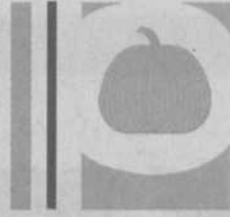
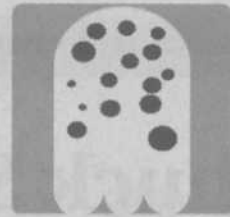




Retired Parkland instructor wins Gold in senior Table-Tennis games Pg. 7



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— Prospectus Pick: Nosferatu P. 5



A new trend in schools: Kindness P. 4

# PROSPECTUS NEWS

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Halloween Edition

Wednesday, October 27, 2010

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## GIVING FUTURE GENERATIONS A CHANCE TO LEARN

**Betsy BONES**  
(Kelley HEANEY)  
Staff Writer

As in years past, the Parkland College Foundation has set about implementing its motto of "Giving Future Generations a Chance to Learn," by holding the 13th Annual Scholarship Gala to help raise money for their scholarship program. Past awards for Parkland students have totaled in the six-figure range and have been gifted to hundreds of students. The 2009-2010 school year saw 159 students receive a total of over \$188,000 in awards, about \$40,000 of which was raised at the 2009 gala, according to the College Foundation website.

For the first time, this year's gala was held at the beautiful Champaign Country Club on October 15, 2010, and was attended by many of the prominent citizens of the Champaign Urbana area. Among those in attendance were members of the Parkland College Board of Trustees, such as Tom Bennett, Bonnie Kelley, Donna Giertz and James Ayers. Members of the Parkland College Alumni Association, including Champaign Mayor, Jerry Schweighart, who is himself a Parkland alum, were also in attendance. Some local personalities were present, such as WCIA Meteorologist, Robert Reese; in addition the host of Parkland TV program Dollars and Sense, Paul Donahue. Many of Parkland's administrative personnel also

attended, including the Director of Admissions, Reo Wilhour, Vice President of Student Services, Linda Moore, and Director of Career Planning, Sandy Spencer as well as former Parkland Vice President, Dale Ewen.

Current Parkland President, Tom Ramage, welcomed guests and spoke of his "commitment to what goes on at Parkland everyday" and "the great future" that Parkland has. Carl Meyer, Parkland College Foundation Executive Director, made a few remarks and, kidded Trustee Tom Bennett about the affair not being as grand as the one Bennett recently attended at the White House, during President Obama's Community College Summit. Bennett responded that he would rather attend this affair.

While the budget probably didn't rival the White House, the Country Club and the Foundation still put on a wonderful event. Many mouth watering hors d'oeuvres were served and a three piece ensemble, with the music of Django Reinhardt, played throughout the evening. Lovely autumn table centerpieces, with flowers and miniature pumpkins, were fashioned by the Parkland Horticulture department. A ring toss game, with the winner receiving the bottle of wine ringed, was also played for entertainment.

The main enticement of the evening, though, was a silent auction to raise money for Foundation Scholarships.



Attendees took a look at just a few of the wonderful items up for auction at the 13th annual Parkland Foundation Scholarship Gala. The money raised through the auction will be contributed to the Parkland Foundation scholarships, which totaled over \$188,000 and were awarded to 159 students last school year.

Photo by Evil Eye Norman (Levi NORMAN)/ Prospectus

Among the many wonderful items donated were a \$300 package for a private show at the Staerkel Planetarium,

using the new Digistar 4 digital projection system; a John Deere 22 HP mower, valued at \$2,000 and donated by Arends

Brothers; a Day with Parkland President, Tom Ramage, and a separate package with the President as Caddy. Additional items on the block included a 30 Minute Central Illinois fly-over, donated by Precision Aviation; two airline tickets to Las Vegas, donated by Premiere Global Sports, valued at \$1000; and a family or senior portrait photo session, with Lawrence McGown of McGown Photography, which would include an 11x14 print, donated by McGown Photography, and valued at \$100, along with many other interesting objects.

