

September 2025

Caraton Commons

653 Woodside Rd. Green Bay, WI 54311



Celebrating September

Intergeneration Month

World Alzheimer's Month

Labor Day
September 1

Eat an Extra Dessert Day
September 4

Pink Flamingo Summer Picnic
September 5

Music by Mike Peterson
September 10

Resident Council
September 11

Respect Day
September 18

October Fall Fest
September 22

Happy Hour Stories & Giggles
September 26

Love People Day
September 30

Resident of the Month



Roxanne grew up in Milwaukee, WI, where music, dancing, and a deep appreciation for life's simple joys shaped her world. One of her fondest memories is line dancing at public schools, enjoying church dances, and attending folk festivals with her family. Her household was filled with music, dance, laughter, and the delicious smells of ethnic food

Her favorite season is fall, a time when the leaves turn brilliant colors, the air turns crisp, and the smells and tastes of harvest fill the senses. It's a season that reminds her of comfort, change, and beauty.

If Roxanne had a superpower, it would be the ability to heal all the pain in the world and make people laugh, a true reflection of her kind and joyful spirit. Her favorite song, *Help Out the Shadow of Your Smile*, speaks to her heart's mix of empathy and warmth.

Boiled potatoes with parsley and pepper is her favorite comfort food, and Easter is her favorite holiday — a time of renewal and celebration of the risen Lord.

Roxanne appreciates the balance that Caraton Commons gives her: the freedom to join in on activities when she chooses and the space for solitude when she needs it.

Her advice to others is simple and wise: **Get up and dance. Eat plenty of ice cream. And pray every day.**

Back from Beyond



Anyone who has owned a pet is familiar with the feelings of loss once that pet has passed on. World Animal Remembrance Month, celebrated in September, has been

designated to remember all the good times with our companion animals.

When Dolly the sheep won worldwide renown in 1996 as the first cloned animal, few people may have considered the possibility of cloning a family pet. But for the hearty sum of approximately \$100,000, a clone of a beloved pet is exactly what families can get. Sooam Biotech uses DNA to clone companion, pet, and police dogs in its South Korean laboratory. But it's a buyer-beware business; just because your pet may look the same, there is no guarantee that it will have the same personality or temperament.

Others are using this fascinating science not to bring pets back from the dead but to resurrect extinct animals. Many animals have gone the way of the dodo—the great auk, the thylacine, the Carolina parakeet, the Atlas bear, and even the black rhinoceros are all now extinct.

Some scientists are working to bring extinct species back to life using advances in genetics and synthetic biology. While a real-life Jurassic Park is still fiction, researchers—like those at Harvard and Colossal Biosciences—have made headway in resurrecting species like the woolly mammoth by splicing its genes into those of its closest living relative, the Asian elephant. Recently, the successful cloning of dire wolf pups using recovered DNA marked a new milestone in this rapidly evolving field.

Though you won't see mammoths or dire wolves roaming around just yet, tools like CRISPR have made species revivalism more viable than ever. The debate has shifted from "Can we do it?" to "Should we?" What do you think are the consequences of reviving the ancient past?

Shining Star



Damian has been a valued member of the Caraton Commons team for just over a year. What he enjoys most about working at the facility is the strong, genuine relationships between the staff and residents, and how those connections make the days fly by.

Originally from Green Bay, Damian grew up with one brother, one sister, and currently shares his home with four cats. His journey into healthcare began in behavior units, simply to explore whether it was the right fit. It turns out, he enjoyed it more than he expected and healthcare has become a meaningful part of his life.

Outside of work, Damian enjoys staying active by going on walks, taking short or long vacations whenever he can, and one of his greatest joys is cooking for others. He has big dreams for the future — in ten years, he hopes to own and run his own food truck.

When asked what advice he'd give to his coworkers, Damian simply says:

"Keep up the great work."

Shire Delight



J. R. R. Tolkien is best known as the author of *The Hobbit*, *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy, and *The Silmarillion*. This set of books conjures the fantasy world of Middle-earth, a magical place inhabited by elves, dwarves, trolls, dragons, wizards, and, of course,

the peaceful and portly race of pint-sized people known as hobbits. *The Lord of the Rings*—with 150 million copies sold—is one of the best-selling English books of all time, with *The Hobbit* at an impressive 100 million. The legions of Tolkien fans worldwide now celebrate September 22 as Hobbit Day. After all, September 22 is the birthday of not just Bilbo Baggins, the hero of *The Hobbit*, but also of Frodo Baggins, Bilbo's nephew and hero of *The Lord of the Rings*.

As one day is not enough to honor Tolkien and his fiction, the entire week surrounding September 22 is now celebrated as Tolkien Week. After all, there is so much more to Tolkien's story than just hobbits; he created an entire universe complete with several languages and its own mythology.

