

The Westend Weekly

Bringing Communities Together



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Serving the Rainy River District for over 23 years! Read us on line at www.westendweekly.ca. Check out the pictures on line. They are so good!

Candy, costumes and spooktakular displays



This couple at the Aurora took us back to the 'roaring 20's', a time of mobsters and flappers.



A scarecrow danced with his date, a character stepping out of a black and white movie.



The 'nerdy' staff at the Aurora Bar and Grill got into the fun!



Do you recognize the mad hatter? And, who is that masked man?



A Halloween party would not be complete without a few vampires in the house.



Ozzy Osbourne was seen stepping out with a gypsy girl...not sure if it was Sharon?



Who was the NBA player out partying with on Halloween?



Halloween is said to be the night when the dead roam the streets and the graveyards come alive.



Wilma and Fred Flintstone picked up a prize for 'cutest couple'.

By: Teresa Hazel

Whether you were at home giving out candy to all the little ghosts and goblins walking up to your door with their bags and pillowcases and pumpkins to collect treats, or you were running your children from stop to stop, making sure that all the friends and relatives got to see your kids in their costumes, Halloween is fun for everyone – young and old. Kids and kids at heart too!

Ok, it might be a bit stressful getting the kids' costumes put on and applying the makeup just right only to have the little

one rub his or her eye right after the application.

Or, not having enough time to get to every stop before the kids grow tired and maybe a bit whiny. Then, there's the candy...what to do with all that candy? How much can the kids have tonight? And, the guilt from eating 'just one more' treat and having a bit of a stomach ache the next morning. I won't even go into the sugar high...and crash that follows.

Whether you decided to dress up at home to scare the kids who came to your door or

make them laugh, or you decided to attend one of the Halloween parties being put on around the District, adults are very much a part of the Halloween scene.

The vibe at the Aurora Bar and Grill located in the Copper River Inn was fun as adults came dressed up as everything from Fred and Wilma Flintstone to the Mad Hatter to scarecrows, vampires, masked men, and the Robinson's from Duck Dynasty. 'Ozzy Osbourne' was there with a gypsy and couple of grim reapers. Of

course, a clown showed up and who doesn't love to see a guy dressed up as 'Woody' from Toy Story and dancing like him too as the live band played hits from Creedence Clearwater Rival.

I guess there's something about getting dressed up, whatever age that is. Being able to wear a mask is maybe when we can allow ourselves to be our most natural selves of all.

Roger and Christine Wickstrom got into the Halloween spirit with a spooktakular display of witches and skeletons and zombies decorating the woods in their front yard.

"It started with a few tombstones in our yard" explains Roger about how the display has grown over the years. "Then we moved it to the wooded area on our property and it took on a life of its own".

And that it has. The guided walk is complete with scary sounds, lights and displays. Some are funny and some are scary. Both kids and adults have come out to walk through the haunted forest.

"The kids are laughing and the parents are screaming", laughs Roger about the walk-through. "I love seeing the smiles and the people. It's a lot of fun", he adds.

Of course, at the end of the walk, there is a pile of treats for the guests.

"I came here a couple of years ago", said Yvonne McPherson from Fort Frances. "I like it



A wise old man!

when they do this. It's fun!"

"He's a kid at heart", says Christine about her husband's inspiration to create the display.

"It brings out the kid in me", chuckles Roger in agreement.

The 'Haunted Forest' started about five or six years ago.

"It was small but it has grown", explains Roger. "I wait for the sales after Halloween to get more stuff".

The display usually takes about three weeks to set up although had to be done much quicker this year due to other commitments.

"We did it in 8 days", explains Roger. "I couldn't have done it without my wife's help. She did a lot".

With cornstalks and signs, a beer parlour, a telephone booth, a witch's room, a spider room, lots of skeletons, and a mantle



Woody from Toy Story was cutting loose at the Aurora Bar and Grill

with haunted pictures, there is much to see.

Although I went during the day to snap my pictures, I wished I could've made it back to walk through the pathway in the dark. (Yes, I would be one of those screaming adults!!)

The Wickstroms had about 80 kids stop by on Halloween and had phone calls from people who wanted to come by the next night too, which they replied in the affirmative.

I told Roger that I can hardly wait for next year to see what he's added to the display.

"I've already got a few ideas for next year", promises Wickstrom with child-like enthusiasm.

More pictures on page Two

Photographers' showcase



New version of compliant fencing in Fort Frances will reduce costs and increase artistic building techniques.

Photo by Terry Parks, Fort Frances



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