

# Halloween excursion successful

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they had me pegged for what I was: an absolute idiot in a lumber store.

They pointed to a row of wood. Among all the wood - at \$46 a piece - I began to wonder about this \$3 piece of wood that was supposed to just leap out off the shelf and onto a cart. I wandered through the tiny aisles full of other lumber-seeking people. They all looked far more earnest about their wood. In a corner, I found what I wanted - double what I was told I'd have to pay. But what the heck, chalk it up to another elevating Halloween experience.

Problem was, it didn't fit. No way. The lumber store guy had warned me. But no, I blithely picked up that piece of wood and carried it out the door, without a care. I have a station wagon, you know, I said to him.

He just smiled back as if to say, okay lady, good luck. And that's why I was out there in the parking lot, my son immersed in a Calvin and Hobbes cartoon book, while I quite literally tried to bend the wood to fit the trunk. This is not exactly the best approach when it comes to wood.

That's when I realized how foolish I looked - a woman in a hat and scarf trying frantically to bend a piece of wood too large for a car. Imagine.

The mathematically challenged among us will sympathize I am sure. But I was determined. The smile never left my face. It was as though I did this every Sunday afternoon in parking lots in lumber yards everywhere.

"Surely this can't be too hard," I grunted as I continued to do what was clearly impossible - get this blasted thing into the car.

And then a nice man in a truck came

by. To watch this most entertaining spectacle.

"Oh, no, I'm just fine," I said, smiling through my gritted teeth. No way was I going to have to ask for help from either the nice man or my son, now watching keenly. "Just fine, just fine." I'm waving him on, thinking frantically: now what? Bungy cords? Rope? Duct tape?

He shouted from his truck that maybe I could try the side doors. I said thank you there's no need. By then, one of the four men in the line behind me joined the nice man by his truck. In five minutes, I'd have the whole lumber yard out there talking to me about quarter-inch maple sidings or something. Nice people, to be sure. But I'd go mad, I just knew it.

And then it dawned on me.

"Oh, you know what," I said as though I had planned this all along., "I'll just go get them to cut it for me."

The nice man nodded, as if he wondered just when I would get around to thinking about it. His only comment: "Most car manufacturers make sure you can get a 4 X 8 into the trunk."

What a kind man. I mean, you just don't get enough of these random acts of kindness do you? Anyway, the wood was cut and my job was done. I returned home, triumphant.

On Halloween night, all the goblins and ghosts and Star Wars freaks will have to make their way past where M.T. Head lies dead and where Dale Tate was hung by mistake, past the ghoulish graves sign, all the scattered glow in the dark bones and up to the flashing pumpkin lights window.

Completely tacky, I know. But what the heck; it's Halloween.

**20<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary  
Sidewalk Sale**

Tues. Oct. 12-  
Sun., Oct. 17

**Carnival  
Wed.-Sun.**

**"Leo the Lion"**  
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**"Squeaky the Clown"**  
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## CRIME STOPPERS

Call 825-TIPS  
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### Knife brandished in robbery

Police in Oakville are investigating a robbery that occurred on Sept. 16th. A clerk at Barney's Food and Video was sure surprised and frightened when confronted by robber.

The clerk was working at Barney's located at 143 Reynolds St. and at approximately 8:45 p.m., he was approached by a suspect described as male, white, five-foot eight-inches tall, weighing 150 pounds, and was wearing a ski mask and blue gloves.

The bandit held out an eight-inch hunting knife and demanded all the cash in the till. The robber threatened the clerk with death.

The suspect was last seen traveling sought on Reynolds St. toward Lakeshore Road.

The victim called police.

If you know who committed this robbery, Crime Stoppers wants your call.

If you have any information that leads to an arrest in this or any other case, you may be eligible for a cash reward. You need not give your name, and your information can be taken with complete anonymity. Crime Stoppers does not subscribe to Call Display. Call 1-800-222-TIPS or 825-TIPS (825-8477)

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