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WARD 1

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Halloween Coloring Contest

Page 6

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PICK THE PIGSKIN

INSIDE

Page 3:
Brandon Area Briefs
Ask The Motor Medics
Page 5:
Crossword & Soduku
Pick The Pigskin
Page 6:
Halloween Coloring Contest

Rudy's Tex Mex AT THE VFW
FROM 5-9 PM ON THE 1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAYS OF THIS MONTH

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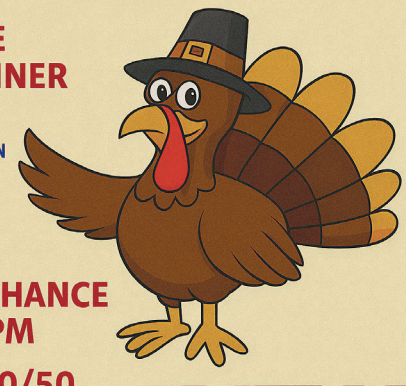
1	212 PULLED PORK PULLED PORK, BBQ SAUCE, HOUSE SLAW ON A TOASTED BUN	$12
2	SMOKED PULLED CHICKEN CHICKEN, BBQ SAUCE, LETTUCE, AND TOMATO ON A TOASTED BUN	$12
3	CHICKEN SALAD SANDWICH CHICKEN SALAD, LETTUCE, TOMATO ON A TOASTED BUN	$12
4	SOUTHWEST BRISKET WRAP SMOKED BRISKET, CHEDDAR, BLACK BEANS, CORN, PICO, TORTILLA STRIPS, LETTUCE, SOUTHWEST RANCH	$12
5	SWEET CHILI CHICKEN CUPS SMOKED CHICKEN, VEGGIES, AND A SWEET CHILI DRIZZLE IN A LETTUCE CUP	$12
6	PULLED PORK QUESO WRAP PULLED PORK, WARM QUESO, PICO, JALAPENOS, BBQ, TORTILLA STRIPS, LETTUCE	$12
7	SMOKED SAUSAGE & PEPPER SANDWICH JALAPENO SAUSAGE, SAUTEED PEPPERS AND ONIONS, CHEDDAR CHEESE, CHOICE OF BBQ OR GOLD ON A HOAGIE ROLL	$12
8	SMOKEHOUSE CHICKEN POWER BOWL SMOKED CHICKEN, QUINOA, VEGGIES, PICO, SOUTHWEST RANCH, SWEET CHILI DRIZZLE	$12
9	LOADED CHICKEN BOWL SMOKED CHICKEN, CORN, CHEDDAR, AND GRAVY A TOP OF MASHED POTATOES, & ROLL	$12
10	BEEF TIPS AND GRAVY TENDER BEEF TIPS IN A MUSHROOM AND ONION GRAVY OVER TOP OF MASHED POTATOES WITH A ROLL	$12

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2026
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How I plan to improve the Minnehaha County Auditor's Office

By Curt Deedrich

I launched my campaign for Minnehaha County auditor in January. Through many conversations with stakeholders at the county level I have gathered an understanding of what is currently working and what needs attention. I will provide my thoughts and comments below in three key areas: **elections, auditing, and staffing**.

ELECTIONS:
What is working: our current election process is secure.
What needs attention: more vote counting machines and more space for election counting.

In the 2010 Fall General Election there were 105,791 registered voters with 65,973 actual voters or 62.36% turnout. In the 2024 Fall General Election there were 136,817 registered voters with 95,648 actual voters or 69.9% turnout. There were 4 vote counting machines in BOTH elections, even though the actual voters increased by 44%.

I feel the county needs 2 if not 3 more counting machines. I discovered the main problem with adding vote counting machines is the lack of space within the current auditor's office. A new building is proposed to be built but that is years away. I suggest the county finds larger facilities to accommodate the election counting process which includes space for up to 3 more counting machines and for a full complement of the needed resolution board members who rule on ballots that were rejected by the counting machines.

AUDITING:
What is working: our county has consistently met all financial reporting deadlines.
What needs attention: improved delivery of useful accounting data.

