

(From Page 10)

The 33-year-old has studied the stories of Goblin Markets and feels he has created a close replica, including having a large scale on hand to "assign value when there is a dispute" and a goblin jail "for people who break the rules or get captured."

If you get thrown in jail, don't worry, Ladensack assured there will be "quite a bit of rock candy to go around."

And he should know, for Ladensack will portray the Goblin Market's ringleader — Market Master Mastor Castor.

The El Mirage resident has attended various faerie festivals around the country, and Goodyear's Goblin Market "is the only one to my knowledge," he said. "Various festivals will have an odd vendor or two, but never to my knowledge have these events had a whole section of their festival devoted to it."

And just what can humans expect to receive from a faerie or goblin?

"Lots and lots of art, both drawn and sculptural," Ladensack said. As well as elf-sized trees (bonsai), jewelry, things made from salvaged goods and gourd art.

The Market Master Mastor Castor hopes to see a lot of families visit the Goblin Market, though he offers this warning.

"Children might want to be careful," he said. "Faeries like to capture kids and get them to do work for them."

IF YOU GO:

WHAT: Phoenix Faerie Festival

WHEN: 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturday

WHERE: Estrella Mountain Regional Park, 14805 W. Vineyard Ave., Goodyear

COST: \$10 (Cash only); children 5 and younger admitted free

PARKING: County parks charge \$6 per car load

INFO: western-gatesfaerie.com



Submitted photo

MOON MERMAID talks to a visitor at the 2008 Phoenix Faerie Festival in Goodyear. Moon Mermaid and the festival will return to Goodyear this Saturday.

However, she doesn't expect to be doing much but working the event she partially funds on her own.

"You create the fun for other people," Wakefield said. "I do get to go in costume, but I'm usually running from one end of the field to the other."

Wakefield, who lives in Phoenix, began the Phoenix Faerie Festival to "fill the void" in the area.

One way she raises money for the annual event is by face-painting at other festivals.

"I get to have fun at other people's events," she said.

The Phoenix Faerie Festival promises fun for humans and faeries alike, Ladensack said.

"There will be lots of interpretations of faeries in the Goblin Market," he said. "Faeries didn't just disappear but are hiding amongst us."

Rich Ott can be reached by e-mail at rott@westvalleyview.com.

Under the moonlight

The event itself will "capture" everyone around 7 p.m., as the gates close, thus allowing no more admittance.

"For those who want to leave to rest or freshen up, we just ask that they are back by 7 p.m.," Wakefield said.

The nighttime activities will feature several bands as well as a bad faerie masquerade ball.

One reason Wakefield closes the gates at 7 is to allow "people who have been working [the festival] all day to enjoy the evening shows," she said.



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