



PRESS RELEASE

City of Los Alamitos
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Trunk Or Treat

The City of Los Alamitos Recreation and Community Services Department hosted the 13th annual MemorialCare Miller Children’s and Women’s Hospital Long Beach Trunk Or Treat event presented by Southland Credit Union at Little Cottonwood Park on Saturday, October 26, 2024. Additional sponsors for the event included the Willdan Group, Inc. as the Gold Sponsor, Grocery Outlet (Long Beach Wardlow) as a silver sponsor, and Wicorek Family Dentistry as a community Sponsor. The City of Los Alamitos Recreation and Community Services Department appreciates the support from these amazing partners in helping grow events for the community to enjoy at no cost. This year, the event featured food options, a train ride, bounce houses, carnival style games, trunks, vendors, a free pumpkin patch, stage competitions, and more.

From 5 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. the community was invited to enjoy an amazing display of a safe trick or treating experience. The evening event began with a strong early wave of participants as the last hour of remaining sunlight slowly began to disappear. After entering the main event area, a fun mix of trunks and vendor spaces lined the left and right side of the field. Over 40 businesses, residents, and organizations filled the space this year, each showcasing their creative décor bringing joy to families in Los Alamitos. Families were encouraged to bring bags as most booths were offering candy and other goodies. A couple fun themes included a “JAWS” inspired trunk and another inspired by “Electric Halloween.”

At the center of the event was a smaller enclosed area featuring the free pumpkin patch sponsored by Southland Credit Union. Six hundred pumpkins were thoughtfully laid out across the hay filled zone, offering a great pumpkin patch photo opportunity. Thanks to the generous partnership with Southland Credit Union and Grocery Outlet Long Beach Wardlow, guests were allowed to take one pumpkin home per household until supplies last for free. After picking out a pumpkin, families could visit the carnival game area

attached next to the pumpkin patch and play a variety of spooky themed games and win small prizes.

Trunk Or Treat also invited attendees to participate in a costume contest, including multiple age categories as well as a family and pet category. Each division had the opportunity to win a first, second, and third place prize consisting of toys and gift cards. In between awards, two adult pie eating contests were held inviting guests with the biggest appetite to step up to the stage and test their ability to eat delicious pumpkin pie as quickly as possible. To the right of the stage was the entrance to train ride which allowed families to take a short break from standing and enjoy the event from a different perspective.

For those adults looking to quench their thirst, the Los Alamitos Foundation Beverage Garden sat alongside the food area and featured refreshing adult drinks. The large television attached to the beverage garden trailer was also broadcasting sporting events for those looking for a short break. All the proceeds to the Los Alamitos Foundation go toward their mission of encouraging, supporting, and facilitating philanthropy and events to improve and enrich the lives of people in Los Alamitos.

In addition, inflatable bounce houses were also available for parents looking to squeeze every drop of energy out of their children. Although all these amazing activities can be fun for many, sometimes a few little ones need to take a break from all the excitement in a safe and controlled space. A Sensory Activity area was set up just outside the event entrance off to the side and allowed children to relax and have fun while staying involved with the event. Staff led individual craft activities and had a few items to help with the noise of the event.

As the day ended, participants slowly made their way to the exit after an evening filled with lasting community traditions and family memories. Not a single frown was in sight as participants held their bags full of candy and pumpkin in hand. With another successful Trunk or Treat event, the City of Los Alamitos Recreation and Community Service Department continues its mission to enhance the quality of life for residents and participants in a safe and fun environment. For a list of upcoming events, please visit cityoflosalamitos.org/recreation.

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