

October 2023



640 W. Randall St., Coopersville (616) 997-9253 www.coopersvillefountainview.org



Celebrating October

Popcorn Poppin' Month

Country Music Month

International Day of Older Persons
October 1

Spinning and Weaving Week
October 2-8

World Teachers' Day
October 5

Columbus Day and
October 9

Farmer's Day
October 12

Newspaper Comic Strip Appreciation Day
October 18

Halloween
October 31

Dates to Remember:

Community Band Concert
Dec. 4, 7:30; CHS Auditorium

Annual Tree Lighting
Tue, Dec. 5 @ 7pm

Resident & Family Christmas Party
Thu, Dec. 19
B3= 5pm - B1 & B2= 6pm

Halloween Candy & Treats wanted:

Approximately 160 Kindergartners will be parading through our facility on Halloween morning and we'd like to give them a small treat bag. Can you help? Drop off your donation to Andrea, the Life Enrichment Director, any time before October 27! Thank you in advance for your kindness. We appreciate you!

A visit to an apple & cherry market...such nostalgia and beauty at the Rasch farm!



Absolutely Gourd-geous



Anyone who's attended a county fair is probably familiar with gargantuan, record-breaking pumpkins. Last October, Travis Gienger grew the largest pumpkin in America at 2,560 pounds. But in September of 2021, Italian

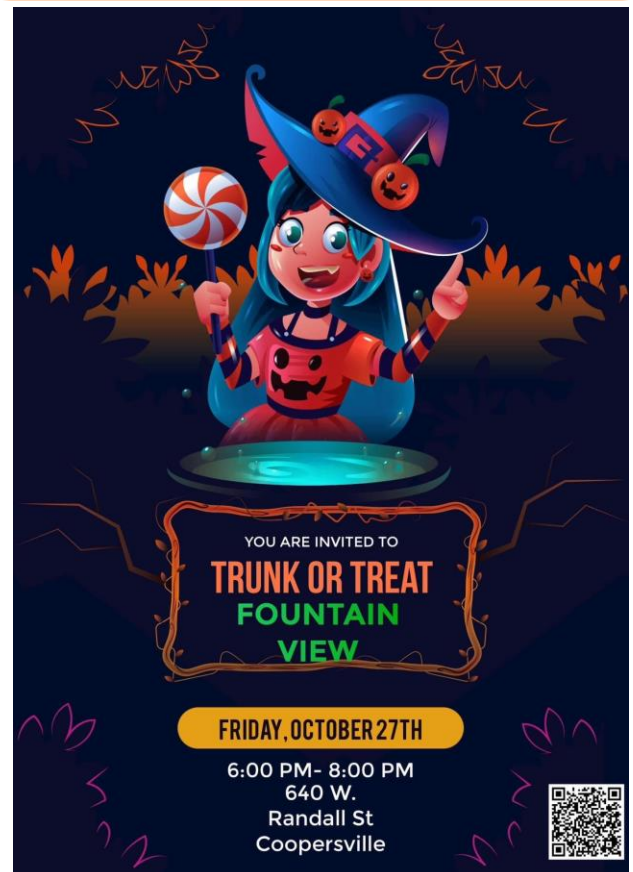
farmer Stefano Cutrupi set a new world record for the world's largest when his colossus weighed in at 2,702.9 pounds. Why grow pumpkins to such enormous sizes? A better question to ask is how do pumpkins get so big? And can you grow a giant in time for Pumpkin Day on October 26?

Pumpkins are members of the genus *Cucurbita*. These fruits are related to the cucumber family and include squashes, gourds, zucchini, and, of course, pumpkins. All these plants are native to tropical and subtropical areas of North and South America. They grow on vines and can naturally grow as large as 200 pounds, making them the heaviest fruits on the planet.

Over the years, farmers moved these plants out of the tropics and began to grow them around the world. They selected certain species and explored which cultivars could be cross-bred to create the largest pumpkins. At the 1893 Chicago World's Fair, William Warnock wowed crowds with a 365-pounder. In 1900, Warnock showed off a 400-pound pumpkin at the World's Fair in Paris. His giant pumpkins had become major attractions.

It wasn't until the 1970s that Howard Dill of Nova Scotia bred a pumpkin known as the "Atlantic Giant," a cross between the Rennie's Mammoth (itself descended from the Goderich Giant) and Mammoth Chile pumpkins. Over the next decade, pumpkins would grow to 700 pounds.

Growing an Atlantic Giant takes 130 days, with plenty of full sunshine, fertilizer, and water. A frost will ruin the growth, so it's important to keep the pumpkin warm early in the season. Once the vine bears a pumpkin, choose the best to focus on and remove the rest. Even nonprofessionals can grow Atlantic Giants as large as 500 pounds!



Tale of the Tape



The very first ticker-tape parade was a spontaneous celebration held on October 28, 1886, at the official dedication of the Statue of Liberty, which was presided over by President Grover Cleveland.