Julie McGown, Program Manager of Foundation and Alumni Relations, said that it was still too early to determine the amount that was raised at this year's gala, but that "it was a great event, with a wonderful turnout of Parkland supporters."

One of which was Sandy Hynds, who described herself as a "perennial student," having taken multiple art classes at Parkland for about 10 years. She said that she became involved with the Parkland College Foundation because the college is "a great facility and a great compliment to the Big U." As a compliment to the U of I, Parkland must continue to enable quality students to pass down the path leading to the larger establishment across town, by helping the less financially fortunate to afford classes and get an education. Executive Director, Carl Meyer has spent the past

several years making sure that this is done to the best of his ability.

Since having chosen Meyer as the Foundation's Executive Director in 1997, fundraising has increased greatly. In 2009, he was recognized for his commitment to the community and its development by being named as Champaign County's Most Valuable Citizen by the Champaign County Chamber of Commerce, and is often known locally as "Mr. Parkland." In a 2009 News Gazette article, written by Christin Des Garennes, President Tom Ramage said "As for Meyer, one of his main focuses right now is on coming up with scholarship dollars for students. With the economy taking a hit, there's a greater demand for scholarships, so we are emphasizing that particular area." With events such as the Parkland Gala, the Parkland College Foundation, and its Executive Director, is making a superlative attempt to ensure future generations are indeed given a chance at education, regardless of the economy.

## THE COLLEGE STUDENTS GUIDE TO STATEWIDE ELECTIONS

**Janelle O'DEAD**  
(Janelle O'DEA)  
Staff Writer

As it nears the middle of October, anyone who pays the slightest bit attention to the news knows what's happening on November 2. Yes, that's right, it's election time once again. Some students may roll their eyes and put this article down at the sight of the word "elections," but this short and sweet guide can help to get you prepared to make an informed decision on the candidates in November.

Most importantly, if you are registered to vote in Champaign County, your sample ballot can be found on the web at <https://www.champaigncountyclerk.com/index.php>. If you are not a Champaign County resident, pick a search engine and enter "Illinois November 2010 sample ballot - (name of your county)" and you should be able to find yours easily as well, assuming you are registered to vote in that county.

This article is simply designed to give you an idea of the offices you are voting for this November. The websites are where you can find more information about the office and the incumbents (current office-holders running again) and whom they are running against. If you already know much of this information, that's great. All of the basic information on all candidates (except Illinois General Assembly members) can be found here,

at the Illinois Voters' Guide, <http://www.ilvote.gov/ILVote>

Whoever fills the Illinois United States Senate seat may be one of the more important decisions you make, especially this year. The two leading candidates are currently tied, and the winner will vote on passing federal law once sworn in. U.S. Senators serve a six-year term, and 1/3 of the nation's Senators run for office every two years. Representatives are also elected every two years.

There are four different candidates running for the one U.S. Senate this November. There are an average of 2-3 candidates running for each U.S. House of Representative seat, and each Representative speaks for a specific district. If you live in East-Central Illinois, it's most likely that you live in the district that Mr. Timothy Johnson has served since 2001. However, to be certain, check the U.S. House of Representatives website, <http://www.house.gov>

A great tool to help explore the different candidates can be found at [www.votesmart.org/voteeasy](http://www.votesmart.org/voteeasy). This site asks how you feel on different "hot-button" issues, and matches the responses with whatever candidate has the same viewpoints. It also tells which district you are in for the House of Representatives, and all you have to do is enter the zip code of where you are registered to vote.

Both the U.S. Representatives and U.S. Senators make



Fred Matamoros, The News Tribune

up the legislative branch of our government, which is simply a fancy word for the federal law-making branch. These laws override any state laws that are passed by the Illinois General Assembly, which also has members up for re-election.

The Illinois General Assembly is another term for the state Congress. Instead of six years, State Senators serve two years, as do State Representatives. State Senators and Representatives also represent different districts depending on where you live. You can find your district at [www.elections.il.gov](http://www.elections.il.gov) using the district/official search.

