on Lakeshire in Rossmoor!

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Check out the virtual tour and video at www.1902LakeshireDr.com.

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Page: D8 OUR HOMES 925-377-0977 Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2020

Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener Cynthia Brian

Nature's Halloween



Photos Cynthia Brian

Carve pumpkins and bake bread with ghoulish faces.

By Cynthia Brian

"Listen to them–the children of the night. What music they make!" ~ Bram Stoker

During this season, life is about the kids. This is a time of magic, wonder, and things that go bump in the night. Halloween has always been a favorite holiday for most children in the United States but this year, Halloween, the way it has been celebrated for decades, is canceled.

No random trick-or-treating, no gatherings, no haunted parties.

Since school has been online, kids yearn to get together to socialize with a bit of raucous fun – and candy. With COVID-19 isolation, this year's Halloween is going to be different ... very, very different.

For weeks families have been brainstorming innovative ideas to provide a safe, yet enjoyable experience for their children. Although most everyone has probably decided how to celebrate, I'd like to add a bit of nature to the mixture.

When I was raising my two

children. Halloween was always a major event, but not in the way that most kids participate. Every year our family would join with two other families to enjoy a full weekend of scary festivities in a circa 1900 Victorian in the middle of an isolated mountain forest that had been in the family of our friend for over 80 years. The drive to get to our destination was on a bumpy, winding, pot-holed road, with gnarled trees that jutted out of nowhere and deep canyons that could be perilous to the amateurish driver. The ride alone was frightening!

The house had no electricity (unless we used a generator) and the water was pumped from the creek. We always began our adventure with a hike to pick wildflowers and gather feathers, branches, colored leaves, and grasses to make decorations. Sometimes, we'd saddle the horses on the property to carry our bounty,

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