

Spook Houses Lurk Around Every Corner

By Liz Reardon

World-Herald Staff Writer

'Tis the haunting season and there are plenty of places to find a little frightening fun in the Omaha-Council Bluffs area. Here's a sampling of what lurks behind the doors of some of the Halloween haunted houses.

■ **The Stone Castle of Terror, 31st and F Streets:** Fright-seekers can tour two haunted houses at this location. One setting features an "Alien Tube Maze" and "Killer Semi." The other setting includes the "Ambulance of Death" and

the "Snake Pit." Proceeds will benefit volunteer programs at the Omaha Community Playhouse, a co-sponsor with KGOR FM 100.

The Castle of Terror will be open through Oct. 31. Hours: 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Sundays through Thursdays; 7 p.m. to midnight Fridays and Saturdays. Admission: \$4 per house.

■ **Trick or Treat on 10th Street, Western Heritage Museum:** The museum at 801 S. 10th St. will be transformed into a magical Halloween neighborhood with trick-or-treating, Halloween crafts and other activities for youngsters. Sponsors include the Omaha School of Gymnastics and The Omaha World-Herald.

The family event will be offered from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 26; noon to 5 p.m. Oct. 27; 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Oct. 29; and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 30 and 31. Admission: children, \$3; adults, \$2 (\$1 if in costume).

■ **Mystical Maze, 8000 S. 84th St., Wal-Mart parking lot:** This haunted house, which opens today, benefits the Papillion Recreation Organiza-

tion's Monarch Soccer Club.

Hours through Halloween: 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays through Thursdays; 7 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Admission: adults, \$4; children younger than 12, \$3.

■ **Haunted Hayrack Ride, Council Bluffs:** The Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation is sponsoring this event to benefit the development of the Wabash Trace Nature Trail. The hayrack will be pulled along the nature trail. Wieners and beverages will be available, and children will receive treats. Dates for the ride are Oct. 25 and 26. Hours: 5:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

The ride will start at the trail head, south of Lewis Central High School at the intersection of Highways 92 and 275 in Council Bluffs. Go south on Highway 275 to Pioneer Trail. Follow the signs to the nature trail. Admission: adults, \$3; children younger than 12, \$2.

■ **Haunted Barn, Papillion:** Take a "terrifying tour" through the haunted barn at Tara Hills Golf Course, just south of 84th Street and Giles Road.

Proceeds will benefit a dozen Papillion-LaVista High School clubs.

The barn will be open for haunting through Halloween. A special "Kiddie Day" is scheduled Oct. 27 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Regular hours are 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays through Thursdays and 7 p.m. to midnight Fridays and Saturdays. Admission: adults, \$3; children age 12 and younger, \$2.

■ **Mystery Manor, 716 N. 18th St.:** This haunted house is just north of the City Auditorium and is a benefit for the Special Olympics. The Mystery Manor opens at 7 p.m. daily through Halloween. Admission is \$5 per person, with coupons good for \$1 off admission available at Baker's Supermarkets.

■ **Halloween at the Zoo:** Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo will welcome little goblins to a Halloween Party from noon to 4 p.m. Oct. 27.

The Halloween party is free with zoo admission of \$5.50 for adults, \$4 for senior citizens and \$3 for children ages 5 through 12.