There are multiple judges up for retention of the Supreme and Appellate Courts, and they are not running against any other candidate. Each judge must receive 60% to stay for (at least) another ten years. These judges make sure the laws passed by our General Assembly are constitution-

ally valid. To find out more information on any judge running for retention, see the Illinois Supreme Court website at <http://www.state.il.us/court>

The current Secretary of State, Mr. Jesse White, is running against two other candidates. The Secretary of State deals mostly with licensing drivers and keeping the roads safe. The office is up for election every four years, and there are no term limits.

The current Attorney General, Lisa Madigan, faces off with three other candidates for the job of the People of Illinois' lawyer, simply put. Madigan is in charge of making sure each person accused of a crime in Illinois receives a fair trial. It is a four-year term, as well.

The Comptroller and Treasurer work together to manage Illinois' finances. The Treasurer makes sure we have enough money to do everything we need to do, and the Comptroller writes the checks. Cur-

rent Comptroller Judy Baar Topinka runs against three others for another four-year term, while the current Treasurer is not running again. We will also have four years to decide if we like whatever new Treasurer is selected. All four of the above offices can be viewed at the Illinois Voters' Guide website, as well.

In Champaign County (and many, if not all, surrounding counties), the sheriff position is on the ballot again. In Champaign County, there is only the incumbent on the ballot, Dan Walsh. However, many signs around the area have been advocating for voters to write-in another candidate by the name of Jerome Smith. For a write-in candidate to win is very rare, but there's no saying it could not happen.

For the Champaign County Clerk (responsible for keeping the state's records and maintaining elections) and the Regional Superintendent of Schools (who oversees the regional school board) also only have one candidate running for office.

Last but certainly not least (especially in Illinois), we have the post for Governor. Also a four-year post, there are five candidates from five different parties running this year. We should hope, after our corruptive history of governors in Illinois, that this one will truly have our best interests at heart. For many Illinois voters, it is difficult not to be cynical, as three Illinois governors

have been convicted of corruption crimes.

The governor and lieutenant governor are basically responsible for how the state is run in general - they keep tabs on all of the above-mentioned offices. Almost more important than the actual choice for governor is the Amendment to the Illinois Constitution proposed on the ballot. It gives voters the right to "recall" a current governor and have a "special election" for a new one. This means that the power to oust a governor no longer lies only with Congress (impeachment), but with the People of Illinois (recall), as well.

As previously mentioned, all candidates and offices up for election can be found on the sample ballot provided by the County Clerk in each County. Many counties (if not all) allow the sample ballots (filled out) to be taken into the voting booths with voters.

I hope to see many Parkland and U of I students, along with lots of other Champaign-Urbana residents, sporting the trademark "I Voted" sticker on Election Day. You have the power to vote here, and though it may not seem like much to many of you, it's more than what many people have in other countries. Take advantage and be heard!



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 Views expressed are opinions of staff and contributors and not necessarily that of the Prospectus or Parkland College.

The Prospectus welcomes letters to the editor. We accept submissions from the Parkland community and the public. The editor will also consider original works of fiction and short writings if space is available.

The rules of correspondence: all submissions must be signed with a phone number and address. The Prospectus staff must verify the identity of letter writers. Correspondence may be edited to accommodate the space requirements of the paper. The deadline for all submissions is 12 p.m. of the Thursday immediately before the upcoming issue.



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# Chuck Shepherd's News of the Weird

**Lead Story**

David Winkelman, 48, was arrested in Davenport, Iowa, in September on a misdemeanor warrant, still sporting "The Tattoo." In late 2000, Winkelman, reacting to a radio "contest," had his forehead inked with the logo of radio station KORB, "93 Rock," because he had heard on-air personalities "offer" \$100,000 to anyone who would do it. Winkelman had the tattoo done before checking, however, and the disk jockeys later informed him that the "contest" was a joke. (Winkelman filed a lawsuit against the station, but it was dismissed. Ten years later, the "93 Rock" format has expired, but Winkelman's forehead remains busily tattooed.)

