

OCTOBER 2018

Harmony Hall



Celebrating October

Country Music Month

Positive Attitude Month

Popcorn Poppin' Month

Spinning and Weaving Week

October 1–7

Guardian Angels Day

October 2

**International
Top Spinning Day**

October 14

Mulligan Day

October 17

International Artists Day

October 25

All Hallows' Eve

October 31

Jack of the Lantern

Every October, once pumpkins have grown fat and orange, these gorgeous gourds are picked and used in a wide variety of ritual activities from baking pumpkin pie to carving jack-o'-lanterns for Halloween. But there's no need to wait until October 26, Pumpkin Day, to make the most of your favorite pumpkin traditions.

Pumpkins have been grown in North America for 5,000 years. While these gourds are native to Central America and Mexico, the tradition of carving pumpkins began across the Atlantic Ocean in Ireland. The practice of carving "jack-o'-lanterns" began with an Irish folktale about a man named "Stingy Jack."

The legend says that Stingy Jack invited the Devil to have a drink, but then the tightfisted fellow did not want to pay. Jack tricked the Devil into transforming himself into a coin he could use to buy the drinks, but Jack put the coin into his pocket next to a silver cross. The Devil, so near a cross, could not change back into his devilish self. Jack made the Devil promise not to claim his soul should he die. The Devil had no choice but to agree. However, when Jack did die, God would not allow someone who caroused with the Devil into heaven. In the end, Jack was sent into the dark of night with nothing but a lamp fashioned from a carved-out turnip, lit with a lump of glowing coal. For this reason, the Irish have long carved images of "Jack of the Lantern" from turnips and, later, potatoes or beets. The scary, glowing faces were used to frighten away Stingy Jack and any other evil spirits.

When Irish immigrants came to North America, they discovered a new medium for their jack-o'-lanterns: pumpkins. With their hollow centers and wide, thick, orange shells, these gourds were a perfect vessel. Today, pumpkins are grown on every continent except Antarctica, and people around the world use them to carve jack-o'-lanterns.



Music Appreciation

Oct 3rd Music Appreciation with David: Sergey Tanayev, String Quartet No.1 in Bb minor; Charles Koechlin: Septet for Wind Instruments

Oct 10th Music Appreciation with Mike: Bedřich Smetana' "Ma Vlast" ("My Fatherland") Revisited.

Oct 17th Music Appreciation with David: Music for Saxophone and Strings by Alexander Glazunov, Haydn Wood, Jacques Ibert and Peter Warlock.

Oct. 24th Music Appreciation with Mike: Antonin Dvorak Concerto for Cello and Orchestra.

Oct.31st Music Appreciation with Mike: Latvian Mezzo Soprano, Elina Garanca.

Opera

Oct 5th Charles Gounod's "Faust."

An aging jaded scientist dissatisfied with life trades his soul to the devil in exchange for youth and its privileges.

Oct 12th Jules Massenet's "Thais."

Alexandria's most in-demand courtesan becomes the target of a hermit Cenobite monk, who is determined to "save" her.. or have her

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.

October Upcoming Events

October 5th Q&A with Debbie, Cherie & Danny – 10:30am 2nd Floor

October 9th Resident Association Meeting – 2:00pm Movie Theater

October 10th Voting – 10:00am to 3:00pm Carmella's Conference Room

October 13th St. John's Sing-a-Long - 2:30pm Lobby

October 18th
Just Bead It – 10:30am 2nd Floor
Harmony Hall Auction & Day at the Races – 2:30pm 2nd Floor

October 24th Dr. Lazris Discussion – 10:00am 2nd Floor

October 25th Resident Trip (TBD) – 10:30am Lobby

October 26th Birthday Party with Steve Flynn – 2:00pm Lobby

October 27th River Hill High School – 11:00am Lobby

October 31st Halloween Party – 2:00pm Lobby

Religious Services & Events:

Tuesdays & Thursdays: Rosary Communion Service - Located in the Parlor at 3:00pm

Sundays: Catholic Communion Service- Parlor at 9:00am

4th Wednesdays: Catholic Mass Services at 2:30- Located in the Parlor

Sundays: Grace Christian Church - Located on 3rd Floor at 11:00am

2nd Sundays: St. John's Baptist Church at 2:30pm - Located on 3rd Floor

2nd and 4th Fridays: Jewish Services with Rabbi Baron at 11:00am - Located in the Parlor

On our updated website you can find the month's activity calendar, newsletter, and movie listings!

www.liveharmonyhall.com

New Schedule for Trips

- **Giant Trips every Tuesday at 2pm (1 hour) and every Friday at 11am (30 minutes)**
- **Walmart/Target every Monday at 10:30am (1 hour) – at least 3 people must attend**
- **Recreational trips are subject to time changes and cancellations when deemed necessary by Transportation**
- **If you need to schedule a transportation appointment, ask the Front Desk for more information**

Health Concerns

For Questions regarding Audiology, Dental, Eye Care and Podiatry services – please call HEALTHDRIVE AT (888) 964-6681, Option 3. If you want to sign up for any of these services contact Claro or Gimly at ext. 4026/4032.

Thank You

Please do not hesitate to call the Recreation Office at 410-531-6000 x 4022, and we will be happy to sign you up for the events you wish to attend.

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.