

Thrift or treat

A guide to finding a Halloween costume on the North Coast

BY LINDA K. HOARD

I still remember winning my small town's annual Halloween costume contest. I was an orange pumpkin my mother had made out of chicken wire and large orange towels, with a green towel stem for my face to peek out.

Later years, I'd run to the local thrift stores to find Halloween costumes, or fun clothing items to make into costumes. Here on the North Coast, there are several thrift stores to choose from with plenty of Halloween inspiration.

Watch Me Grow

3599 Highway 101 N, Gearhart

The resale store, Watch Me Grow in Gearhart, offers a wealth of costumes for children newborn to kid size 14.

"We have had a very large selection of costumes come in, more than we ever had for everyone from puppies to adults," owner Tanya Houston said.

According to Houston, family themes are popular this year. Entire families come in wanting to dress as "The Incredibles" or the characters from "The Wizard of Oz."

One of Houston's favorite costumes this year is a giant snowman that may actually be comfortable to wear.

"We have a large Olaf from 'Frozen,' the kind you can wear a fan inside so you don't get too hot," Houston said. "It's super cool."

Last year Houston started a Trunk or Treat Drive-thru during the pandemic. She plans to repeat the event this year. "We'll have cars set up to give candy out to people in their cars," Houston said. "So, it's safe for kids who are immunocompromised. "Everyone decorates their own cars. We did it last year and it was a great hit."

The Trunk or Treat Drive-thru will take place Oct. 30 at Watch Me Grow's front parking area from 4 to 5:30 p.m.



A wide variety of children's costumes outside of Watch Me Grow in Gearhart.



A skeleton is dressed in a military outfit at Linda's Rag & Bone in Seaside.

Linda's Rag & Bone
1011 7th Avenue, Seaside

Linda's Rag & Bone in Seaside offers a variety of military surplus, vintage clothing and ball gowns. The shop has some kid-sized costumes available as well. "The military things are always pretty popular," owner Linda Isle-Martin said. "We do have quite a lot of military clothes

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Photos by Carolyn Hoard

Linda's Rag & Bone owner Linda Isle-Martin displays a skeleton outside her shop.



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