Teal Pumpkin Project

The Teal Pumpkin Project aims to create a happy Halloween for children with allergies or other illnesses which make it impossible for them to safely eat the most common Halloween treats—candy. According to the Teal Pumpkin Project, 1 in every 13 children has a food allergy, which means they’re often excluded from the fun of trick-or-treating. The idea of this project is to provide non-food treat options as an alternative for these children.

It’s easy to participate in the Teal Pumpkin Project. If you have time, you can paint a pumpkin teal to show your support. The website also provides a free print-out to post on your door and a registry if you’d like to connect with other people in your neighborhood participating in the project. If you’re crunched for time, just consider picking up a bulk bag of non-food treats at a local party supply store while you’re already out buying a bulk bag of candy.

You can offer these non-food treats to each guest as an option, or simply ask if any children have would like something other than candy as an option. The Teal Pumpkin Project wants to remind people that latex allergies can be an issue, so try to pick some non-latex items. Also, many of the moldable clay toys (such as Play-doh) contain wheat, which is a major allergen for some children.

Halloween Safety Tips

It’s that spooky time of year again, and you can feel it in the air. Halloween is a fun time for all, because who doesn’t love a good friend-induced panic attack! But while there are many pretend dangers, there are a few real ones we should warn you about.

1. Get Lit: no seriously, wear a light or reflective clothing so drivers can see you!
2. Situation Report: Check your candy to ensure your fill is top-shelf...and hazard free
3. Bring Your Peace: Avoid using props that closely represent real weapons. Make sure it’s obvious that the only heat you’re packing is the hottest costume at UM.
4. Think Before You Drink: This one goes out to those that are going to party all night. Make sure you have an established designated driver to get you home safely – don’t forget Missoula now has Uber and Lyft! UM also provides the Gold Line which runs until 2 a.m. as well as Griz Walk to get you to your destination.
Who are the Neighborhood Ambassadors?

The Neighborhood Ambassador Program is a student-run organization dedicated to promoting the quality of life in the neighborhoods surrounding the University of Montana campus. Housed under the ASUM Off-Campus Renter Center, the program currently consist of eight students who serve as liaisons to both renters and homeowners in the University District. Ambassadors work in teams of two to help mediate conflicts and provide quality information to their assigned area’s inhabitants. With the guidance of the student Program Manager and the permanent staff of the ASUM Off-Campus Renter Center, the Neighborhood Ambassadors work to decrease identified neighborhood disturbances, increase neighborliness and overall communication between student renters and permanent residents, and educate students on their rights and responsibilities as renters.

Our program exists to help everyone thrive in their University District home, so please let us know if we can do anything to help make your time in the University District more successful!

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Winter is Coming

The city of Missoula has leaf collection days to keep the city clean, help save landfill space, and to further recycling efforts by helping turn leaves into compost at a local operation. In order to help out, please remember to rake your leaves into the street prior to the first day of your scheduled collection dates. Collection days begin at the start of November and cover the city area by area. Find the times, areas, and maps on the city website (http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/504/Leaf-Collection).

Winter is coming and plenty of snow along with it. Snow removal is a cooperative effort on both the side of the city and of local residents as well. Residents and property owners are responsible for clearing the sidewalk adjacent to their properties. City ordinance is that is should be done before 9am on weekdays and 12pm noon on weekends. Remember to play your part in keeping Missoula streets accessible and clear this winter, your neighbors thank you!

Follow us on Facebook (@UMNeighborhoodAmbassadors), Instagram, and Snapchat @asumneighbors
On October 7th, 2017, the Neighborhood Ambassadors teamed up with Trees for Missoula, Academic Enrichment and the City of Missoula to plant trees in Kiwanis Park. The trees were a mix of maple, ginko biloba and crab apple. They were starter trees from the wastewater treatment plant, where they were able to thrive in pea gravel and spread their roots. Trees for Missoula provided knowledgeable staff to demonstrate the proper techniques for digging safely and moving the baby trees into their new homes. Neighborhood Ambassadors are always looking out for their community’s best interest, and are eager to help out the local organizations that need it. To learn more about the benefits of having new trees planted in our city, visit www.treesformissoula.org.

Mayoral Elections!

Have you considered who should be Missoula’s mayor? Elections are this fall for a four year term and currently Missoula has two candidates to choose from: John Engen and Lisa Triepke. There is also a contested race for municipal judge and a number of city council seats. There is still some time left to get to know your candidates; the election is November 7, 2017. If you receive your ballot via mail, you should have received it by now. If not, you can vote between now and election day at the Missoula Fairgrounds. We encourage everyone to take the time to vote!

For more information, visit Missoula Votes at https://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/1112/Elections

Kim’s $5 Tomato Soup

Serves: 2

Ingredients
1 ½ Pounds Roma Tomatoes
1 Small White Onion
1 Can Chicken or Vegetable Broth
3 Tablespoons of Olive or Vegetable Oil
Salt and Pepper

Preparation
Preheat oven to 375 degrees
Slice tomatoes in half and place on baking sheet
Cut and quarter onion and place on baking sheet
Drizzle oil on tomatoes and onions
Salt and pepper to taste

Directions
Place baking sheet in 375 degree oven, cook until tomatoes and onions are soft
Remove from oven and let tomatoes and onions cool
Use a fine meshed strainer to strain tomatoes and onions
Place strained tomato mixture into medium sized pot and cook on medium heat
Cook strained tomatoes for 10 minutes and add 8 ounces of chicken or vegetable broth
Simmer for 10 minutes
Serve with grilled cheese or a slice of garlic bread.