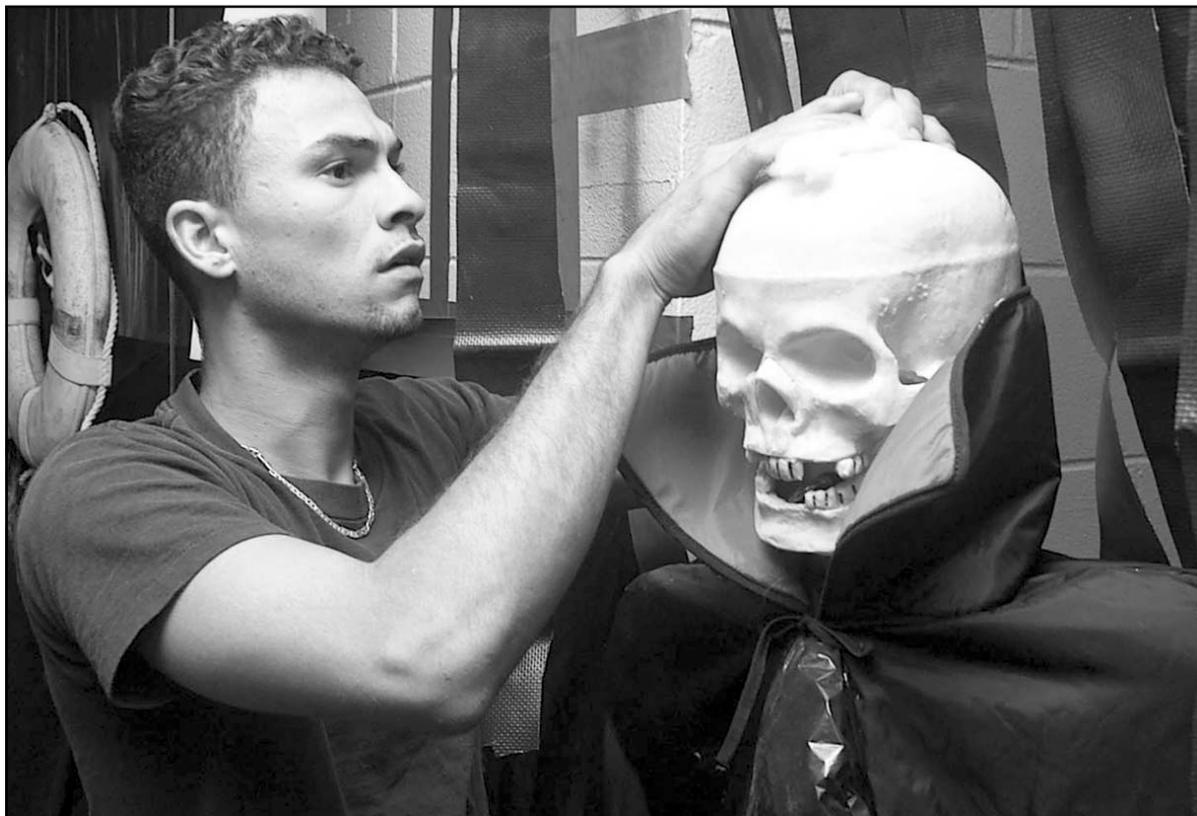


# Charleston prepares for a 'Boo'tiful Halloween



Senior Airman Corey Clements

## No bones about it

Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Marcus Freeman, 437<sup>th</sup> Component Repair Squadron, hangs a skull in the 437<sup>th</sup> Logisitcs Group haunted house Tuesday.

The haunted house is open tonight through Sunday, from 6-8 p.m. The house is located in Bldg. 356 and the cost is \$1.

## Halloween Safety Tips

For a Halloween that's scary but safe, follow these tips from the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the American Academy of Pediatrics.



**Pumpkin Carving:** Small children should never carve pumpkins. Instead, let children draw a face with markers; you can do the cutting for them. Under parent's supervision, children ages 5 to 10 can carve using pumpkin cutters equipped with safety bars.

■ Votive candles are safest for candlelit pumpkins. Lighted pumpkins should be placed on a sturdy table, away from curtains and other flammable objects, and should never be left unattended.

**Sweet Treats:** Remind children not to dip into their treats until an adult has carefully examined all candy for signs of tampering, including small pinholes in wrappers and torn or loose packages.

