Noteworthy November Dates

Election Day

The big day for November has to be November 4, a Tuesday, and the day when mid-term elections take place across the land. Regardless of your political preferences, be sure to vote. It's not only a privilege, but an obligation as well.

Veterans Day

November 11th is Veterans Day, so take time to shake hands with a member of the Armed Forces and thank him or her for a job well done.

Thanksgiving Day

Of course there is Thanksgiving which is on the 27th. Our offices will be closed all day on the 27th and the 28th.

Clocks Return To Standard Time

Daylight savings time ends on Sunday, November 2. Remember, “Spring ahead, Fall back”. Either turn your clocks back 1 hour at 2 am on Sunday, or, if you have no choice, advance 23 hours. Enjoy recapturing that extra hour of sleep you lost when we went on Daylight Savings Time.
Halloween Costume Contest
In this issue we are including pictures of staff members who took a little extra time on Friday, October 31 to dress up in a costume for Halloween.

It goes to prove the theory that Halloween is not only a big day for little kids, it is a big day for big kids as well. Other photos demonstrate the creativity of our staff when it comes to generating new ideas for Halloween day outfits.

Andrea (A Real Witch)

James (Marty McFly)

Lori (½ of the M&M's)

Stephanie K (Billy the Puppet-Saw)

Steve L (World's Most Interesting Man)
Average Home Size

The census bureau has released numbers to show that the size of homes is growing again. The average home in 2007 measured 2,521 square feet. For 2013, the same measurements came to 2,598 square feet.

Credit Card Losses

The year 2013 saw the US suffering the worst of the global card transactions by absorbing 25% of the total losses incurred by false credit card usage. It is generally assumed that with electronic methods taking over, this rate will increase in the years ahead.

Prescription Drugs

If you let the numbers tell the story, the US practically runs on Prozac and heart pills. They are among the most prescribed medications, according to The National Annual Checkup from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention which in this past year included a special report highlighting the ever growing use of prescription drugs. It used to be that doctors issued scripts to battle bacteria and viruses but prescriptions are increasingly being used in our fight against chronic moderate ills from heart disease and depression to HIV and ADHD. Today, 50% of Americans take at least one pill a day. Many of those drugs can be lifesaving (or at lease life enhancing). The report pointed out, however, a troubling uptick exists in the use and abuse of opioid pain killers which can lead to addiction, and, in extremes, death.

Senatorial Required Patches

Wouldn’t it be a great idea if senators and members of congress were required to wear sponsor patches on their suits just like those sported by NASCAR? The bigger the patch would indicate a bigger sponsor for the incumbent.
EBOLA

Cumulative numbers of EBOLA cases during the current outbreak in West Africa have resulted in 4,598 deaths.

What is EBOLA?

We hear about this virus every day but do we know much about its origin and transmittance?

EBOLA is a rare and often deadly disease spread by direct contact through broken skin or mucous membranes (mouth, eyes, nose, etc.) with blood or body fluids from an infected person. It can be spread also by contact with objects, such as needles or surfaces that are contaminated.

A person exposed to the EBOLA virus may not develop symptoms for anywhere from 2 to 21 days. EBOLA can be spread to others once symptoms have developed and for as long as a person is sick. Because the early symptoms may seem mild, EBOLA is often not suspected immediately. The symptoms of EBOLA are fever, headache, muscle pain, vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain, and unexplained bleeding or bruising. EBOLA is often described as a hemorrhagic (bleeding) fever.

More Definitions You May Have Been Missing

1. **Coffee**, n. The person upon whom one coughs.
2. **Flabbergasted**, adj. Appalled by discovering how much weight one has gained.
3. **Abdicate**, v. To give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.
4. **Esplanade**, v. To attempt an explanation while drunk.
5. **Negligent**, adj. Absentmindedly answering the door when wearing only a nightgown.
6. **Lymph**, v. To walk with a lisp.
8. **Intaxication**, Euphoria at getting a tax refund, which lasts until you realize it was your money to start with.
9. **Reintarnation**, Coming back to life as a hillbilly.

November Birthdays

5     Roger E. Roberts
7     Elizabeth Lantz
22   Myron Gelb
23   Gail Kulpins
28   Herbert T. Gelb