



Laura Bender and her friends will be scaring visitors at Top o'Trafalgar Orchard for the next two weekends — but for a good cause! Profits from their haunted hayride will go to charity.

Students offer haunted hayride

By CHRIS FELL

Special to The Independent/Free Press

Would you like to help raise money and donations to a food bank while getting scared to death?

If so then you should try the Horrifying Haunted Hayride. Laura Bender, a 17-year-old high school student, is putting on the Haunted Hayride on October 20, 21, 22, 28, 29 at Top o'Trafalgar Apple Orchard, owned by her parents. The orchard is located about five minutes north of Ballinafad.

"We've got about 65 students dressing up and scaring people while they ride on a hay wagon through our orchard. There'll be fake blood, witches, and people yelling," said Bender.

"Last year we had people dressed as evil monks and they came out and grabbed people off the wagon. The people that got grabbed knew about it, but everyone else was scared," said Bender.

The event is to raise money for Erin's EWAG food bank. It's \$5 for a ride, with \$1 off for every food donation, and \$4 for kids.

This year is the third time the Bender family has staged this event and it will be the second year Laura Bender has been in charge.

"It's me and a bunch of friends having fun and putting on a show. Plus it's for a good cause," said Bender. "Last year we raised over \$500 and we collected a lot of food," she said. "I've got friends from Erin High School and John F. Ross (in Guelph). Plus my younger brother has his friends coming and my cousins. The ages of the volunteer's are about 6-19."



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