

Haunted places in Jones County

By: Denver Taylor
Staff Writer

What will you do on Halloween night? Will you go see a scary movie, or go to a costume party with your family and friends?

Both of these are good ways to spend this spooky holiday, but maybe you are tired of the same old Halloween rituals and traditions.

Maybe you are in the mood for something spookier, and more horrific. Basically you want a truly frightening experience where you will be scared out of your mind.

Here are some truly frightening places in Jones County

that will give you goose bumps from head to toe.

Deason Home

The story behind this haunted place dates back all the way to the Civil War. During the Civil War, the Confederacy sent local native Major Amos McLemore to re-enlist several men who had left the army.

While McLemore was in Ellisville he set up his headquarters in the home of Amos Deason a Confederate sympathizer.

Some of the men McLemore recruited had joined up with Newt Knight, a renegade who pillaged

throughout the area. Knight wasn't happy about McLemore's recruiting efforts and decided that McLemore had to be killed.

So, on a rainy afternoon in September, Knight went to the Deason house which is located across the street from the present-day South Jones High School Campus.

He shot McLemore in the back of the head at point-blank range, killing him instantly. His blood seeped into the wooden floor, and no matter what amount of force was put into scrubbing the blood stain would never come out of the wood.

The floor finally had to be replaced and to this day on

damp rainy evenings it is said that the blood stain strangely appears back on the same spot where McLemore was killed.

Charity Hospital

From 1917-1989 this hospital served Laurel and all of Jones County with some surrounding counties. For its time the hospital was an elite facility. It had its own farm and supposedly had its own cemetery.

In 1989 when the hospital closed, the orderlies and doctors left behind needles, beds, hospital gowns, some surgical equipment, and a few reckless spirits!

The hospital supposedly

sat abandoned for 13 years after being shut down, but it seems a few of the patients forgot to check out. There have since been reports of voices being heard throughout the hallways, along with footsteps and loud bangs on the doors and walls.

I myself have had a ghostly encounter at the old hospital. My friends and I went to the hospital one night back when I was only a freshman in high school.

When we walked through the door we saw an old grand piano sitting in the front lobby with broken wires which meant there was no way that it could be in playing condition.

When we made our way to

the second floor we heard the piano playing perfectly in tune as if it was playing by itself!

Also on the second floor one of my friends was nearly beheaded when a window slammed shut right after he had been looking out of it!

After a fire in 2003, the hospital was demolished, yet the eerie feeling still lingers on.

On Halloween night you and some friends may decide to go for a drive. If for some chance you come upon an old farmhouse sitting on a high school campus, or venture down a dark city street and find the remains of an abandoned hospital, you may want to think twice before stopping.

Today's music lacks originality

By: Skylar Blackwell
Staff Writer

In 1896 the first telephone was invented by Alexander Bell. Charles Ginsburg invented the VCR in the 1950's. While all of these very handy items can be revised and improved, they cannot be re-invented.

They can only be added to. Maybe music is the same way. What if all the great icons of the past (The Beatles, Elvis,

Johnny Cash, Pink Floyd, The Doors, The Rolling Stones etc.) have hit the peak for this great big Earth?

Now some of you musicians might be reading this saying that the idea is crazy, but who do you all think of when writing new music? More than likely your answer will involve someone of the past.

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Cartoon characters, movie heroes inspire Halloween costumes

By: Jessica Lewis
Staff Writer

Every year JCJC has some type of Halloween celebration where students have the opportunity to dress up in costumes and act like children again.

From Treats in the Streets to the haunted houses, there are many activities occurring on this day. One of the most exciting aspects of Halloween is seeing all of the different costumes.

Though many of the traditional Halloween costumes, such as the witch or the princess, are still very popular today, people have begun to think deeper and develop much more original Halloween costumes.

For example, Rayce Stewart plans to dress up as Shaggy, the popular character from "Scooby Doo" and Randy Wright plans to be a Ninja Turtle.

It seems that the most popular Halloween costume this year is going to be a Spartan, from the movie "300". Also, this year many people have decided to dress up in pairs or groups.

