



For Immediate Release

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Mayor Aiello Announces Halloween Hours

October 27, 2021—Olean--Halloween in the City of Olean will be celebrated on Sunday, October 31, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Because Cattaraugus County is currently seeing an increase in cases of Covid-19, participation in Halloween trick or treating is a choice for both parents and residents to make given the risks inherent with the pandemic.

“Residents who plan to hand out treats should turn on their porch lights during those two hours and take the necessary precautions to stop the spread of Covid-19,” Mayor Aiello said. “In addition citizens who are driving should exercise extreme caution--many of Olean’s younger residents will be in costumes and will be crossing the streets.”

“In addition to traditional trick or treating, the City of Olean and the Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a candy drop on South Street by Lincoln Park on Halloween, Sunday, October 31, 2021 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.,” Mayor Aiello said. “This will give parents who are hesitant to trick-or-treat an alternative, and still allow their children to wear their costumes and receive treats.”

Mayor Aiello would like to remind residents that safety is important on Halloween. He added that since the COVID-19 virus is still spreading in our region, parents should be aware of the additional precautions issued to the Halloween advisory by the Academy of Pediatrics:

- Stick with outdoor trick-or-treating in small groups;
- Maintain a distance from others outside your household and avoid clusters at doorsteps;
- Wear a cloth face covering if attending an indoor trick-or-treat event;
- Wash hands frequently or use a hand sanitizer; and
- Treats should be checked by parent(s) or other trusted adults before eating them.

The American Academy of Pediatrics makes the following suggestions regarding trick-or-treating on an annual basis:

- A parent or responsible adult should always accompany young children on their neighborhood rounds.
- Obtain flashlights with fresh batteries for all children and their escorts.

- If your older children are going alone, plan and review the route that is acceptable to you. Agree on a specific time when they should return home.
- Only go to homes with a porch light on and never enter a home or car for a treat.
- Because pedestrian injuries are the most common injuries to children on Halloween, remind trick-or-treaters:
 - Stay in a group and communicate where they will be going.
 - Remember reflective tape for costumes and trick-or-treat bags.
 - Carry a cell phone for quick communication.
 - Remain on well-lit streets and always use the sidewalk.
 - If no sidewalk is available, walk at the far edge of the roadway facing traffic.
 - Never cut across yards or use alleys.
 - Only cross the street as a group in established crosswalks (as recognized by local custom). Never cross between parked cars or out driveways.
 - Don't assume the right of way. Motorists may have trouble seeing trick-or-treaters. Just because one car stops, doesn't mean others will!
 - Law enforcement authorities should be notified immediately of any suspicious or unlawful activity.

For more information and other suggestions regarding Halloween please see the website of the American Academy of Pediatrics: www.aap.org.

“We are hoping for a nice weather on Halloween and hope our residents have good time throughout the day,” Mayor Aiello added.

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