



# NEWS RELEASE

**Administrative Offices**

P.O. Box 2, 630 Route 217  
Mellenville, NY 12544  
Ph: 518-672-4451 Fax: 518-672-0187  
www.COARC.org

CONTACT: DONNA BARRETT  
Coordinator of Public Relations  
518-672-4451 ext. 3403  
donnab@coarc.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## NIGHT OF OPERATION PUMPKIN

**(Mellenville, NY)** COARC, Greenport Rescue Squad and the Hudson Department of Youth host the ninth annual Operation Pumpkin haunted house to ensure Columbia County youth have a really scary (but safe) Halloween. Doors are open from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, October 24 at Promenade Hill Center, 11 Warren Street in Hudson. This extremely popular event is totally free to the public again this year, a rare treat complete with tricks, courtesy of the three presenting organizations.

Operation Pumpkin provides eerie fun for families, including a haunted alley, Dracula's pub, a mad scientist's laboratory, the dungeon, a spiders' den and other breath-catching surprises. Young children can visit the Pumpkin Patch, a less scary stop for little ghosts and goblins in the party spirit that offers fun, friends and treats.

Children can also enter the costume contest to win great prizes for the cutest, funniest, scariest, prettiest and most original costumes. Judging of the costumes begins at 6:15 pm. Free popcorn, cookies, candy and cider are served during the ghastly gathering.

COARC is a Columbia County not-for-profit organization whose mission is expanding abilities, one person at a time, so individuals experiencing disabilities can achieve their individual goals. COARC provides an array of services and programs that benefit more than 500 individuals. Established in 1965, COARC is the Columbia County Chapter of NYSARC, Inc. It is primarily supported through state and federal funding, and also by individual and corporate members, donors and other foundations. Information about COARC employment, program services, donation opportunities and membership is available at [www.COARC.org](http://www.COARC.org) or 518-672-4451.

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