The depth of the Tolkien obsession is perhaps best exemplified by the Tolkien Society—part fan club, part charity, and part literary society. In addition to publishing a journal of Tolkien scholarship and maintaining an extensive Tolkien archive, the society also hosts an annual event known as Oxonmoot. Each September Tolkien enthusiasts travel to Oxford, England, and attend a long-weekend's worth of seminars and art shows about all things Tolkien. This Tolkien-related gathering also includes a masquerade ball, where fans dress up as their favorite fantasy characters. For those unable to make the pilgrimage to Oxford, perhaps the best way to celebrate Tolkien Week is to read his novels, watch the film versions of the books, and complain about the many inaccuracies and liberties taken by the films' directors.

Fibbing for Fame

It's no lie; in New Harmony, Indiana, the third Saturday in September brings the Big Whopper Liar's Contest. These aren't little white lies but long, well-wrought yarns expertly crafted to bring tears of laughter to audience members' eyes. There was one story about a woman who discovered that her grandma's trick for the perfect piecrust involved pressing her false teeth into the dough. Then there's the hunting tale of the boy who had his great-granddad's rifle full of enough shot to take down a rattlesnake, a charging wild boar, an 11-point buck, and 13 turkeys sitting on a tree limb. The grand prize won't make you rich, but it may make you famous... at least in New Harmony.

Locals Only



Most cities love an influx of tourists. Tourists, after all, bring dollars. The more popular a city is, the more those dollars add up. So, it is very strange indeed

that September 16 is Stay Away from Seattle Day, a day when Seattleites request that everyone please refrain from visiting their wet Pacific Northwest city.

Seattle residents themselves offer myriad reasons to shun their city: exorbitant gas prices, never-ending rain, earthquakes, and a fleeting summer. Or is the real truth that Seattle is so wonderful that its residents want to keep it all for themselves? It is world-renowned for its coffee (thank you, Starbucks), doughnuts (thank you, Top Pot), and salmon (thank you, Mother Nature). Then there's the unparalleled natural beauty, great music scene, a cutting-edge technology industry, and hey, we even hear the whole rain thing has been exaggerated. (It's mainly a constant drizzle, not a downpour.) So, which is it, Emerald City? Are you awful or awesome? The only way to find out may be to visit sometime soon.

Beyond the Browser



Who could have known on September 4, 1998, that the strange term *google* would come to be used in hundreds of languages across the planet? Twenty-seven years after the company's September creation,

Google has become a part of our everyday lives. Google's internet search engine and email are its most well-known tools, but that technology is small potatoes compared to what Google hopes to achieve in the future.

Google began at Stanford University in California. Two PhD students, Larry Page and Sergey Brin, wanted a better way to search for information on the internet. Their mission statement was "to organize the world's information and make it universally accessible and useful." New Google projects hope to do that and so much more.



One Google innovation is the self-driving car, now commercialized through Waymo, an Alphabet company. Waymo vehicles—based on partnerships with Jaguar, Geely, and others—

have driven millions of miles autonomously. Experts argue that these vehicles may soon surpass human drivers in safety and efficiency, especially in controlled urban environments.

In the home, Google has expanded its smart tech through Nest, offering learning thermostats, security systems, and voice-activated controls. You can adjust your lights, start your coffee, or monitor your front door using just your phone or voice.

X, Alphabet's research division, continues to pursue ambitious projects, including drone delivery, wildfire detection, and sustainable energy solutions. Its goal remains the same: to tackle global problems with breakthrough technology that pushes the limits of what's possible.

September Birthdays

In astrology, those born between the 1st and 22nd of September are Virginal Virgos. Virgos are industrious, efficient, and pay close attention to details, which is why they tend to get the job done right on the first try. Those born between September 23rd and 30th balance the scales of Libra. Libras seek harmony and value fairness and justice. Although they'd rather avoid conflict, they are excellent team players who are tactful and polite at soothing those embroiled in argument.

Roxanne S. Sept. 13

Magdalena M. Sept. 8

Mikeala F. Sept. 13

Nicolas B. Sept. 19

Aaliyah G. Sept. 20

Doreen T. Sept. 23

Michaelynne P. Sept. 28

Point Taken

Grammarians rejoice! September 24 is Punctuation Day. If punctuation makes you feel as excited as an exclamation point, then get ready to express your enthusiasm over some rarely used punctuation marks, so obscure that they don't even appear on keyboards.



The *interrobang* looks like a question mark with an exclamation point cut through its heart, and it means "?!". The *exclamation comma* and *question comma* are versions of these marks with a comma below instead of a dot. Why? Because sometimes you want to express

excitement or ask a question in the middle of a sentence, not at the end. Three dots forming an upside-down triangle are known as the *because sign*. An *irony mark* looks like a backward question mark and means that the sentence should be read with irony... this sentence not included, of course.