



15000 Arnold Drive P.O. Box 1493 Eldridge, CA 95431

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Halloween is Celebrated Early at Sonoma Developmental Center**

Eldridge California, - Sonoma Developmental Center (Sonoma) will hold its annual Halloween Parade on Thursday, October 29, 2009.

The parade, which is open to the public and suitable for all ages, has been a tradition at Sonoma for nearly 45 years. This year's parade route will begin near the Butler Pool and winds it's way through the residential areas before crossing Arnold Drive to finish near the judges' tent at the Harney Circle in front of the historical brick building.

The parade starts at 10:00 AM and will feature decorated floats and walking entries. Parade entry is open to all who live or work at the center and the residences generally enter as themed groups. With staff assistance, all the individuals living at Sonoma participate in the fun. The Sonoma Valley High School Marching Band has been a favorite entry in the past, and they've been invited back to march in this year's Halloween parade. All entries are judged in various categories and awards are given during the carnival later that day.

At 1 PM, Sonoma will hold its annual Halloween Carnival on the lawn outside the gymnasium, for those who reside at the center. The carnival features games, contests, refreshments, and a live band. The Halloween parade and carnival are the biggest and most popular events of the year at Sonoma.

Sonoma Developmental Center, located in the heart of California's wine country, provides an extensive array of high-quality, innovative services that promote the ongoing health. The Center promotes communication and collaboration with families, employees, community service providers, agencies, organizations, and other partners to innovatively develop, advance, and deploy eminent models of service distinction by fostering independence in health, housing, vocation, education, lifelong learning, intervention, recreation, and transportation.

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