The county utilizes enterprise-wide software which connects all departments. This software is from Tyler Technologies and is called Munis. Tyler Technologies Munis is for public sector finance — fund accounting, budget controls, and compliance reporting software, but its expense reporting capabilities are limited. I will work with the auditor's staff and with all other county departments to develop a top-notch reporting segment. This may involve using a third-party reporting software company.

STAFFING:
What is working: the elections staff (eventually) completes all important tasks.
What needs attention: shortening the time needed to complete ballot counting so that accurate results are released sooner, in line with other similar-sized counties and communities.

In the 2010 Fall General Election there were 9 full-time employees in the auditor's office. In the 2024 Fall General Election there were 10 full-time employees in the auditor's office.

There has been 1 full-time employee added in 14 years, even though the actual voting count increased by 44%. Adding 1 employee in 14 years equates with an 11% increase in staffing over those years. I will work to add staffing in the auditor's office so that the public can receive timely delivery of election totals. There may also need to be staff added to improve the auditing functions as they relate to better reporting and categorizing expenses.

My campaign is about restoring confidence, respecting every voter, making government easier to understand, building an office where transparency is expected, accountability is embraced, and every decision is guided by fairness and the law. If I have the privilege of serving as County Auditor, you can expect an organized office, clear communication, transparent elections, professional leadership, respectful customer service, fiscal responsibility and an unwavering commitment to earning and keeping your trust.

I would be honored to have your vote for Minnehaha County Auditor this fall.

Paid for by Friends of Curt Deedrich

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SOLUTIONS

Puzzle Solution Sudoku

6	7	4	3	9	1	2	5	8
8	9	2	5	7	6	1	3	4
1	5	3	8	2	4	6	9	7
7	8	9	1	5	3	4	2	6
3	6	1	9	4	2	8	7	5
2	4	5	6	8	7	9	1	3
5	3	6	2	1	8	7	4	9
9	2	7	4	6	5	3	8	1
4	1	8	7	3	9	5	6	2

Puzzle Solution © OnlineCrosswords.net

N	E	W	S	■	C	H	A	P	■	M	D	S	E	
B	A	H	N	■	R	U	S	E	■	I	C	E	U	P
A	R	I	A	■	O	L	E	O	■	N	I	T	R	O
■	■	T	R	A	C	K	A	N	D	F	I	E	L	D
S	P	E	E	C	H	■	■	S	R	O	■	R	Y	E
T	A	W	■	T	E	N	S	■	A	C	E	■	■	■
U	T	A	H	■	T	A	I	L	G	U	N	N	E	R
F	I	L	E	T	■	P	T	A	■	S	T	A	R	E
F	O	L	L	O	W	S	U	I	T	■	R	U	N	E
■	■	■	M	P	H	■	P	R	A	M	■	G	I	L
A	S	H	■	D	E	A	■	■	C	A	S	H	E	S
S	H	A	D	O	W	C	A	B	I	N	E	T	■	■
T	Y	I	N	G	■	R	I	O	T	■	R	I	P	S
A	L	F	A	S	■	I	D	O	L	■	V	E	T	O
R	Y	A	S	■	■	D	E	N	Y	■	E	R	S	T

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LEAF *DROP-OFF* NOTICE
The City of Brandon is sponsoring its
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DAYS ON
Saturday, October 17th | **Saturday, October 31st** | **Saturday, November 14th**
Bring your bags and cans of leaves and leaf mulch to the **MCHARDY PARK** parking lot between the hours of **8:00 am to 3:00 pm** and dump them into a garbage truck furnished by Marv's Sanitary Service.
Only leaves, mulch, pumpkins, veggies and garden items can be accepted. Leaves must be in cans or bags.
NO branches, NO loose leaves and NO tarps accepted.
Paid for by the City of Brandon

TREE TRIMMING NOTICE
The City of Brandon will begin TRIMMING TREES in the street right-of-way starting on/about **November 9, 2026.**
The area to be trimmed will be everything inside the red on the map. **West of Sioux Boulevard including Stone Ridge, Bluffs-Eagle Creek Areas.**
Trees located in the street right-of-way will be trimmed to a height of 10 feet over the sidewalk and 12 feet over the street.
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Brandon Area Briefs

Volunteers needed for Rake the Town event

Grab your rakes and gather your team! Rake the Town is set for Friday, Oct. 23, and the Brandon Valley Area Chamber of Commerce is seeking volunteers to help make this community event a success!

