

DeVille

Apartment & Builders Inc.



October 2025
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Happening in October

World Smile Day, Oct. 3. Created by commercial artist Harvey Ball, creator of the ubiquitous “smiley face,” who believed that all of us should devote one day each year to smiles and kind acts.

National Taco Day, Oct. 4. Have one for breakfast, lunch, dinner, or any time of the day. We celebrate the taco on this day just to give you one more reason to enjoy them.

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Professional medical associations and government agencies work together to promote breast cancer awareness, share information and provide greater access to services during October and throughout the year.

Indigenous Peoples’ Day, Oct. 13. A holiday that celebrates and honors Native American peoples and commemorates their histories and cultures.

The Birth of the Jack-o’-Lantern

Have you ever wondered how the practice of turning a pumpkin into a scary jack-o’-lantern started? Here’s the story:

Jack-o’-lantern sounds Irish because it is. The flickering, carved pumpkin faces that animate the American Halloween derive from an old Irish custom of creating rustic lanterns from vegetables. The Irish child’s typical Halloween flashlight was a hollowed-out turnip or potato with a candle inside. When the Irish landed in America in the nineteenth century, they were quick to spot the possibilities in the pumpkin, and a new tradition was born.

The Heat Is On!

Autumn is here! Days are growing a little shorter and nights are getting cooler. You may be using your heating system for the first time of the season. Should you notice a slight burning smell when turning up your thermostat, don’t worry! This is only accumulated dust burning off of the furnace coils. Should the odor persist, or if your system isn’t heating as it should, please don’t hesitate to contact our office.

Getting a Handle on Toilet Repairs

Believe it or not, October is official Toilet Tank Repair month. We thought we’d use the occasion to flush out a few misconceptions about do-it-yourself tank repair. First, it probably won’t overflow. Toilet bowls are designed in such a way that they will usually hold the entire contents of the tank without overflowing. That is, if you don’t try to flush it a second time. Second, you can turn the water off one of two ways: in back of or in the tank. The shut-off valve is located behind the tank on the wall or you could remove the tank lid and lift up on the float ball or cup. Third, to use a plunger on a backed up toilet, less is more. Too much force can cause a mess.

Warmest October Wishes

Whether you choose to celebrate this October by dressing up in a costume, decorating your home with warm, fall colors or just love to watch the leaves change color...we wish you the best of the season. If you have any questions regarding your home, please stop by the Management Office. We’re always glad to see you and are available if you need assistance.

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OCT. 5-11 IS FIRE SAFETY WEEK

Lithium-Ion Batteries in your Home

The National Fire Protection Association, the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week, has announced “Charge into Fire Safety: Lithium-Ion Batteries in your Home,” as the theme for Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 5-11. This year’s focus works to educate everyone about using these batteries safely.

Lithium-ion batteries live with us and power our devices. Every cordless device—the kids’ toys, power tools, tablets, head phones, laptops, smartphones, earbuds — is powered by one of these little marvels.

A family of four probably has well over a dozen devices powered by lithium-ion batteries in the home.

It’s not surprising that some portion of those batteries would fail. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission reported over 25,000 overheating or fire incidents involving lithium-ion batteries across 400+ consumer products from 2013 to 2018. That number certainly does not

tell us about all failures, however, since reporting is inconsistent.

What we do know is that lithium-ion batteries have been the primary cause of 18 percent of residential fires from 2009 to 2017, according to PGH Batteries. These fires are often linked to manufacturing defects, improper charging, physical damage, or poor disposal practices.

We may be very familiar with them, but lithium-ion batteries at least deserve some caution with how we use them:

Avoid physical damage: Prevent puncturing, crushing, or bending batteries, as this can cause internal short circuits, leading to overheating, fire, or explosion.

Use proper chargers: Always use the manufacturer-recommended charger and cables. Incompatible or low-quality chargers can damage the battery.

Temperature control: Avoid exposing batteries to extreme heat (above 140°F) or cold

(below -4°F). Store and use batteries in environments between 32°F to 95°F for optimal safety.

Prevent Overcharging: Use devices with built-in battery management systems (BMS) to prevent overcharging or deep discharging, which can destabilize the battery. Unplug devices once fully charged.

Avoid water exposure: Keep batteries away from water or moisture, as it can cause short circuits or corrosion.

Proper storage: Store batteries at a partial charge (40–60 percent) in a cool, dry place. Avoid storing in direct sunlight or near flammable materials.

Inspect: If you see any bulging, swelling, or smell any unusual odors, properly discard the device immediately.

Proper disposal: Do not throw lithium-ion batteries in regular trash. Recycle at designated facilities to prevent environmental harm and fire risks. Tape over battery terminals before disposal to avoid short circuits.



Halloween Safety Tips

Children and parents alike enjoy Halloween—the costumes, and the candy, and the chance to spend time together. Just remember to keep your young trick-or-treaters safe as you go door-to-door. Here are some tricks for collecting treats without danger:

• **COSTUMES.** Whether you buy your child a costume or make one, be sure it will be highly visible to cars and passersby. Bright colors and reflective tape will help youngsters show up on the dark streets.

• **SNACKS.** Serve your kids dinner or a healthy snack (and eat something yourself) before going out. Children will be less likely to gorge themselves on the candy they collect if they’re already full.

• **PROPS.** If their costumes include canes, toy swords, or any other sort of accessory, check that they’re not too difficult to carry while walking or crossing the street.

• **ROUTE.** Decide on a clear and safe path through your neighborhood before you go out. Accompany small children, and discuss safety with older kids going out as a group. Give them flashlights and a cell phone, and carry those yourself.

