became both a mass-produced food staple and an art form. Southern Italy's dry, sunny climate was conducive to the growing of hard durum wheat and allowed for the proper drying of long strands of pasta. Today, Italy is synonymous with pasta and we all eat well because of it.

## Mission ImPASTable

In 1995, pasta producers from all over the world convened in Rome for the first World Pasta Congress. It was decided that October 25 would be designated World Pasta Day, a day to celebrate the versatility and sheer deliciousness of this global food.

In 2005, archaeologists unearthed 4,000-year-old noodles from a site in China,

confirming the belief that the Chinese likely invented the first pastas made of grain and water. These noodles were not like the dried, flour-based pastas we find at grocery stores today, but were made of millet, a grain more like rice than wheat. Does this discovery prove that the Italian merchant Marco Polo brought pasta from China to Italy in 1295? Not quite. While it is

very likely that Marco Polo brought Chinese noodles and all kinds of Chinese artifacts back to Italy, pasta was already a common staple in and around the Mediterranean long before Marco Polo's travels east.

*cont. on pg. 4*



## Turn of the Tide

In Cornwall, in the United Kingdom, October 31 brings the holiday of Allantide. Like Halloween, Allantide is believed to be a day when the barrier between the living and the dead is lifted. For this reason, Allantide is a day to seek the advice of fortune tellers.

Walnuts thrown into fires confirm the fidelity of spouses. Molten lead cast into water hardens into a shape that foretells future employment. Thanks to its proximity to the harvest season, Allantide also boasts several harvest traditions. It is common to visit an

Allan Market and buy a bright red Allan apple to gift to children. Not sleeping with the Allan apple under your pillow brings back luck. Another tradition more reminiscent of Halloween is the carving of jack-o'-lanterns out of turnips.

## Bigfoot's Big Moment



In 1958, a northern California newspaper published a letter in which local loggers described finding massive 16-inch-long footprints in the California wilderness. The loggers called the unknown creature who had left the prints “Big Foot,” and readers of the newspaper became instantly fascinated with the story. As the story of Big Foot spread to newspapers across the country, a legend was born. It wasn't until October 20, 1967, that the Bigfoot legend reached a fever pitch.

Two rodeo cowboys from Yakima, Washington, Roger Patterson and Bob Gimlin, ventured into the northern

California wilderness hoping to capture hard evidence of the creature. Despite Patterson's earnest belief in Bigfoot's existence, no one was more shocked than he when he and Gimlin stumbled upon a hairy, apelike figure stomping through northern California's remote forests. Patterson was able to film Bigfoot for about a minute, capturing the now-famous shot of Bigfoot midstride. The scientific community, however, was not impressed with the footage. While many believed the film to be a hoax, other scientists had trouble debunking the film. Patterson and Gimlin lived out their days arguing that both the film and their encounter with Bigfoot was genuine.

## Instant Success

The photo and video-sharing social media application known as Instagram enjoyed a fairy-tale launch when it debuted on October 6, 2010. Developers created it in just eight weeks, and on its first day it had 25,000 users. In less than two years, Facebook bought it for \$1 billion, making it one of the

most profitable applications ever developed. Facebook may have more users, but Instagram is still considered one of social media's most popular applications. Thanks to the ease with which users can share photos and videos, the application is perfectly suited for smartphones and users on the go.

## Hats Off

You don't have to be a fan of Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* to celebrate Mad Hatter Day on October 6. Famed illustrator John Tenniel depicted the Mad Hatter character with a card in his hatband reading, “In this size 10/6.” Here, the 10/6 refers not to the date October 6, but the hat's price of 10 shillings and six pence. While the interpretation of the hat card may have been mistaken, the hatter's “madness” is a matter of historical fact. In the mid-19th century, the process of turning fur into felt involved the use of the chemical mercury nitrate, a poison that caused “madness” in many hatters.



### Notable Quotable

“There was a Bigfoot standing there just on the other side of the crick from us.”

~ Bob Gimlin, cowboy and Bigfoot tracker

## Who's There?

Knock, knock. Who's there? October 31st. October 31st who? Did you know that October 31st is Knock-Knock Joke Day? As children rove door-to-door asking “Trick or treat,” they can offer knock-knock jokes as compensation for their candy.

The origin of the knock-knock joke is anything but clear-cut, but clever historians have uncovered a convoluted history of its creation. Before

the knock-knock joke, there was the “Do You Know” joke. Around the year 1900, a common joke began with, “Do you know Arthur?” A person would reply, “Arthur who?” and the joker would say: “Arthurmometer!” This punchline, with its groan-worthy play on words, foreshadowed the punchlines knock-knock jokes would become famous for. But where did the door-knocking imagery come from?

In 1929, author Henry Bett wrote a history of children's games that included “Buff” in which a player would tap with a stick and say, “Knock knock,” to which others responded, “Who's there?” By the 1930s, the joke form and the game had evolved into the knock-knock joke. They were soon ubiquitous: on the radio, in advertising, even used by politicians desperate for a laugh.



### Notable Quotable

“I use other cookbooks for inspiration. I must say I tend to use my own cookbooks for parties.”

~ Ina Garten, the “Barefoot Contessa”

## Just for Laughs

Test to see if these jokes are laugh-worthy or groan-inducing.

Knock, knock.  
Who's there?  
Little old lady.  
Little old lady who?  
I didn't know you could yodel!

Knock, knock.  
Who's there?  
Luke.  
Luke who?  
Luke through the peephole and find out!

## Now We're Cooking

October is Cookbook Month, which means it's time to get into the kitchen and dust off those pots and pans. While many forms of print media have suffered in the digital age, cookbook sales are booming.

Even for seasoned chefs, cookbooks can reinvigorate a stale cooking routine, but this doesn't mean that you should go out and buy Buck Peterson's *Road Kill Cookbook*. Adventurous foodies

could instead try *Bugs for Beginners*. Historians might like *Cooking Apicius*, with recipes from ancient Rome. Mechanics will enjoy *Manifold Destiny*, which teaches how to cook on your car engine.