Volunteer as a business, organization, school group, family, friends, or individually to help rake yards for elderly and disabled residents in the Brandon community.

To register, visit https://members.brandonvalleychamber.com/events/details/rake-the-town-2026-23328.

For questions, call the BVACC at (605) 582-7400.

Trunk-n-Treat in Valley Springs this Sunday

Stop by Legion Community Park in Valley Springs from 4-5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25, for their Trunk-n-Treat event, which is hosted by the Valley Springs Community Club.

Walker to talk on role of civics, news in nation's history

As the U.S. celebrates its 250th anniversary, the Brandon Historical Society is hosting a presentation that looks at the role civics and the news played in the nation's history. That includes the separation of powers among the branches of government and that system of checks and balances; civic responsibilities; and how to find trusted sources of news and information. Carson Walker, CEO of *South Dakota News Watch*, will lead this interactive presentation at 6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25, at the Brandon Valley High School Commons, 301 S. Splitrock Blvd. The program is free and open to the public.

Dr. Larson is featured speaker at October On the Menu

Brandon Valley Superintendent Dr. Jarod Larson will be the featured speaker at the Tuesday, Oct. 27 On the Menu luncheon. The event, which is an endeavor of the Brandon Valley Area Chamber of Commerce, begins at 11:45 a.m. at Tailgator's Bar & Grill in Brandon.

Register online at brandonvalleychamber.com.

Pizza Battle is on

The Brandon Area Pizza Battle is on! Through the month of October, 10 Brandon Valley Area Chamber of Commerce member businesses are competing for the title in 2026. This year's participants and their entries are A Homestead Brew (Loaded Mashed Potato), Annie's (Smoky Flat Mac), Bottom's Up (Popper's Revenge), CHUDS Pub & Grill (The Peachy Porker), Double D Saloon (The Double D Sweet Heat), Red Rock Bar & Grill (The Aloha Chicken Pizza), Tailgator's Grill & Bar (Chicago Dog), The Gruff Plates + Pours (Harvest Heat), 212º The Boiling Point (Casie's Cherry Pit), and Pizza Ranch (Hot Honey Pepperoni).

BVHS Environmental Club hosting clothing/hygiene drive

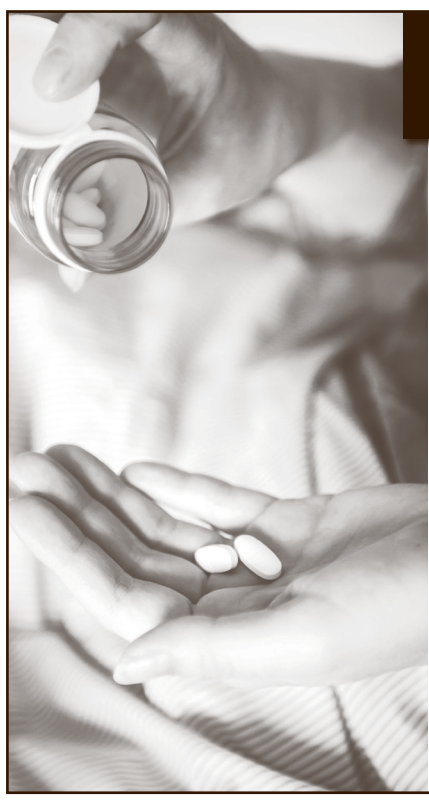
The Environmental Club at Brandon Valley High School is hosting a clothing/hygiene drive to help those in need now through Friday, Oct. 23. Students should bring new and gently-used clothing and unused hygiene products to the office or classrooms 120 or 250. Ideas for donations are coats, sweatshirts, shoes, hats, gloves, new socks, deodorant, toothpaste, floss, shampoo and conditioner.

