The Villager
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Badges and Beyond

October shines a spotlight on scouting, a movement that has introduced millions of young people to leadership, service, and the great outdoors. October is National Scouting Month, and on the 31st, Girl Scout Founder's Day honors Juliette Gordon Low, who founded the Girl Scouts in 1912.Scouting began in the early 1900s when British army officer Robert Baden-Powell started an organization that taught outdoor skills, teamwork, and self-reliance. Today, scouting organizations serve millions of members in more than 170 countries.

Service to others has always been at the heart of scouting. Scouts regularly collect food for pantries, clean parks and trails, plant trees, and assist with community events. Many of the movement's highest honors require significant service projects. To earn the rank of Eagle Scout, for example, participants must plan and lead a community service project that benefits a school, religious institution, or nonprofit organization.Badges are another important part of the scouting experience. Merit badges and achievement patches recognize progress and encourage members to explore new interests. Topics range from camping and first aid to astronomy, engineering, and environmental science.

Outdoor adventure is also a hallmark of scouting. Camping trips, hikes, canoeing expeditions, and nature studies teach practical skills while encouraging an appreciation for the natural world. Studies have found that participation in scouting can help young people develop confidence, leadership abilities, and a strong sense of civic responsibility.More than a century after its beginnings, scouting continues to inspire new generations. Whether building a campfire, earning a badge, or leading a community project, scouts discover lessons that often last a lifetime.

Say It Silly

Sometimes we say the silliest things, but feel free on October 13 to use as many silly sayings as you want, for it's Silly Saying Day. "When pigs fly" is a saying used when you mention something that will never happen, just like a pig flying. Did you ever stop to "chew the fat" with a friend? This means to chat or gossip, but it's a nautical expression from early sailors who, when work was slow, would talk while chewing on a snack of salt-hardened fat. You've likely never used the expression "enough to cobble dogs with," which means that you have a lot of something, as though a shoe cobbler had so much leather he could make many tiny shoes for all of our four-legged friends. And there you have it, "Bob's your uncle." Don't know that one? It means everything is all right, done, and successful, sort of like saying, "And that's that." No word, though, on who Bob was or why things always worked out so well for him.

Celebrating October

- **Italian-American Heritage Month**
- **Popcorn Poppin' Month**
- **October 5- Do Something Nice Day**
- **October 12 - Columbus Day**
- **October 13 - International Skeptics Day**
- **October 21 - Back to the Future Day**
- **October 25 - World Pasta Day**
- **October 31 - Halloween**

October Resident Birthdays

IL: Larry Schissel 10/3, Larry Terry 10/27, Barbara Ketelaar 10/28, Helen Stransky 10/29, David Little 10/31.
AL: Marian Russell 10/21.
HC: Lorraine Bagstad 10/9, Nancy Danner 10/16, Deborah Bauer 10/24.

Happy Birthday to our wonderful residents born in October!