October 2026

The Unexpected



My town, as well as the surrounding communities, have two nights of trick-or-treating. I think the original intent was that the first night was for the little kids and the second night for everyone, but who is going to turn away a cute zombie because they're not young enough? So, two nights of dress up fun and double the candy. Sweet.

Last night was the perfect spooky setting to sit by the fire in the driveway and welcome the little ghouls. The pure essence of Halloween is to embrace the unexpected, and costumes ranged from elaborate, like the Lorax (love that book!) who could barely speak through her mustache, to the cape-wearing teens who tripped twice trying to race through the grass in the dark. Last year when I asked one trick-or-treater if they'd gotten any surprises, he said that he'd gotten a potato from a house down the street. He was so happy! The joy of the unexpected. We FaceTimed two of our grandchildren, and our kindergartener got an unexpected treat at her school Halloween party – a little blue narwhal skeleton. I marveled, "where do you even find one of those?" To which she answered, "North America." 😊

We had no tricks from last night – no smashed pumpkins or TPed trees – but there's still one more night of the unexpected.

Boo!
Gail

FINDING BRAVO: THE GREATEST RESCUE IN AIR FORCE HISTORY, is **now available at** Bookpress Publishing - Gail Bradburn. *A huge shoutout to illustrator Michelle Rouch, who has created fantastic watercolor pages that will make you feel the humidity of the Vietnamese jungle and hear the thump of the helicopters.*