Current needs at the Brandon Food Pantry

Current needs at the Brandon Food Pantry are microwave popcorn, taco seasoning, bottles of juice, Rice-a-Roni, jelly/jam, BBQ sauce, canned carrots, vegetable and vegetable beef soups, deodorant, shampoo (only) and laundry detergent (56 ounces).

To make appointments for pickups or donations, call 582-7001. The BAFP is open from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Used eye glasses and hearing aids for the Brandon Lions Club may be dropped off at the BAFP, at Jones Family Eye Care and Lewis in Brandon.


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Ask the Motor Medics®

Automotive Advice from The Under the Hood® Show

Dear Motor Medics,
I'm in the market for a car, a sporty car, a fast-sporty car. Yeah… that's what I'm looking for. I'm no mechanic but I'm mechanically inclined from listening to Under The Hood, before that I just drove. I seem to be getting a common denominator between all the models I look at, besides the high insurance cost and price tag. What I'm talking about is they all require premium fuel. I've never owned a car that needed premium fuel in any of the cars I've had but they were never this level of vehicle. Premium fuel is expensive; do I have to use it or is that just a gimmick or some deal the car guys made with the oil companies to make extra money? Thanks guys!

Trevor in Denver Colorado

Dear Trevor,
I like the way you think, about the type of car that is. A fast-sporty car sounds like fun but there are a few things you will need to sacrifice to own one, money, money, and money. What you're after will need more expensive insurance, more expensive upkeep, and more expensive payments. The upkeep part is very important if you want your investment to last. Premium fuel is needed due to the higher compression and if not used the mileage will suffer and the engine can be damaged by detonation that can destroy pistons. Sorry, they're not just trying to make the oil companies happy.

Take care, the Motor Medics

Dear Motor Medics,
Our 2014 Chevy Impala is giving me trouble. It's my daughter's car and yesterday when she left work at five, she couldn't get the key to turn on. She said it was like it was the wrong key, she has two keys and she tried both. We had the car towed and they ended up replacing the ignition switch with a brand-new part. I assume it was a quality part because we were at a dealership. Now two weeks later we are having the same issue with the key sticking but if you wiggle it just a little bit it will turn on. I took it back to the shop and they can't verify the sticking issue because it only fails every few days and then works fine for a while. Do you think the switch is bad again and why won't they just give me another one?

Martin in Nebraska City Nebraska

Dear Martin,
Yes you may have a repeat bad switch, but you could also have a bad part in the shifter or the ignition lock cylinder. They don't want to replace the switch again if it's not bad and you don't want to have to come back again when it still won't work. Work with them and get some options so you get it resolved. Next, get that other key off her ring. Using the wrong key in a GM lock can damage it so eliminate that possibility.