• **INSPECTION.** Go through the bags before children eat anything, and get rid of any candy that looks suspicious. Don’t let kids consume too many goodies at once—ration the candy out over a few days or weeks so they don’t make themselves sick.



Timing is Everything

In *Buy Shoes on Wednesday and Tweet at 4:00* (Harper Collins), Mark Di Vincenzo reveals the best time to do just about anything. Here are a few of the secrets:

• **Car service.** Take your car in Monday morning. Most drivers don’t want to deal with a tune-up as the week begins, so you’ll get your car back sooner.

• **Operations.** If possible, schedule any operation requiring anesthesia early in the day. By afternoon, anesthesiologists might be tired and more prone to error.

• **Gym memberships.** Although advertising is heavy in January, you can often find good deals during the summer months when gyms are trying harder to entice people to join.

• **Promotions and raises.** Approach your boss in January to ask about a new position or a bump in salary.

Companies whose fiscal years end in December will be more open to spending money at the beginning of a new budget period.

Oct.

 QUICK READS

VISION STRAIN OR EYE ISSUES AS A RESULT OF LOOKING AT A COMPUTER AFFECT

58

PERCENT OF AMERICANS

The average worker spends seven hours on a computer, which can cause dry, itchy eyes and blurred vision. To protect your peepers, position your monitor 20-28 inches from your eyes and use a glare filter on your screen. And every 20 minutes look at something 20 feet away for 20 seconds.



OCTOBER IS
NATIONAL POPCORN
POPPIN' MONTH

Tasty recipes for Cajun Corn, Halloween-Jack-o-Lantern Popcorn Balls, Mocha Popcorn and more at Popcorn.org.



A safer way to

carve a pumpkin

Slicing through a slippery jack-o'-lantern can be downright scary. Avoid a mishap with these tips.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT BLADE Your safest bet is one of those inexpensive carving kits. Easier to control and not as sharp as a kitchen knife, these tools cause fewer injuries.

SET UP A CARVING STATION To prevent pumpkins from slipping, cover a table with newspaper or a tarp topped with a nonstick silicone baking sheet. Have wet and dry washcloths nearby, and wipe hands regularly to keep them from getting slick.

CUT WITH CARE Make small, controlled cuts away from your body. Don't hold the pumpkin from the inside. Instead, put the stem cap back on and grasp the top.

STAY CALM People tend to injure themselves when they're rushed and frustrated. If your knife or tool gets stuck, slowly dislodge it. If you do get a cut and don't stop bleeding after 10 minutes of pressure, head to the ER.



SPICED PUMPKIN COFFEE CREAMER

Skip the coffee-shop lines and customize your coffee at home. Really want to channel your inner barista? Here are four flavor variations to play with.

TOTAL TIME 10 min.

- 2 cups heavy cream, half-and-half, or dairy or nondairy milk
- 1 14-oz. can sweetened condensed milk
- 3 Tbsp. canned pumpkin
- 1 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
- 1 tsp. vanilla

In a 1-qt. canning jar combine all of the ingredients; seal. Store in the refrigerator up to 2 weeks.

Per Tablespoon 54 cal, 4 g fat, 14 mg chol, 13 mg sodium, 4 g carbs, 0 g carb, 1 g pro.

Chocolate Coffee Creamer Prepare as directed, except omit pumpkin and pumpkin pie spice. Add 3 Tbsp. chocolate-flavored syrup.

Amaretto Coffee Creamer Prepare as directed, except omit pumpkin, pumpkin pie spice, and vanilla. Add 1 tsp. almond extract and 1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon.

Caramel Coffee Creamer Prepare as directed, except omit pumpkin and pumpkin pie spice. Add 1/4 cup caramel-flavored ice cream topping.

Hazelnut Coffee Creamer Prepare as directed, except omit pumpkin, pumpkin pie spice, and vanilla. Add 2 tsp. hazelnut extract.

44% OF ADULTS CONFESS TO KEEPING MONEY SECRETS FROM THEIR PARTNERS.

Most often, the secret is spending more money than their partner feels comfortable with. About 1 person in 10 has hidden debt; others have a secret account or credit card. This "financial infidelity" can strain a relationship. Have an honest conversation. You may benefit from keeping both joint and separate accounts so you're not monitoring every penny of each others' spending.



Happy Halloween!



October

			wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
			1 Rent Due	2 <i>Name Your Car Day</i>	3 <i>October is Fire Prevention Month</i>	4 <i>National Truckers Appreciation Day</i> <i>World Smile Day</i>
sunday	monday	tuesday	5 <i>Do Something Nice Day</i>	6 <i>October's Birthstones are Opal & tourmaline</i>	7 <i>National Inner Beauty Day</i>	8 <i>National Curves Day</i>
12 <i>National Farmers Day</i>	13 <i>Columbus Day</i> <i>Indigenous Peoples' Day</i>	14 <i>Be Bald and Be Free Day</i>	15 <i>Take Your Parents to Lunch Day</i>	16 <i>October's Birth Flowers are the Marigold and Cosmos</i>	17 <i>National Pasta Day</i>	18 <i>Family History Month</i>
19 <i>Breast Cancer Awareness Day</i>	20 <i>Information Overload Day</i>	21 <i>Back to the Future Day</i>	22 <i>Smart is Cool Day</i>	23 <i>National Croc Day</i>	24 <i>Wear it Pink Day</i>	25 <i>National Make a Difference Day</i>
26 <i>National Pumpkin Day</i>	27 <i>Cranky Co-Workers Day</i>	28 <i>National First Responders Day</i>	29 <i>October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month</i>	30 <i>National Candy Corn Day</i>	31 <i>Halloween</i> <i>Frankenstein Friday</i>	