

NEWS

Halloween safety tips to avoid hospital trips

Moira K. McGhee
news@reidnewspapers.com

Halloween is Sunday and all of Miami's little ghouls, ghosts and goblins are ready to collect a mound of coveted candy. Although some cities in Oklahoma opted to have trick or treating on Saturday, Miami isn't among these cities. Trick or treating will take place on Oct. 31.

The Miami Regional Chamber of Commerce is hosting the Sweet Street Trail Downtown, which runs from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Trick or treaters may not begin hitting neighborhoods until this event ends, but those who don't attend may start sooner. Practicing basic Halloween safety tips will help protect your kids from harm while trick or treating or attending Halloween events.

According to Safe Kids Worldwide, children are

more than twice as likely to be hit and killed by a car on Halloween than any other day. Motorists can help prevent a heartbreaking tragedy by being prepared for more pedestrian traffic than usual and keeping a watchful eye out for excited children who often move in unexpected ways.

Motorists should slow down and be on high alert, especially in residential neighborhoods and especially after dark when it may be harder to see children darting into the road. Turn your headlights on earlier than usual. Keep distractions at a minimum by putting your phone down and turning the volume on your radio to a low setting or off.

Parents should ensure their children's costumes, shoes and masks fit properly to avoid tripping or blocking their vision. If the costume includes a sword, knife or pointy weapon of any kind,



choose soft, flexible versions to avoid accidental punctures. Ill-fitting costumes and the wrong accessories can cause all sorts of scary injuries.

Make sure costumes and/or treat bags/buckets are bright and reflective so children can be easily seen by drivers after dark. If the costume isn't made of a light or bright

color, add strips of reflective tape to increase their visibility. Using glow sticks and flashlights also make it easier for drivers to see pedestrians but never shine flashlights into motorists' eyes.

If sidewalks are available, use them. Otherwise, walk facing traffic and as far

MNR has a new home

For those of you who are looking for our office, the Miami News-Record has a temporary new home.

After more than 50 years of being at the corner of 1st Ave. and A Street NW, we are now located at 11 South Main — we've been

sharing office space with the Miami Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Miami Area Economic Development Authority since February.

Our phone number hasn't changed. It's still 918-542-5533.

Our office hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

away from cars as possible. Put cell phones down and always keep your eyes and ears open. Watch for cars backing out of driveways because drivers might not see someone walking behind them, especially shorter children. Never dart out into traffic from between parked cars.

If kids are old enough to trick or treat alone, have them go with a group of friends and stick to familiar, well-lit areas. Remind them to only visit homes with the porch light turned on and never go inside unless they know the person well.

Ongoing concerns with COVID-19 may mean taking extra precautions beyond the

standard Halloween safety tips. Such as, wearing a face mask and maintaining a safe distance between other people if you're attending indoor events.

Face masks may be worn beneath a costume mask but only if your child can still breathe okay. You can also incorporate a face mask into the costume design instead, so kids are only wearing one mask. Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer when water isn't available and be extra careful when attending crowded events, especially indoors.

On the plus side, scientists have determined that there's minimal risk of getting COVID-19 from candy wrappers, so no candy chutes or candy catapults required this year (Oh, darn!). Since candy wrappers aren't contagious, there's no need to quarantine your treats before you eat them (Yay!). However, parents should still double-check all treats to ensure they're properly sealed and appear safe to eat before letting kids attack that great big sack of candy.



HOUSE OF DAVID MINISTRIES

Join us on

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.
and Fridays at 7:45 p.m.

for Interdenominational Christian Fellowship,
Worship, Bible Teaching,
and Ministry for Adults and Children!

(918) 257-4190 • www.houseofdavid.com

22500 S. Hwy 125 • Fairland, OK 74343



23 N. Main St., Miami, OK 74354
918-542-2413 • goforthjewelry.com

Find us on

TRICK-OR-TREAT

HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY AND COSTUME CONTEST FASHION SHOW

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30TH, 12PM-3PM

12 PM: Trick-Or-Treat Around the Dealership, Games Door Prizes

1 PM: Costume Contest Registration (All ages welcome!)

1:30 PM: Costume Contest Fashion Show

2:30 PM: Winner Awards

***All participants who enter the Costume Contest Fashion Show and walk the Chevy Blue Carpet will be eligible for the Winner Awards!

PRIZES FOR EACH COSTUME CATEGORY:

- 0-6 YEARS
- 7-12 YEARS
- 13+ ADULTS
- COUPLE / FAMILY / GROUP COSTUMES

1ST PLACE: \$75

2ND PLACE: \$50

3RD PLACE: \$25

*Gift cards to Local Businesses in Celebration of Vinita 150 Fest!

BOB HART

CHEVROLET

WE MAKE IT EASY

495 S. 7TH ST. • Vinita, OK • 918-256-6462