Take care, the Motor Medics

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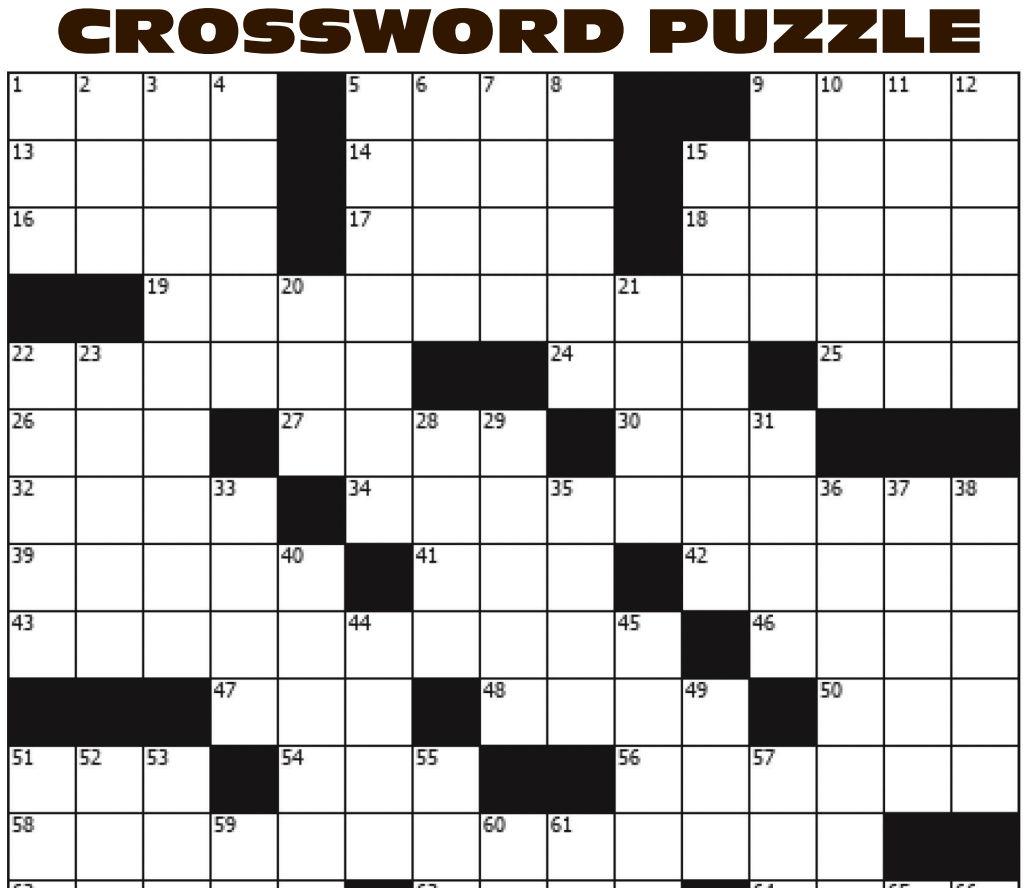
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Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. Digits cannot repeat withing the same row, column or box. **Solution on page 2**

			3	9	1			8
		2		7				
	5		8		4		9	
7	8			5			2	
3		1	9	4		8		
								3
	2							1
4				3				2

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Fresh information
5. Become overly dry, as lips
9. Dept. store stock
13. German road
14. Sly trick
15. Freeze, as a road
16. Sills solo
17. Bread spread
18. Unstable explosive
19. Pole-vaulting, relay races, etc.
22. Orator's delivery
24. Letters that make angels happy
25. Deli bread
26. Fancy marble
27. Perfect scores
30. Top fighter pilot
32. Six-sided state
34. B-29 crew member
39. __ mignon
41. Ed. group
42. Wide-eyed look
43. Do the same
46. Mystical letter
47. Cop's radar meas.
48. Sussex stroller
50. Actor Bellows
51. Volcanic residue
54. Dept. of Justice arm
56. Liquidates one's assets, with "in"
58. Advisory hopefuls, in British Parliament
62. Securing
63. Hilarious character
64. Fabric flaws
67. Italian racing cars, for short
68. Worshiped celeb
69. Kill a bill
70. Scandinavian rugs
71. Disavow
72. Formerly, old-style

Down

1. Michael Jordan's org.
2. Corn unit
3. Tire on the road
4. It's a trap
5. Stitch with a needle
6. Wrestler Hogan
7. On the Aegean
8. Lowly workers
9. Double DLI
10. Hinder
11. Ill-humored
12. Lyric poem
15. Sharp, to a shooter
20. Do something
21. Short, fast race
22. Belongings
23. Barbecue spot
28. Short sleeps
29. Partner of "take notice"
31. __'acte
33. Captain's post
35. Den
36. Less well-behaved
37. Bert's Muppet buddy
38. Fast dances
40. Leaders
44. "What a relief!"
45. Without words
49. Chess piece
51. "__ Is Born"
52. In a timid manner
53. Israeli seaport
55. Bitter
57. Tennis opening
59. Forensic IDs
60. Assistant
61. Godsend
65. Liq. measures
66. Drunkard

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PARTICIPATE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A GIFT CERTIFICATE TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING LOCAL BUSINESSES!

