

MOHAWK VALLEY WEEKEND

A look at some of Saturday's best events from across the region



Boo bash scares up good time for kids

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UTICA — On an average day, 15-month-old Savion Searcy has a seemingly routine schedule. But when you're dressed as Winnie the Pooh's boisterous, bouncing friend, Tigger, plans are bound to change.

Saturday was a full day of Halloween parties for Savion and his parents, Shauna Pendolf and Jason Searcy. The day began at the Children's Museum for the fourth annual Boo Bash, then they planned to trick-or-treat at Sangertown Square before attending a Halloween party at the Whitestown Vets Club.

"He's going straight through the day today," Pendolf said, "no nap involved."

"The Halloween parties are good for him because going door-to-door and trick-or-treating is really not age-appropriate," Searcy said, "and he can interact with other kids his age."

Children's Museum Executive Director Marlene Brown said Boo Bash is a favorite among parents with young children who want to celebrate the holiday while staying indoors.

"This gives kids the Halloween trick-or-treat experience in a safe place," Brown said. "Kids can interact with our exhibits at the same time."

From princesses and pirates to dinosaurs and doctors, children were dressed in all kinds of costumes, both frightening and fun.

Hiroki Ikuta, 5, of Albany was visiting the museum with his parents, Yoshi and Wakako. Though the Ikutas did not celebrate Halloween in their native Japan, Hiroki was enjoying trick-or-treating.

"If we knew about the special event, maybe Hiroki would have dressed up," Yoshi Ikuta said, "but this is all very wonderful."