

By Christopher Burnett | Staff Writer

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## Families turn out for Halloweenie Roast

Post celebrates Halloween with annual Halloweenie Roast.

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Fort Leavenworth Frontier Heritage Communities and the Fort Leavenworth Fire Department co-hosted the annual Halloweenie Roast Oct. 31 outside the FLFHC Community Center. Community members were offered free hotdogs, chips, drinks and participated in a costume contest that included a pet category.

Fort Leavenworth Fire Chief Bill Maciorowski and Deputy Fire Chief Christian Howell served as volunteer grill masters for the event again this year.

“The weather is almost perfect and there is a good turn out among community members,” Maciorowski said. “It’s an extremely fun event for the community here. And, since trick-or-treating on post is from 6-8 p.m., this serves as a good prelude. Families are able to stop by here before they go trick-or-treating, have a light hotdog dinner, play games and spend some quality time interacting with their neighbors.”

Jennifer Thomas, operations manager at the FLFHC maintenance office, is in her ninth year working on staff for the Halloweenie Roast. She helped at the event by serving food and said she thought that the favorable weather conditions influenced the large turnout.

“It has literally been a non-stop stream of people here at the hotdog table since we started serving food,” Thomas said. “I would estimate that we have served at least 2,000 hotdogs so far.”

The Halloweenie Roast included entertainment by two balloon artists who twisted balloons into various shapes, including balloon animals. A “Kids’ Spooky Walk,” a candy corn toss, a haunted trailer and a fire truck were also among the key activities and attractions.

“The chief and I volunteer each year to cook the hotdogs for Halloweenie Roast,” Howell said. “It’s always a great experience working with the team at FLFHC. They recently supported our community cooking safety class and doing this is our way of supporting their event.”

Meghan Fowler, a relatively new member of the FLFHC staff, coordinated and planned the Halloweenie Roast this year.

“We have had a wonderful turnout among community members this year, and it seems like everyone is truly having a great time,” Fowler said. “It’s been nonstop action. There were lots of creative entries in the costume contest.”



PHOTO/ PRUDENCE SIEBERT, FORT LEAVENWORTH LAMP

Mom Crista Colvin, dressed as a doll, lifts 18-month-old Caille Colvin, dressed as Rapunzel, above the crowd for judges to see during the costume contest for children 3 years old and younger at the annual Halloweenie Roast Oct. 31 at the Fort Leavenworth Frontier Heritage Communities Community Center. Caille placed first in the costume contest, followed by an “astronaut” and a “boxer.” Photo by Prudence Siebert/Fort Leavenworth Lamp