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

WEEK 5 WINNERS

1st Place:
Lori Van Ede (12-2, TB 10)

2nd Place:
Taylor Becker (11-3 TB 8)

TIEBREAKER! _____
Guess the cumulative score of game #14!

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(2) Packers vs Lions

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(12) USC vs Wisconsin

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(13) Indiana vs Michigan

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(14) Iowa vs Minnesota

1. The contest is open to anyone except employees the Brandon Valley Trader/Journal and their immediate families.
2. A $25 certificate will be given to the contestant picking the most games correct each week and a $10 certificate to the runner up. In case of a tie, the contestant closest to the total points scored for the tie-breaker game (Game #1) will be declared the winner.
3. A $50 certificate will be paid to one winner with all the correct picks. In case of a tie, the tie-breaker will determine the winner by the flip of a coin.
4. Decisions of the judges will be final and all entries become the property of the Brandon Valley Trader/Journal.
5. All entrants must use the official blank listed on this page. Your winning selections must coordinate with the game number located in each advertisement. Just circle the winning team, drop it off at our office by 5pm Friday or have your entry postmarked by Friday of the same week of the ad.
6. The 11-week contest is from Sept. 15 thru Nov. 24, 2026.
7. Any questions? Please call (605)582-9999

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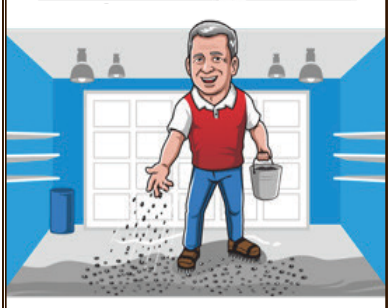
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Name: _____ Age: ____

Phone Number: _____

COLORING CONTEST RULES

- Bring your coloring page to **Whip's Paint & Body** at **1013 N 9th Ave, Brandon, SD**.
  Open ***M-Thu*** 8am-5:30pm, ***Fri*** 8am-5pm, ***Sat-Sun*** closed.
- Additional coloring pages available at **Whip's Paint & Body** or the ***Brandon Valley Journal*** offices.
- 3 winners will be chosen from the following age divisions:
  Ages 3-5 | Ages 6-8 | Ages 9-12
- Winners will be announced in the November 3/4 issue of the *Brandon Valley Trader* and the *Brandon Valley Journal*.
- Judges decisions are final, no purchase necessary.

Entries must Be sUBmitted By Fri, Oct. 30

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HALLOWEEN ACTIVITY MAT

MAZE: CAN YOU HELP THE CAT FIND THE FISHBONE?

BOO!

GIVE THIS PUMPKIN A SPOOKY FACE!

BOO
CANDY
WITCH
SPOOKY
MONSTER
ZOMBIE
MUMMY
SKULL

WORD SEARCH.

M	M	U	M	M	Y	T	S
Z	M	U	W	M	Y	M	P
Z	O	M	B	O	O	H	O
O	N	O	X	K	Y	N	O
M	S	K	U	L	L	I	K
B	T	E	C	P	V	Z	Y
I	E	S	C	A	N	D	Y
E	R	I	W	I	T	C	H

SPOT THE DIFFERENCES. (8)



How many bones can you find?

WORD SCRAMBLE.

(UNSCRAMBLE THE HALLOWEEN WORDS BELOW)

NYDCA _____
HWTCI _____
STGOH _____
DREPSI _____
UPINMKP _____

JOKE CORNER: WHAT'S A VAMPIRE'S FAVORITE FRUIT?

BLOOD ORANGE.

HALLOWEEN Safety Tips



Don't trick or treat alone. Go with a group.

Look carefully before crossing the street.

Use reflective tape or glow sticks so others can see you.

Don't go inside strangers' homes.

Let a grown up check your candy before you eat it.

Don't eat too much candy. Brush your teeth well.



HAPPY HALLOWEEN

