

Play it safe this Halloween

When my parents decided to immigrate to Canada I was all for it because the English do not celebrate Halloween.

This particular cultural event is purely for children...dressing up, staying up late and enough candy to last for six months! What's not to like from a kid's point of view? There are a few safety tips that parents and children need to keep in mind when Halloween approaches.

When choosing a costume it should be bright and reflective. You can buy reflective tape, and glow sticks at several stores in town to attach to dark costumes. Masks can obstruct a child's vision. Consider using makeup instead.

Children, and adults who accompany them, should have flashlights. Check the batteries before you leave home.

Parents should discuss appropriate behaviour, which is especially important if older children are going without an adult, or with a friend's parent. Staying with a group is a good idea. Smaller children should always be accompanied. Older children should let their parents know which route they will take, and what time they will be home.

Only go to homes with a porch light on. A dark house usually signals that the resident does not wish to participate in Halloween. Never go into a home to get a treat. Children should stay on lit streets and use the sidewalk when possi-

911/
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Const. Laurel Barnett

ble, or walk on the street facing traffic.

Parents should talk to their children about traffic. Let them know that not all drivers will see them in the dark.

Reinforce to children that they should not eat any candy until their parents have checked it over.

Have a safe and happy Halloween.

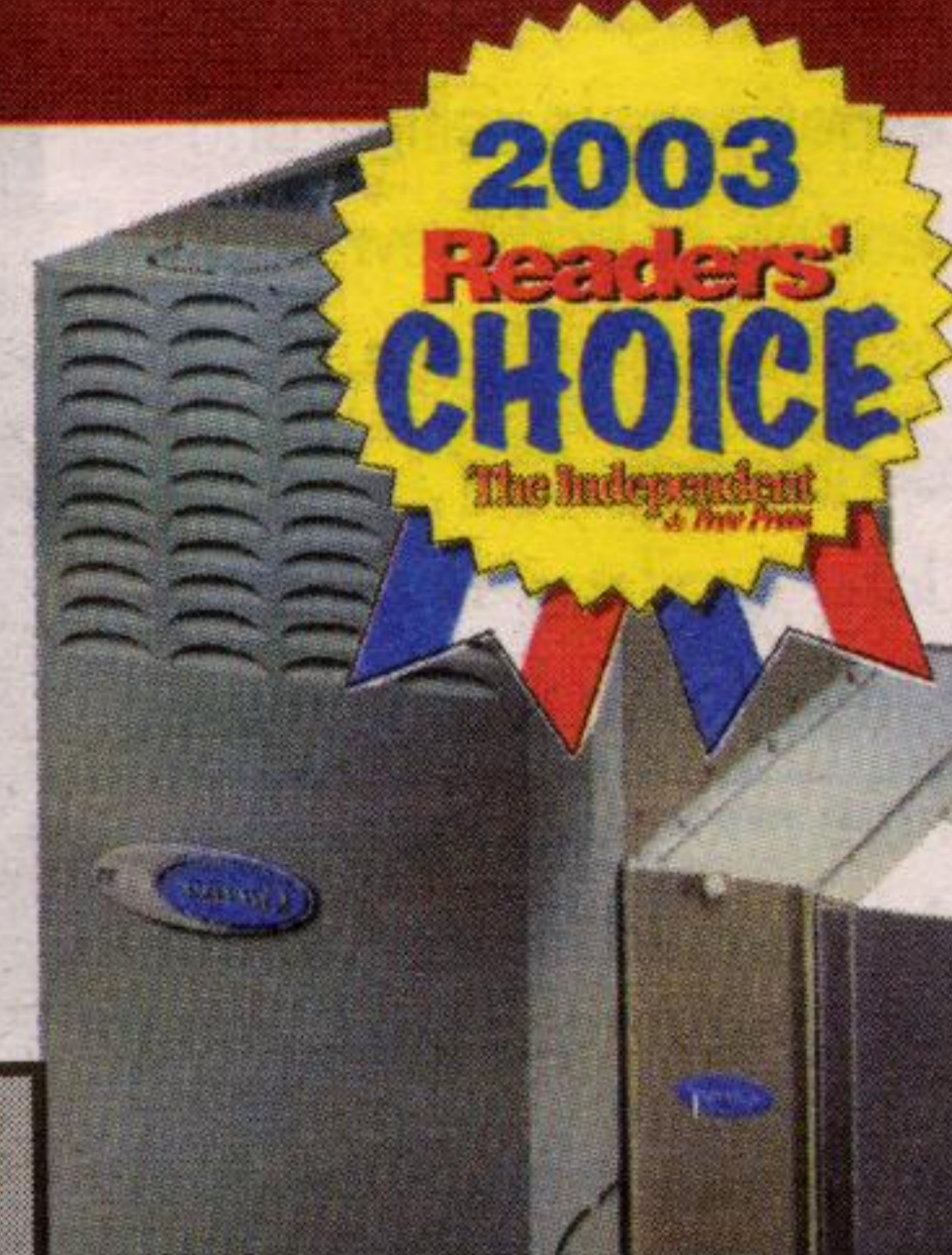
Just a quick reminder that there are a few tickets left for the October 16 seminar on Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder that Dr. Jill Pickett will be delivering at the John Elliot Theatre. Contact 905-877-2238 for more information.

If you have questions about this or any other police matters contact me at 905-878-5511 ext. 2120 or laurel.barnett@hrps.on.ca

—Const. Laurel Barnett is the
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A SELF-CHECK for your hearing

1. Do you sometimes feel that people are mumbling or not speaking clearly?
☐ YES ☐ NO
2. Do you find it difficult to follow conversation in a noisy restaurant or crowded room?
☐ YES ☐ NO
3. Do you get accused of hearing only when you want to?
☐ YES ☐ NO
4. Do you have difficulty understanding speech on the telephone?
☐ YES ☐ NO
5. Do you hear better with one ear than the other?
☐ YES ☐ NO
6. Do your family and friends complain about your hearing?
☐ YES ☐ NO

If you've answered "yes" to several of these questions may mean that you have a hearing problem and it strongly suggests that a hearing check is necessary.

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