Humane Society of Elmore County News – 29 Oct '18 Rea Cord Executive Director

If you are looking for that special dog, come see us on Wednesday, 31 October (yes, Halloween), from 10 am until 5 pm to take advantage of our "Pumpkin Patch Dog Adoption Special!" What's that you say? When you find your approved doggy match in our shelter, we will have a board for you to pull off one 'pumpkin.' Under each pumpkin will be your chance for a possible no-cost adoption, 50% off our normal dog adoption fee, 25% off, a special surprise or a customized engraved pet ID tag. Just ask Snow White or one of our Seven SHELTER Dwarfs staff to assist you find just the right pet.

For those celebrating Halloween please be aware that candy & people in costumes have special risks for our pets. Candy may be tough on our waist lines but can sadly be deadly for our pets! Chocolate and the artificial sweetener Xylitol found in many candies can be toxic to pets not to mention the danger from swallowed candy wrappers & lollipop sticks! Please keep all candies safely out of reach of your pets and don't leave pets unattended with a big bowl of candy at the front door. Also please make sure your children are aware that their Halloween Candy should NOT be shared with pets. Perhaps make a special 'pet candy bowl' with small doggy or kitty treats that your children can safely share with them they have their own 'treats.'

Glow sticks & rings may help our children be seen better while out having fun but are something that should be kept safe from our pets. While the contents of most glow-sticks are non-toxic, they do have a very bitter taste so best to just keep glow sticks out of the reach of curious dogs and cats.

What about costumes? What you may think is cute might be quite stressful to your pet. If you do dress up your pet, make sure the costume doesn't constrict its movement, hearing or breathing. Never leave a pet wearing a costume unattended and also check to make sure there are no dangling pieces that your pet could get caught in or chew on. And if your pet seems distressed then please don't force your pet to stay in a costume.

If you are having a party, probably best to keep your pets in a separate room so they won't become scared or even protective when they see humans in odd and scary costumes. This will also help protect them from being fed inappropriate food, treats and candy by kind, but uninformed party guests.

Please also keep your pets in another room or part of the house if you are opening your door for trick-or-treaters! It would be easy for a pet to escape and we certainly don't want a pet to be freaked out by scores of children in all manner of costumes resulting in either a lost pet or, worse, a bite. And make sure pets and 'candle lit' Halloween decorations are not left alone to help prevent an accidental fire!

Only two weeks until <u>The Fire & Fur Festival</u>, starting Sat, 10 Nov at <u>Mad Tatter Tattoo</u> <u>Studio</u>, 10073 Holtville Rd, Deatsville, Alabama 36022! This is a 24-hour Tattoo event starting at 10 am on the 10th (through 10 am, Nov 11th) to not only hopefully set a state record for most tattoos in 24 hours but they are splitting the proceeds between the Slapout Fire Department & <u>Humane Society of Elmore County</u>. You will have a choice of three specific black ink tattoos (American Flag, Paw Print, Skull) for \$20 each. Going to be a lot more than just tattooing going on with food, entertainment and more so see you in Slapout in a couple of weeks!