**Government in Action!**

Among the Medicare billings only recently discovered as fraudulent (after being paid): Brooklyn, N.Y., proctologist Boris Sachakov was paid for performing 6,593 hemorrhoidectomies and other procedures over a 13-month period — an average of 18 every day, 365 days a year (and 6,212 more than the doctor who billed the second-highest number).

**Great Art!**

In October, the award-winning London theater company Duckie announced plans for a June 2011 production, "Lullaby," at the Barbican Pit, that would feature music and performances so soothing that patrons will be encouraged to attend in pajamas and lounge overnight in bed-seats, with an early morning shower included in the ticket price of 42 pounds (\$66). Producer Simon Casson noted that, irrespective of the play, it is almost impossible to find overnight facilities in central London for that price.

**Least Competent Dictator**

In September, when Ms. Nomatter Tagarira was sentenced to 39 months in jail for fraud, Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe and sev-

eral officials were hoping to close the book on an embarrassing episode. Tagarira had convinced them in 2007 that she had the ability, by chanting into a rock, to find diesel fuel in the ground and make it shoot to the surface. Of course, this could only be accomplished by Tagarira's having henchmen behind bushes using a pump, but apparently it worked, as she was rewarded with a \$2.7 million fee and given use of a 50-vehicle convoy for her dowsing missions. Her ruse was not discovered until a year later.

**Least Competent Criminals**

No Time for Disguises: Larry Shawn Taylor, 18, was arrested in Seattle in September, having been rather easily identifiable when police stopped him. Two victims had reported being robbed by a man with "GET MONEY" shaved into his haircut on one side and "GET" tattooed on his right hand and "MONEY" tattooed on the left. (At least Taylor did not claim that someone else must have had the same configuration.)

**A News of the Weird Classic**  
 (October 2003)

News of the Weird reported in December 2002 that Inga Kosak had won the first World Extreme Ironing Championship in Munich by pressing a designated garment over a course of several ironing stations (e.g., ironing in trees, in the middle of streams). An October 2003 Wall Street Journal story shows the "sport" growing in prominence. South African Anton Van De Venter, 27, broke the high-altitude record in August by ironing his national flag at the 20,000-foot summit of Mount Kilimanjaro, while nude, in freezing temperatures (quote: "I came, I saw, I pressed a crease"), and British diver Ian Mitchell sawed through ice in Wisconsin in March and submitted photos of himself in a wet suit "ironing" (with a Black & Decker Quick 'n' Easy) a shirt that was braced against the underside of the ice.

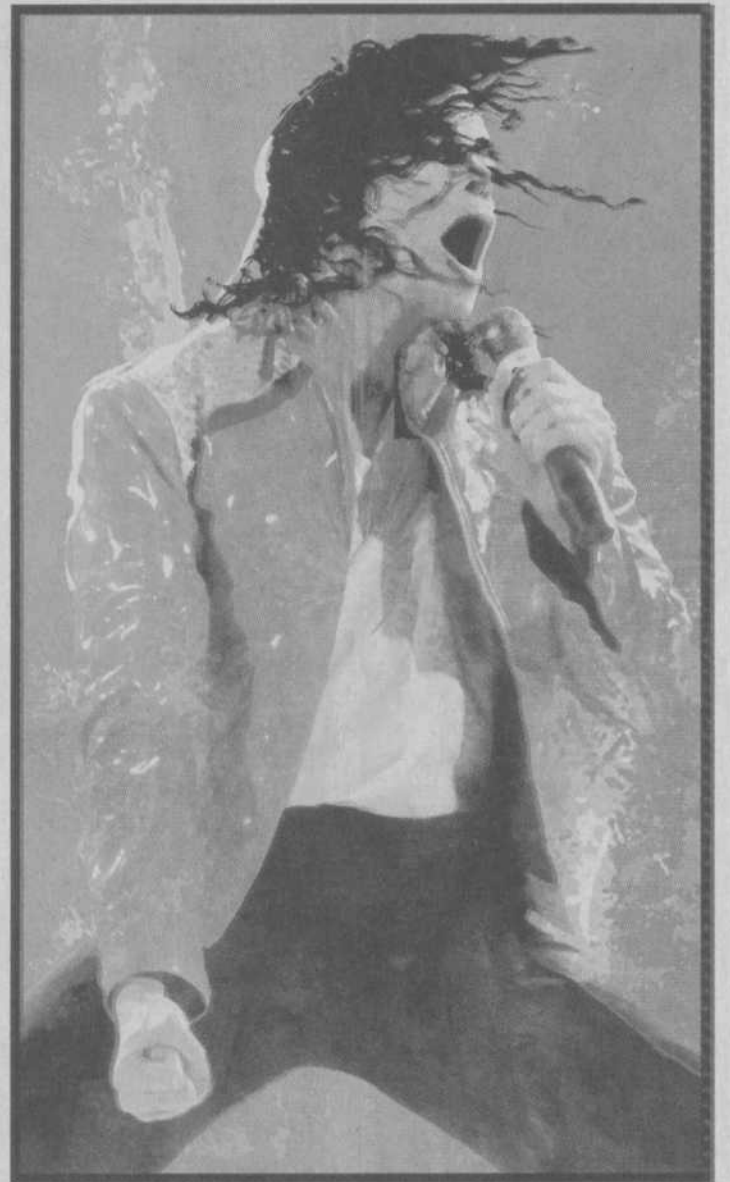
# THE PERFECT SOUNDTRACK FOR YOUR HALLOWEEN PARTY

