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IN BRIEF

DANCE

France-Atlanta brings dance group

The France-Atlanta 2013 exchange program, kicking off this week, includes an intriguing arts component that has brought Toulouse, France, dance ensemble Association Manifeste here for a two-week residency/collaboration with CORE Performance Company.

Highlights include a free salon for a work-in-progress by the two groups 6:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at CORE's studios, 139 Sycamore St., Decatur; and a free Association Manifeste outdoor performance of "Point of View on the Street Corner," at 8:30 p.m. Saturday at Forsyth and Poplar streets in downtown Atlanta. The latter also is being presented as part of the Atlanta Office of Cultural Affairs' public art program Elevate Week 2013.

Information: www.france-atlanta.org, www.coredance.org, www.oaatlanta.com/programs/elevate.

HOWARD POUSNER

Today's number

\$1,000

Reward that Ball Ground police are offering for the arrest of whoever stole a scarecrow portraying Uncle Si Robertson from TV's "Duck Dynasty." The scarecrow, which features the popular character from the reality show wearing camouflage and sitting on a hay bale, went missing between Wednesday night and Thursday morning. Four moms of fourth-graders at Ball Ground Elementary School spent more than 40 hours

Affordable ways to e



Nedra Rhone
Atlanta Bargain Hunter

Halloween is just around the corner, and according to some experts, some of us are spooked by Halloween spending.

Fewer Americans are planning to celebrate Halloween this year than in 2012, according to the National Retail Federation's Halloween Spending Survey.

Those who do plan to cel-

brate are expected to spend less. Total spending on costumes, treats, parties and decor is expected to reach \$6.9 billion in 2013, compared to \$8 billion last year.

But having limited funds doesn't mean you have to limit your fun. Shift the focus away from pricey costumes and costly candy with these examples of alternate and affordable ways to celebrate All Hallows' Eve:

Head to a harvest festival: Many of these celebrations are designed for the entire family and can help you avoid the scarier aspects of Halloween. The Clyde Shepherd Nature Preserve Annual Harvest Festival, from 4 to 7 p.m. Satur-

day at Decatur
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HOLIDAYS

'Thanksgiving blends two

Celebrations both center on families.

Business offers fun products to mark unusual occurrence.

By Shelia M. Poole
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For links to the websites mentioned in this story, including the Thanksgiving Facebook page, go to MyAJC.com/living.

day of the Hebrew month of Kislev.

There's even a name coined for it - Thanksgivukkah.

"I think there's spirit of fun in looking at ways to bring