One group of girls is going as the Spice Girls while another group plans to be the characters from the popular Harry Potter movies. With this wide array of costumes, Halloween should definitely bring on a lot of fun this year!

Michael Myers more human in remake

By: Derek Kopszywa
Staff Writer

I grew up on horror movies, as most teenagers have. So I went in with high hopes for Rob Zombie's latest outing in the horror genre, a remake of John Carpenter's ground breaking Halloween. Zombie went into this knowing he couldn't top it, so he just rewrote it to the way he always envisioned it, a more brave move than any other director has made in the series.

What he has done is expand the story of Michael's childhood, giving more humanity to him and making him almost a protagonist.

Young Michael is impeccably portrayed by Daeg Faerch, whose profile is eerily reminiscent of Jodie Fosters. We suffer as Michael does, watching him be tormented for wearing masks, having long hair, anything to cover up his face that he is made fun

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Meyer's vampire trilogy gives readers new way to enjoy scary holiday

By: Terrisha Buckley
Staff Writer

Relationships are very complicated. With things that plague almost every relationship, such as annoying habits, different lives and many other issues, there would be no reason to want to add any more strain onto a relationship like getting involved with a vampire.

To many people this is one thing that is on the list of DON'TS in starting a new relationship: Do not start a relationship with a supernatural creature, especially if there is a potential endangerment of one's life.

However, this is not a problem for Isabella Swan (better known as Bella) in Stephanie Meyer's hot new series.

Just released is the continuation of the popular novels "Twilight" and "New Moon". This is definitely the best one so far.

Stephanie Meyer is one of those writers that improves on greatness with each novel published.

"Twilight" started the audience off by introducing these two people Isabella Swan and Edward Cullen. They are from completely different worlds and time periods.

Edward was born in the early 1900s and Bella was born in the late 1900s. However, the major difference is that Edward is a gorgeous, intelligent vampire, and Bella is not almost a dream come true.

Even though Edward does not drink human blood, he does have a very strong craving for Bella's blood. Meyer

described it as a recovering alcoholic smelling a fine wine.

However, they do find a way to cope with this glitch.

The second novel "New Moon" provides a true test of their relationship. In this novel, Edward and Bella discovered how strong their love is for one another.

Their relationship was constantly tested with many different obstacles. However, certain circumstances made them realize that they could not live without each other.

The latest installment of this series, "Eclipse", presents all of the problems faced in a normal relationship and more. Now they have to worry about their survival and the survival of everyone they love.

It takes their relationship to an entirely different level. They have to face more internal conflict as well as external conflict. They have to face other supernatural creatures as well as their feelings for each other.

They must realize what they are willing to endure for each other. They must find out if their love will truly withstand the test of time for an eternity or if the conflicts will overpower their love for each other.

To many those that are fans of this fantastic series, the story is not over yet. Meyers leaves the door open to more possibilities that leaves a reader literally thirsting for the next installment.

There is no doubt that there is a next novel in process. There is also no doubt that anyone who enjoys Meyer's writing will develop an absolute addiction to her

captivating story of love and life and will crave to witness the continuance of this story.

This entire series is a winner, and the latest installment is the winner of four platinum stars. This book has truly earned its high ranking on the Bestseller list.

This book is definitely a must read. For everyone who enjoys a love story with a little twist to it, for all of the people who like to read books about mythical creatures, for anyone who might like a little bit of mystery or pretty much anything else, this is the book to buy.

This summer, "Eclipse" has been so popular that it even topped "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" on the best-seller list. This book is the continuation of the popular novels "Twilight" and "New Moon".

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Even though Edward does not drink

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Movies produce memorable maniacs

By: Lindsey Johnson
Staff Writer

Many people are fascinated with horror movies, especially around Halloween. The classics particularly stand out in our minds as we remember the legends of Jason Voorhees, Freddy Krueger, Michael Myers, and Leatherface.

Jason Voorhees was a drowning victim as a small child at Camp Crystal Lake. In the first movie, he is avenged by his mother who killed the counselors because she saw his death as their fault.