After the dedication, a parade wound its way through lower Manhattan's financial district. From financial offices high above, workers threw down ticker tape, the one-inch-wide strip of paper that continuously "ticked" out of machines and showed the values of stocks being traded on the stock market. Normally, the tape streamed out of machines and formed useless piles on the floor. Workers saw the piles as potential confetti waiting to rain down on the president, visiting dignitaries, and their cavalcade. The rain of ticker tape was such a hit that "ticker-tape parades" became a hallmark of New York City celebrations.

The largest ticker-tape parade New York has ever seen was held in 1951 for General Douglas MacArthur. The 19-mile route attracted seven million spectators and amassed 3,000 tons of ticker tape. While this parade was the largest New York has ever seen, the parade with the most ticker tape was held in 1945 following the Allied victory over Japan. Over 5,000 tons of paper, including ticker tape and confetti, rained down in celebration.

Alas, traditional ticker-tape parades went out of style when the stock market switched from ticker-tape machines to electronic boards in the 1960s. These days, parades still take place, but confetti is used in place of ticker tape. Regardless of when a parade has taken place, during or after the ticker-tape era, almost all parades travel a one-mile stretch of Broadway from the Battery to City Hall, known as the Canyon of Heroes. Today, visitors to the Canyon of Heroes will find over 200 black granite plaques detailing each parade that has been held in New York, honoring astronauts, world leaders, explorers, scientists, and sports heroes. This is New York City's version of the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Leadership Team

Connie Clauson

Chief Operating Officer

Kelly Smith

Regional Operations Director

Tara Frazier

Administrator

Nancy Brewer

Business Manager

Andrea Steffes

Life Enrichment & Volunteer Director

Gary Lutz

Food Service Director

Kandy Jo Peters

Staffing Director

Markus Temple

Maintenance Director

Burgoo Days



October 7 and 8 bring the Burgoo Days to counties across the American Midwest and South.

Burgoo is a traditional stew that celebrates both the pioneers and the harvest season, as it was traditionally made with whatever

meats and vegetables the pioneers could find, including venison, squirrel, opossum, raccoon, game birds, lima beans, corn, okra, tomatoes, cabbage, and potatoes. In Kentucky and Indiana, the making of burgoo is a vast communal enterprise, where members of the community each bring an ingredient and the stew is slow-cooked in a public setting. Burgoo is considered an iconic dish of the Kentucky Derby.

Green bean\$ galor!



Nostalgia for Rent

A holiday on the third Saturday in October celebrates a dying breed: the independent video store. Staff picks. Late fees. “Be kind, rewind.” Throughout the 1980s, ’90s, and even into the 2000s, video stores enjoyed a culture all their own. Some stores, such as Scarecrow Video in Seattle and Vidiots in Santa Monica, have achieved such a cult following that they still operate in this era of on-demand streaming. Most video stores did not survive the technological shift. Back in 2004, Blockbuster had 9,000 stores around the world and earned \$5.9 billion annually. In 2010, Blockbuster filed for bankruptcy.

For anyone nostalgic for the good old days of video store rentals, one Blockbuster store still exists in Bend, Oregon. Or you can do what some video rental superfans have done and convert their own homes into nostalgic shrines to the rental stores of yesteryear. During the pandemic, one couple converted their basement into a video store “bunker” using furniture and shelving from a local video store that closed. There’s a cash register, a restricted adults-only section, and a bell on the door that rings when a “customer” enters.

We will sadly miss...

Edith Z. who recently passed away. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends.



October Birthdays

In astrology, those born from October 1–22 balance the scales of Libra. Libras strive to find equilibrium and fight for equality and justice. They use their sharp minds to de-escalate conflicts and find peace. Those born from October 23-31 are Scorpio’s scorpions. Scorpions seek deep connections and nurture deep empathy and commitment.

Gandhi (activist) – October 2, 1869
Neil deGrasse Tyson (astrophysicist) – Oct. 5, 1958
Thor Heyerdahl (explorer) – October 6, 1914
Jesse Jackson (politician) – October 8, 1941
John Lennon (musician) – October 9, 1940
Eleanor Roosevelt (first lady) – Oct. 11, 1884
Margaret Thatcher (politician) – Oct. 13, 1925
Mae Jemison (astronaut) – October 17, 1956
Kamala Harris (vice president) – Oct. 20, 1964
Carrie Fisher (actress) – October 21, 1956
Pelé (athlete) – October 23, 1940
Pat Sajak (TV host) – October 26, 1946
Bill Gates (tech mogul) – October 28, 1955

The Lady with the Lamp



Would the “Florence Nightingale effect” exist if Florence Nightingale never left for Crimea on October 21, 1854? Nightingale and her nurses

arrived at the Crimean War hospital in Scutari to find that conditions were so unsanitary that soldiers were dying ten times faster than they should have. Nightingale nearly single-handedly turned the hospital around, cleaning the rooms, providing laundered clothes and linens to patients, bringing fresher food, flushing out the sewers, and ventilating the rooms. She made her nightly rounds with a handheld light, earning her the nickname the “Lady with the Lamp.” Some wonder, did Florence Nightingale fall in love with any of the patients under her care? Records show that Nightingale never married out of fear that it would interrupt her duties as a nurse. Perhaps we should be thankful for that decision, as Nightingale’s efforts have earned her renown as the “Founder of Modern Nursing.”