**Patrick BLAIR WOODS**  
 (Patrick WOOD)  
 Music Columnist

Every Halloween I end up dragging myself to parties where I encounter one of two things (or both if I'm really lucky) and that is crappy, "Top 40" pop music or music that is overridden by large amounts of bass. Now, this is just my opinion, but I'm not to pry to either of those options. I mean, if it were any other night, I wouldn't really care, because that music is the nature of the beast so to speak. But when it's Halloween we're talking about, I think the host of the party is obligated to raise the bar when it comes to music. If you want to throw an impressive Halloween party this year, but don't know where to start musically, you're in luck. Here are some terrifying tracks to get the party started.

First we have Michael Jackson's "Thriller." This song is a classic. Now, when I say classic, don't be fooled. It still applies to any party, practically anywhere, but it has special significance during the Halloween season. So what's so great about this particular MJ song? Pretty much everything. The lyrics tell a story reminiscent of a 1950's motion picture, one of the horror genre. You'll hear things straight off of those old Halloween sound effect tapes, like creaking doors, blood-curdling screams, heavy-set footfalls on a hardwood floor, howling dogs, and blowing wind. It's even got a cameo voiceover by horror film actor, Vincent Price. Now, if the original version of this tune isn't enough for you, consider pulling up the music video. You can also dig a little deeper to find some of the remixes that are floating around out there on the Internet.

Next, there's Rob Zombie's "Dragula." Rob Zombie, now there's a name that one could easily associate with Halloween. Real name Robert Bartleh Cummings, Rob Zombie has done it all. He helped create the metal band White Zombie, pursued a successful solo career as Rob Zombie, and has even excelled at producing horror films including *House of 1,000 Corpses*, *The Devil's*



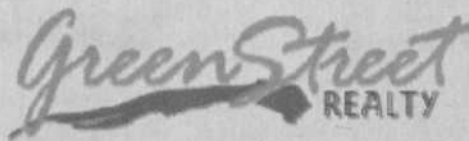
Color illustration by Rick Nease, *The Detroit Free Press*

*Rejects*, and the 2007 remake of *Halloween*. Honestly, any of Rob Zombie's music would work for a Halloween party. Although it's a bit on the heavy side, it all has squeamish, sinister, and grotesque elements that are perfect for Halloween. "Dragula" stands in my mind because of its reference to the popular sitcom, *The Munsters*. "DRAG-U-LA" was actually a drag car featured in the television series. Again, if you want another option or two with this song, check out the remixes that can be found on *The Matrix* motion picture soundtrack and *Rob Zombie's American Music Made To Strip By*.