When she is murdered, ironically, Jason comes back to avenge her death. He takes control of the camp by protecting it from intruders. Jason dies and is resurrected at the end and beginning of each movie in the "Friday the 13th" movie series.

Recently, movie writers have resurrected Jason once again in the chilling cross-over movie "Freddy versus Jason" in which the two battle for power.

Freddy Krueger is a similar maniac when compared to Jason Voorhees. He has been known to kill for revenge, but mostly for the love of inflicting pain on others.

He accidentally discovered his love

of torturing children when he saw the look of fear on a young boy's face. Coined the "Springwood Slasher", Krueger was never convicted of these crimes but was burned to death by angry parents.

He was approached by dream demons before death and given the power to convert dreams to reality. He haunts children in their sleep.

In a way, all of these mass murderers kill because of traumatic experiences from childhood. Michael Myers is another good example. Six-year-old Michael Myers was traumatized by seeing his sister and her boyfriend having sexual relations.

He used a butcher knife from the kitchen to murder her while wearing his clown mask from trick-or-treating earlier that night.

Michael was institutionalized and 15 years later escaped with his sights set on his newest target, his little sister Laurie. For many years Laurie and Michael fight to kill one another, while he is constantly taking out fornicating teenagers.

Finally, after having faked her death, Laurie is killed for real. Michael is supposedly killed too, but everyone knows Michael Myers will never die.

Leatherface has been portrayed in

many different ways since the early seventies. He has three masks, his favorite being the pretty lady mask.

His weapon of choice is usually a chainsaw and his family, unlike other mass murderers, supports him because they do the same.

Leatherface's family practices cannibalism and he uses his victim's skin to cover the horrible deformities on his face.

Being one of the most gruesome murderers, he is not considered a favorite such as Jason, Michael or Freddy, but audiences can feel sorry for him, as he is portrayed as mentally retarded.

He is controlled by his family and always does just what they tell him. One more gruesome factor from this killer is that his family uses his killings to later make and sell chili and barbeque.

When analyzed by anyone who is a movie buff, most people can gather that movie writers are all similar when creating the bad guy, whether or not they are based on a real life person or a fictional character.

For normal people who just like scary movies to get a good thrill, we just remain hopeful that Jason Voorhees, Freddy Krueger, Michael Myers or Leatherface will never come after us.

'Superbad' movie offers new twist on old plot

By: Derek Kopszywa
Staff Writer

Years ago I was blown away by "The 40 Year-Old Virgin" and still am when I see the R-rated version. I was also taken aback with the awesomeness that was "Knocked Up" over the course of this summer.

Now, from the same production team, comes "Superbad".

It seems so every decade has a movie like this. The 1970s had "American Graffiti", the 80s had "Porky's", the 90s had "Dazed and Confused" (although it took place in the 70s) and now comes the new millennium.

This movie has a lot more in common with "Porky's" with the content but I'd say the format is quite similar to "Dazed and Confused".

So the plot goes, it's Seth, Evan and

Fogell's last chance to prove they are bonafide party animals and are capable of getting a girl in the sack, whether she's sober or not.

Sounds shallow right? Well there is another depth that added a great dramatic touch to the movie.

Seth and Evan have been friends for God knows how long and have always wanted to go to college together and be roomies.

Well, reality hits them and Seth is being accepted into a lower maintenance college while Evan and Fogell are being accepted into a higher class school. What Seth doesn't know is that they are rooming together as well.

Most of the movie has their friendship hanging by a thread and you half expect somebody to get hurt really badly or possibly shot. Of course there are jokes to make it easier to watch.

The movie flows with grace and consistency and even feels more like high school instead of a cheesy John Hughes movie.

Every actor's job in the movie is a different shade of exceptional, nobody else could have played any of these characters and made it as serious or funny when duty called.

I would have to say that what it lacks is the charm from the prior two movies mentioned and the out of control humor. The laughs are pretty spaced out depending on ones sense of humor, but on a broad stance it's a slightly off balance comedy.

That's not really a problem but it's definitely not quite as fun as you would expect. I do give them an honorable mention on the creativity they had on the off-color jokes, especially during the end credits. Overall I would give this a 4 out of 5.

