



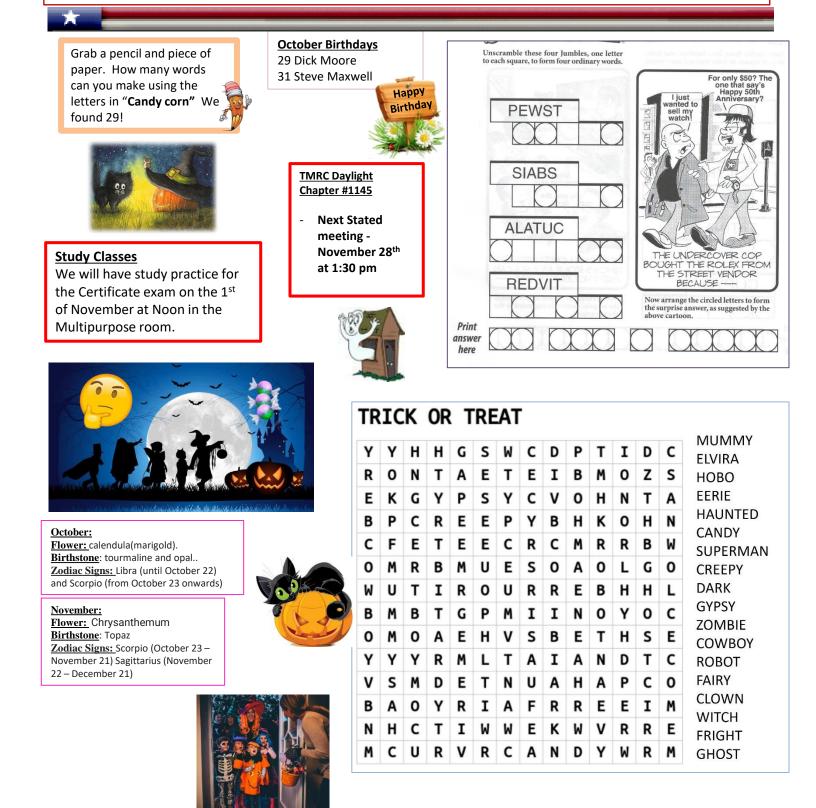
-===-



WM Barbara Spencer WP Joe Spencer

## OCTOBER 2022 WEEKLY READER #5

### - VOL.4 ISSUE. 43



#### What is Halloween?

"October 31st - Halloween - Halloween's origins can be traced back to the ancient Celtic festival known as Samhain, which was held on November 1st in contemporary calendars. It was believed that on that day, the souls of the dead returned to their homes, so people dressed in costumes and lit bonfires to ward off spirits.

Modern day trick-or-treating is a confluence of various traditions. Ancient Celts dressed up as evil spirits in order to confuse demons. In medieval England, "soulers" would go around begging rich folk for "soul cakes" on Halloween. Instead of threatening to play tricks, however, they'd pray for peoples' souls in return for the cake.

Throughout medieval Europe, mummering — dressing in disguises and visiting neighborhoods while dancing, playing music, and doing tricks was popular on major feast days. Irish and Scottish immigrants brought "souling" to the States in the 1800s. But modern-day trick-or-treating didn't catch on in the US until the 1920s.

The practice was controversial into the 1950s, though. Many adults raised "stern objections" to trick-or-treating over the decades, as it was often viewed as a form of extortion.

Jack-o'-lanterns - The Irish legend of Stingy Jack, a drunkard who bargains with Satan and loses. He is doomed to roam the Earth with only a hollowed turnip to light his way. endlessly wandering the Earth. He became known as "Jack of the Lantern", or jack o'lantern.

Jack-o'-lanterns carved from



pumpkins are a yearly Halloween

tradition that came to the United States with Irish immigrants.

The carving of vegetables has been a common practice in many parts of the world. It is believed that the custom of making jack-o'-lanterns at Hallowe'en time began in Ireland.

By those who made them, the lanterns were used to ward off evil spirits. For example, sometimes they were used by Halloween participants to frighten people, and often they were set on windowsills or doorsteps to keep harmful spirits out of one's home.

November 1st - The Day of the Dead is a holiday celebrated on the 1st and 2nd of November. It originated and is mostly observed in Mexico but also in other places, especially by people of Mexican heritage. Although associated with the Catholic celebrations of All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day, it has a much less solemn tone and is portrayed as a holiday of joyful celebration rather than mourning.







# A few more pictures



# Lou Carmichael Deputy Grand Matron District 3 Section 1





Mary Thomlinson was selling Raffle tickets for the nice Afghan we are offering made by Jean James