Don't forget Sufjan Steven's "John Wayne Gacy, Jr." Sufjan Steven's wouldn't usually pop up on my radar as an artist that had party-worthy music, but Halloween changes everything. Stevens is an American singer-songwriter born in Detroit, Michigan. In 2005, he released *Illinois* the sec-

ond album (after *Michigan*) in his musical project that aimed to create an album based on each of the fifty states. Every song on *Illinois* has something to do with the state, which is what makes "John Wayne Gacy, Jr." so creepy. For those of you that don't know, John Wayne Gacy was a serial killer who murdered 33 young men in a 6-year span in the 1970's, burying most of their bodies in his crawlspace beneath his home in Des Plaines, Illinois. Although this song is slow, quiet, and seemingly anything but sinister, listen to the lyrics and you'll begin to feel a shiver creep down your spine.

Hopefully these three songs have given you the start you needed in providing some ghoulish music to partygoers this Halloween. Try to recall some of the songs that may otherwise go unnoticed, and remember, Halloween only comes once a year, so go all-out with your song choices.



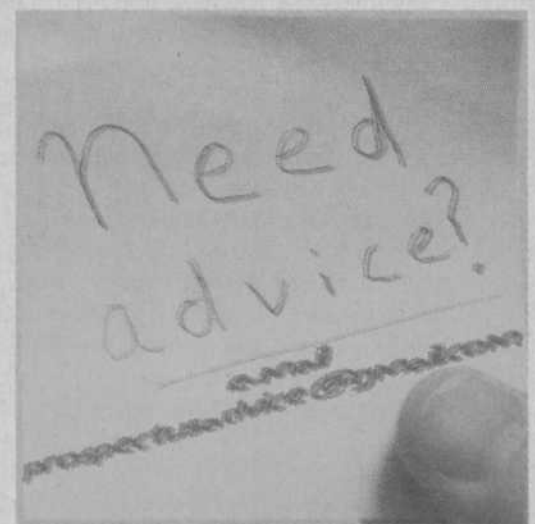
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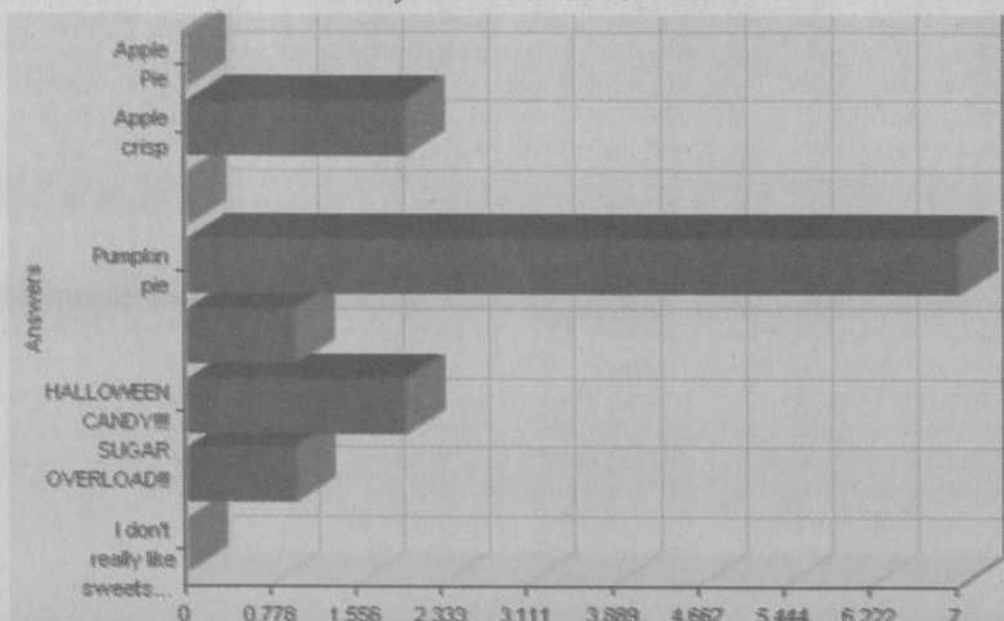


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# THE ORIGIN OF HALLOWEEN

**Betsey BONES**  
(Kelley HEANEY)  
Staff Writer

Holidays, especially the family centered ones, often come with a mix of emotions. But there is at least one American holiday that seems to only generate good fun and good memories. Since American holidays are generally a blend of predominately old, European traditions, they often don't resemble their origins. Given that we are a country of mixed cultures, it is only natural that our holidays are also mixed. From the Germans we have Christmas trees, and, surprisingly, from the Irish, we have Halloween. So how did Halloween make its way to the present?