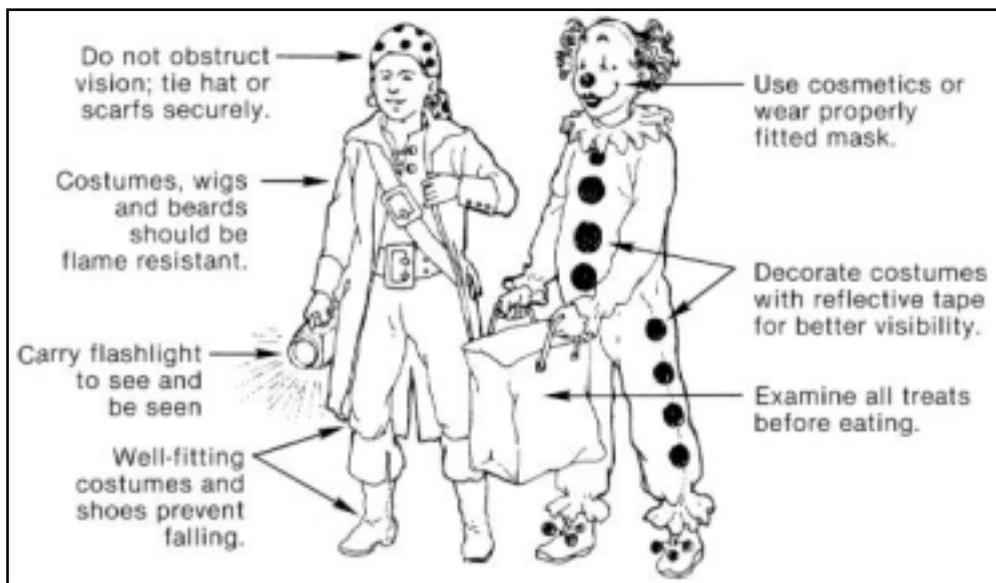
■ Parents of young children should get rid of choking hazards such as gum, peanuts, hard candies, or small toys.

**Home Safe Home:** Keep your home safe for visiting trick-or-treaters: remove garden hoses, toys, bikes, lawn decorations, or other objects that children could trip over.

■ Check outdoor lights and replace burned-out bulbs.

■ Sweep wet leaves away from sidewalks and steps.

Have a safe and happy Halloween! (Submitted by the 437 SFS)



## Operation Safewalk

Members of the 437<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron will be out and about throughout the housing areas Sunday from 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Volunteers are needed for Operation Safewalk, which is a program designed to provide a safe environment for children to Trick-or-Treat. Uniform for the event will be BDUs. Volunteers will be in groups of two or three (depending on how many people volunteer) and will walk around designated streets on base to ensure everyone has a safe Halloween. Volunteers can request which streets they would like to patrol (i.e. you have children you would like to Trick-or-Treat with).

For information or to volunteer, call Staff Sgt. Noah Coon at 963-2159.

## Dressing the part

Buy costumes, masks, and wigs that are labeled "flame resistant." Keep in mind that these items can still catch fire — make sure children are very cautious around jack-o-lanterns and other flames.

To further minimize fire risks, avoid outfits made with flimsy materials and those with big, baggy sleeves or billowing skirts.

Keep visibility in mind when buying or making costumes. Bright fabrics are best. Decorate costumes with reflective tape that will glow in the beam of a car's headlights.

Bags or sacks should also be light colored or decorated with reflective tape. There are even some bags, available in local stores, that have flashlights incorporated in them.

■ Costumes should be short enough so that children don't trip over them.

■ Children should wear well-fitting, sturdy shoes. Avoid oversized shoes and high heels.

■ Tie hats and scarves securely to prevent them from slipping over a child's eyes.

■ Apply a natural mask of nontoxic, hypoallergenic cosmetics rather than having a child wear a loose-fitting mask that might restrict breathing or obscure vision. If your child does wear a mask, make sure it fits securely and has eye-holes large enough to allow full vision.

■ Swords, knives, and similar costume accessories should be made of soft, flexible material.

■ Children should carry flashlights so they can easily see and be seen.



Senior Airman Michael Duhe

Tech. Sgt. Scott Bailey, 437<sup>th</sup> Operations Support Squadron, and his son, Adam, look at Halloween costumes at the Base Exchange.