

# THE MONTHLY GAZETTE

*"I remember it as October days are always remembered, cloudless, maple-flavored, the air gold and so clean it quivers."*

~ Leif Enger



## Dog of the Month – Pembroke Welsh Corgi

The adorable Pembroke Welsh corgi was originally bred in Wales as a cattle herding dog in the 10th century or earlier. Commonly called the corgi, this active, chipper dog has become a popular family pet. This sweet, loving breed is known for intelligence, strength, agility, and loyalty.



Corgis are small, friendly dogs with short coats in a range of colors: black and tan, fawn, red, and sable, with or without white markings. Pembrokes often compete in dog sporting competitions in activities like herding, obedience, and conformation. They also make

excellent companions and watchdogs. Pembroke Welsh corgis were once thought to be enchanted by fairies and elves. You can't help but smile along with these cheerful dogs who are affectionate, highly trainable, and love to run in circles—a practice called "frapping," "zooming," and "frantic random acts of play."

## Special Days

**Yom Kippur**  
October 4

**World Smile Day**  
October 7

**Columbus Day (U.S.),  
Indigenous Peoples'  
Day, Thanksgiving  
(Canada)**  
October 10

**National Chocolate  
Cupcake Day**  
October 18

**Halloween**  
October 31

## Flower – Calendula



The calendula is a member of the marigold family. It is sometimes called the "pot marigold." They are easy to grow and typically bloom quickly (under two months from seed to bloom) in bright yellows, reds, and oranges throughout summer and into the fall. Calendula petals are edible and have been used for medicinal purposes since at least the 12th century. The Romans used them mixed with vinegar to season meat and salad. The petals were used in ointments that cured skin irritations, jaundice, sore eyes, and toothaches.

## Birthstone – Opal



Opals are praised for the way they shine and change color. These gems diffract light, and depending on where they were formed, they can be any number of different hues—from red and yellow to blue, green, purple, and black. The most common color is a milky, opaque white. Opals were considered to be very lucky in the Middle Ages and were believed to hold all the virtues of each gemstone whose colors could be found in the opal's impressive play of hues.



## Birthday Critters

### October 1–7: Monkey

Your social nature ensures that you are always the center of attention. You like to live life to the fullest and tend to have very strong intuition; whatever your gut is telling you, it's probably right.

### October 8–15: Giraffe

You are a beacon of strength and wisdom. Your graceful, loving nature draws friends your way. You also happily enjoy moments of solitude. You are someone friends and family look to for fun, advice, and comfort.

### October 16–26: Turtle

People around you are frequently blown away by your kindness. You are generous and like to give your loved ones surprise gifts to remind them how much you care. You are introverted, but your friends bring you out of your shell.

### October 27–31: Panther

You tend to be calm and unfazed by stressful situations. In fact, you work better when you are under pressure. You strive to be the best person you can be, and your friends and family know they can count on you to help.



## Sing Me a Song

October is National Country Music month. Put on some Dolly Parton, Garth Brooks, Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Patsy Cline, or another country crooner to celebrate the sounds of country-and-western music.



### October Zodiacs

Libra (The Scales)  
October 1–22

Scorpio (The Scorpion)  
October 23–31

**October** is the tenth month of the year on the Gregorian calendar, though its name stems from the Latin *octo*, meaning “eight.” In early Roman times, October was the eighth month on the calendar. Old England referred to it as *Winmonth*, meaning “wine month,” as October’s temperatures were ideal for making wine and cider. The Anglo-Saxons called October *Winterfylleth* because it marked and celebrated the beginning of winter.

## October Fun Fact

October is a strange month, weather-wise. The first frost usually occurs in October, but days of warm, summer-like weather can reappear. Farmers rushing to harvest the last of their crops are grateful for these Indian summer days. October, with its beautifully changing foliage, is one of the most colorful months of the year.

### What’s Lucky in October?

Lucky Color: Yellow  
Lucky Animal: Zebra  
Lucky Letters: *W* and *L*  
Lucky Day: Saturday  
Lucky Plant: Canna Lily



## October Birthdays

Gwen Stefani (singer) – October 3, 1969  
Kate Winslet (actress) – October 5, 1975  
Thor Heyerdahl (explorer) – October 6, 1914  
Michelle Wie (golfer) – October 11, 1989  
Ralph Lauren (designer) – October 14, 1939  
Emeril Lagasse (chef) – October 15, 1959  
Carrie Fisher (actress) – October 21, 1956  
Annette Funicello (actress) – October 22, 1942  
Michael Crichton (writer) – October 23, 1942  
Delmira Agustini (poet) – October 24, 1886  
Pablo Picasso (artist) – October 25, 1881  
Walt Kuhn (painter) – October 27, 1877  
Geraldine Brooks (actress) – October 29, 1925  
John Keats (poet) – October 31, 1795