Some Halloween traditions are long established Celtic rituals with the true meanings obscured. Christianity took these rites and transformed them into Christian holidays, but the customs remained. Celtic rituals included bonfires (bone fires), and the belief that the veil between the living and the dead was lifted on the last night of the year, allowing the

dead to cross between the two and carry out mischief. History.com maintains that the Celtic New Year, on November 1, marked the end of the summer and the beginning of the cold dark days of winter. In addition, it was also associated with human death, so animal skins were worn as disguises from the dead. It was also when hearth fires were relit from the bonfires, in an attempt to protect themselves from the coming winter.

The Irish also created Jack o' Lanterns, which, according to legend, derived from a man called Stingy Jack, who fooled the devil into not claiming his soul. Upon his death, God wouldn't allow Jack to enter heaven, due to his lack of morals, and the devil wouldn't let him enter hell, because of their agreement. The devil, however, does seem to have taken pity on Jack and gave him a live coal to light his way as he wandered through the dark nights. Jack took the coal and placed it in a carved turnip, creating a jack o' lantern. America's have taken this and, using pumpkins instead of turnips, created a pumpkin industry that,



The money spent on the holiday establishes that it will continue to be a commercial sensation for years to come, even if it evolves again and becomes something that future children participate in with a whole new set of traditions.

Photo by Herman Munster (Sean HERMANN)/Prospectus

according to usgovinfo.about.com, grows 998 million pounds annually (some of these are used in pies too). Illinois leads pumpkin growth with 457 million pounds grown.

Jack O' Lanterns sitting on

porches generally indicate that treats are also available. Trick or treating may have derived from putting food on doorsteps to feed dead souls, but it didn't become a predominant part of the American celebration until

sometime in the 1920's and 30's. According to an article in the Washington Post written by Ken Erikson and Patricia Sunderland, the word's "Trick or Treat" first appeared in the Merriam Webster dictionary in

1941 after being used in a poem published in the Saturday Evening Post. Giving treats may originally have been a way to discourage the 'pranking' and mischief making that was being done as more communities went from a rural setting to an urban form, but according to usgovinfo.about.com, today 36.4 million children go trick or treating, leading to an industry that produces some \$19 billion worth of candy, one fourth of which is sold at Halloween.

But candy and treats weren't always the focus of the holiday. In the middle of the 19th century, the beginnings of what would become American Halloween were beginning to take shape, with social gatherings and autumn festivals during which fortune telling with apple peels would be attempted and ghost stories were told. The early 20th century saw a more secular and community centered celebration with parades and village wide parties until the 1950's which saw the holiday become more children oriented as it moved from the neighbor-

See **Origins** on page 7

# WHAT SHOULD YOU DO THIS HALLOWEEN?

**Kassy CASKET COAN**  
(Kassy COAN)  
Staff Writer

Every Halloween brings to us a wide array of events and activities, making it difficult to find the one that's just right. Should including a sibling on your holiday mean that you can't enjoy yourself? Of course not! What if you are trying to save money? That's not a prob-

lem either. Luckily, there are events for every age group and budget!

For the youngest groups, under 11 years of age, there will be a Halloween Fun Fest at Marketplace Mall. This event will be complete with a costume contest and carnival rides! Pre-teens and teens are most likely to enjoy the pumpkin carving, which is a completely free event. This is a

great opportunity for youth to express their creativity.

There are also events that are enjoyable for all ages, even adults! The Monticello Railway Museum is currently holding a special event, The Ghost Train. There are rides suitable for younger riders and adults.

