



## Local shop offers comics as Teal Pumpkin treat

By ERIC A. HOWALD  
*Of the Keizertimes*

Even before he heard about the Teal Pumpkin Project, Tony Grove, owner of Tony's Kingdom of Comics, would pass out comics to trick or treaters who visited his shop. Now, he's taken it to a whole other level with the help of comic publishers.

The Teal Pumpkin Project is a nationwide effort to provide alternatives to sweets at Halloween — and “treats” better than apples and toothbrushes.

Grove used to give away surplus comics from his stock, but comic publishers began printing mini-comics especially for Halloween giveaways. They are available at Grove's

shop, 3856 River Road N., in bundles of 25 comics for \$4.99.

“Every year I get calls starting the first of October from excited folks wanting to know if/when my ‘mini comics’ are in,” Grove said.

After stocking up on alternative treats, participants are encouraged to hang a teal flag, put out a teal pumpkin or post a sign letting visiting families know there are candy alternatives available at their homes.

There's even an online map, at [bit.ly/2g16vRN](http://bit.ly/2g16vRN), where trick or treaters can plan their routes.

“These comic packs work wonderfully into the Teal Pumpkin project, which was started to offer kids with allergies alternatives to candy treats,” Grove said.



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## Fun-loving digital dragon returns

Next month, a new video game featuring a purple dragon named Spyro hits the shelves. He might be new to you, but you should ask your parents if they remember him.

Spyro the Dragon was a first-of-its-kind gaming experience in the 1990s, and now the video game icon is making a comeback in a big way on Nov. 13 with the Spyro Reignited Trilogy. Now fans who fell in love with him two decades ago, as well as a whole new legion of fans, can get ready to soar in a wild, fully remastered gaming adventure.

### A NEW SPIN ON A CLASSIC CHARACTER

In Spyro's first appearance, fans were introduced to a happy, young purple dragon determined to free his fellow dragons imprisoned by his foe, Gnasty Gnorc.

Re-imagined from the ground up by developer Toys for Bob, the Spyro Reignited Trilogy collection includes the three games that started the phenomenon: Spyro the Dragon, Spyro 2 Ripto's Rage! and Spyro Year of the Dragon.

From the start, a lot of thought went into creating Spyro. Developers changed his color to purple so he wouldn't blend into the grassy background, and the color change helped give him



his defining look.

His glide is literally rocket science. To ensure Spyro had an authentic glide, the team hired a NASA rocket scientist who used his training in flight control to inspire the glide.

The fun and nostalgic gameplay that your parents remember is packed with more than 100+ levels, and remastered with breathtaking graphical updates and improved gameplay controls. This winter, old players and new can get acquainted with Spyro's gang of zany dragons and other goofballs including

Sparx the Dragonfly, Hunter, Sheila, Agent 9 and Sgt. Byrd.

“We're deeply passionate about staying true to the legacy of the original three Spyro games with the Spyro Reignited Trilogy,” said Paul Yan, co-studio head at Toys For Bob. “We've poured a lot of love into making the personalities and worlds feel just like fans remember them, while also keeping the game collection surprisingly fresh with lush, high-definition detail. We're bringing back the Spyro we all fell in love with 20 years ago.”  
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