



**DIVERSITY** &  
**INCLUSION**

Monthly SnapShot

October 2023

Notable dates that have shaped our Country toward a more inclusive culture.

- October 3** Oktoberfest
- October 4** National Golf Day
- October 7** Bald and Free Day
- October 9** Indigenous People Day
- October 10** National Angel Food Cake Day
- October 13** Friday the 13th
- October 14** Be Bald and Free Day
- October 17** National Pasta Day
- October 21** Ntl. Pumpkin Cheesecake Day
- October 22** Mother-In-Law Day
- October 24** United Nations Day
- October 28** Make a Difference Day
- October 29** National Frankenstein Day
- October 30** National Candy Corn Day
- October 31** Halloween



# Appreciating Our Differences

As we welcome and appreciate our differences and uniqueness, we take the time to recognize historical events, holidays, or celebrations that have shaped our culture and communities each month.

**Oktoberfest Festival** originated on October 12, 1810, to celebrate the marriage of the Crown Prince Ludwig of Bavaria, who later became King Louis I, to Princess Therese von Sachsen-Hildburghausen. Everyone in Munich was invited to celebrate at the fields before the city gates, where the festivities continue to be held annually.

In the fall of 1960, the folks of La Crosse, WI, felt unenthused. They wanted a colorful, lively fall festival to boost morale before the oppressive Wisconsin winter. Two German-American men suggested something like Oktoberfest; thus, Oktoberfest USA was born!





## Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> - Why are Fridays that fall on a month's 13th day so fearful?

Some attribute the origins to the Code of Hammurabi, one of the world's oldest legal documents, which may or may not have superstitiously omitted a 13th rule from its list. Others claim that the ancient Sumerians, who believed the number 12 to be a "perfect" number, considered the one that followed it decidedly non-perfect. One of the most popular theories, however, links Friday the 13th with the fall of a fearsome group of legendary warriors—the Knights Templar.

**October 24<sup>th</sup>** is United Nations Day which commemorates the formation of a new era in history – an era where equality, peace, and cooperation are valued above war.

As World War II was about to end in 1945, nations were in ruins, and the world wanted peace. Representatives of 50 countries gathered at the United Nations Conference on International Organization in San Francisco, California from 25 April to 26 June 1945. For the next two months, they proceeded to draft and then sign the UN Charter, which created a new international organization, the United Nations, which, it was hoped, would prevent another world war like the one they had just lived through.



**October 30<sup>th</sup>** - Halloween holiday has its roots in the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain (a Gaelic word pronounced "SAH-win"), a pagan religious celebration to welcome the harvest at the end of summer, when people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off ghosts. The custom of Halloween came to

America in the 1840s with Irish immigrants fleeing a potato famine. At that time, the favorite pranks in New England included tipping over outhouses and unhinging fence gates.

**The CPNA Diversity & Inclusion Advisory Council**  
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