



by Jan Yanez  
AgriLIFE EXTENSION Agent

**Halloween Safety**

Halloween Safety Halloween is a cherished tradition but the excitement of the night can cause children to forget to be careful.

There is no real "trick" to making Halloween a real treat for the entire family. The major dangers are not from witches or spirits but rather from falls and pedestrian/car crashes.

Many communities officially designate a "Beggars' Night" and assign specific hours for trick-or-treat activities.

Both children and adults need to think about safety on this annual day of make-believe.

**Motorists**

The National Safety Council urges motorists to be especially alert on Halloween.

- Watch for children darting out from between parked cars.

- Watch for children walking on roadways, medians and curbs.

- Enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully.

- At twilight and later in the evening, watch for children in dark clothing.

**Parents**

Before children start out on their "trick or treat" rounds, parents should:

- Make sure that an adult or an older responsible youth will be supervising the outing for children under age 12.

- Plan and discuss the route trick-or-treaters intend to follow. Know the names of older children's companions.

- Instruct your children to travel only in familiar areas and along an established route.

- Teach your children to stop only at houses or apartment buildings that are well-lit and never to enter a stranger's home.

- Establish a return time.
- Tell your youngsters not to eat any treat until they return home.

- Review all appropriate trick-or-treat safety precautions, including pedestrian/traffic safety rules.

- Pin a slip of paper with the child's name, address and phone number inside a pocket in case the youngster gets separated from the group.

**Costume**

- Design Only fire-retardant materials should be used for costumes.

- Costumes should be loose so warm clothes can be worn underneath.

- Costumes should not be so long that they are a tripping hazard. (Falls are the leading cause of unintentional injuries on

Halloween.)

- If children are allowed out after dark, outfits should be made with light colored materials. Strips of retroreflective tape should be used to make children visible.

- Face Design Masks can obstruct a child's vision. Use facial make-up instead.

- When buying special Halloween makeup, check for packages containing ingredients that are labeled "Made with U.S. Approved Color Additives," "Laboratory Tested," "Meets Federal Standards for Cosmetics," or "Non-Toxic." Follow manufacturer's instruction for application.

- If masks are worn, they should have nose and mouth openings and large eye holes.

**Accessories** Knives, swords and other accessories should be made from cardboard or flexible materials. Do not allow children to carry sharp objects.

- Bags or sacks carried by youngsters should be light-colored or trimmed with retro-reflective tape if children are allowed out after dark.

- Carrying flashlights will help children see better and be seen more clearly.

**On the way**

Children should understand and follow these rules:

- Do not enter homes or apartments without adult supervision.

- Walk, do not run, from house to house. Do not cross yards and lawns where unseen objects or the uneven terrain can present tripping hazards.

- Walk on sidewalks, not in the street.

- Walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic if there are no sidewalks.

**Treats** To ensure a safe trick-or-treat outing, parents are urged to:

- Give children an early meal before going out.

- Insist that treats be brought home for inspection before anything is eaten.

- Wash fruit and slice into small pieces.

- When in doubt, throw it out.



Photo by Tracy Allen

**Mountain Creek Golf Course Adult/Student Scramble!** The Adult/Student Scramble was held on Saturday, October 22, 2011, at the Mountain Creek Golf Course. A scramble is a style of tournament which begins with each team member hitting a shot from the same position. The players then determine who recorded the best shot and play proceeds from that position. This tabulates a collective score based on the most accurate shot of each lie of the ball. This format helps the student who might feel nervous about not playing well because it only takes one good shot to contribute. This year's scramble consisted of 10 teams. The teams were Ricky Ross and Meagan Ross, Tom Sawyer and Will Howard, Darin Clawson and Brady Clawson, Jimmy Skinner and Zack Skinner, Scotty Jackson and Josh Jackson, JD McClelland and Kelby Clawson, Randy Flanagan and Wade Allen, Robert Wink and James Roberts, Frank Jackson and Jake Jackson, and Shawn Cason and Bethany Coppedge. Trophies were given to the top 3 places in the First and Second Flight. First Flight winners were Ricky Ross and Meagan Ross-1st Place, Tom Sawyer and Will Howard- 2nd Place and Darin Clawson and Brady Clawson- 3rd Place. Second Flight winners were Scotty Jackson and Josh Jackson-1st Place, JD McClelland and Kelby Clawson-2nd Place, and Randy Flanagan and Wade Allen-3rd Place.

(Photo by Tracy Allen)

**... WCCHD minutes**  
(Continued from page 3)

The Board voted to update and implement changes to some of the policies in the employee handbook. Roger was authorized to purchase a new Wanderguard system to enhance the safety of the residents at the facility.

Accounts Receivable were discussed and Janie Munoz was commended for the excellent work she does in overseeing accounts. Janie, representing the City Council, also gave a report on the progress of the applications which have been made for funds to begin the pipeline between Bronte and Robert Lee. Thank you, Janie, for keeping us updated.

The Board discussed plans for the employee Christmas party, which will be held Dec.

13, at 2:00 pm, in the dining room. There will be more updates at next month's

meeting.

The financial statement was discussed and accepted, and the Board discussed future agenda items.

The calendar for November looks like another busy one. The facility will exchange Halloween decorations for Thanksgiving and harvest decor, and get ready to begin the holiday season. A huge THANK YOU goes to Mary Rodriguez and her harvest elves for doing an excellent job of decorating the facility for all the current happenings.

Some of the residents will be attending the program honoring our veterans, which will be held in the cafeteria at RLHS, at 10:30 am. The public is also invited to attend.

Those celebrating birthdays this month are Alice Beaty, Ginger Preston, and Coleman Nichols. The party in their honor will be held Nov. 15, at 3:30 PM in the facility dining room. Come by and wish each of them a wonderful day!

The monthly Sing-A-Long will be November 18 at 3:30. The residents love this time, and invite everyone to come by and share the joy! They also love the music Bro. Steve Peyton provides at 3:30 every Monday afternoon. Many thanks, Bro. Steve! The annual Thanksgiving Luncheon for the residents and their families will be held Nov. 20, at 12 noon. There will be turkey and dressing, and all the trimmings, plus a time of good fun and fellowship. Everyone at the facility would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and blessed Thanksgiving. The next Board meeting will be November 28, and the public is invited and encouraged to attend.

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