For families that are looking for an event that all members can participate in simultaneously, Michaels in Champaign is providing materials for anybody and everybody to come make Halloween masks.

For those that enjoy the thrill of being scared silly, there are plenty of haunted houses around the area. Many can be found at: <http://www.haunted-houses.com/haunts/states/il/list.htm#Champaign>

For the music lovers, there

OCT 27 <sup>th</sup>	5 pm - 6 pm	Pumpkin Carving	Douglass Branch Library in Champaign	Pre-teens and teens	FREE
OCT 28 <sup>th</sup>	6 pm - 8 pm	Make a mask	Michaels in Champaign	All Ages	FREE
OCT 28 <sup>th</sup>	6 pm - 9 pm	Halloween Fun Fest	Marketplace Mall Monticello	Under 11	FREE
OCT 29 <sup>th</sup> & 30 <sup>th</sup>	7 pm - 9 pm	Ghost train	Railway Museum	All Ages	\$6
OCT 31 <sup>st</sup>	1 pm - 3 pm	Thriller Dance	Amara Arts and Yoga in Urbana	All Ages	\$12

will be a huge number of shows taking place Halloween weekend. Many of those can easily be found via the Facebook

events page. Last, but not least, there is even an event for those who are more active. Amara Arts

and Yoga will be hosting an event where participants will remake the dance "Thriller." This event is for all ages and skill levels. No matter your age or budget, you are bound to have a spook-tacular Halloween!

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# Opinions

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## A TREND THAT IS TAKING OVER FASTER THAN SKINNY JEANS: KINDNESS

**Morgue BERNIERER**  
(Morgan BERNIER)  
Social Media Editor

For a long time I have been of the opinion that kindness is out of style. It has been a rarity for courtesy to play a starring role in the way most people interact with each other. Lately, however, I've been experiencing something that makes me question that belief. Over the past few months, I have had strangers hold doors for me, passers by have help pick up dropped papers, and many other such cultural anomalies. It would appear that it's once again cool to be kind.

With kindness on the rise, I feel that it's important to do my part in promoting this epidemic. I have always felt that if everyone could just live his or her life by the golden rule, to treat others as you would like to be treated, the world would be a better place. If one were to look at most annoyances in society today, then it would become obvious that people behaving



Even if it's just a smile or a wave, showing someone the smallest amount of kindness can have a huge impact on his or her day or even his or her life.

Photo by Evil Eye Norman (Levi NORMAN)/Prospectus

in a self-centered manner generally cause them. For example, one of the most annoying things, for me, is when people talk loudly on their cell phones in a public place. This could easily be avoided by someone realizing that they may be disrupting others and carrying on the conversation in a quieter tone or by taking the conversation elsewhere.

Another positive side effect of following the golden rule is that everyone is happier. The stress level decreases when you don't have to nudge a path through hallways to get to classes because you don't have to hurry as much. I know that when I'm not stressed out I am a lot more available to help other people. So just by doing one good thing, it may enable someone else to do a good thing, and so on and so forth. It's the pay-it-forward theory, and I am a firm believer in the truth of this. "You can't take care of anyone else without taking care of yourself."

The basis of many religions

is even just to be nice to others. Some may call it karma, some the rule of three, and some may just refer to this thinking as doing the right thing. Essentially, it is a lot easier to follow any religious guidelines just by thinking of other people before you act. Life is a series of interactions, each moment is a choice, and in these interactions and choices it is important for human beings to learn to love, interact, and respect each other.

In a world that is so self-centered, to have someone go out of their way to help you is one of the best feelings in the world. Even if it's just a smile or a wave, showing someone the smallest kindness can have a huge impact on his or her day or even his or her life. My challenge to you is to perform at least one act of kindness in the next week. If you feel like this improved your life, then keep it going. Let's do our part to make sure that kindness sweeps the nation.

## SKINNY CELEBRITY CHEFS CAN'T BE TRUSTED

**John KASS**  
Chicago Tribune

Since I've angered just about every overly sensitive special interest group lately, I might as well go hog-wild and provoke the most sensitive of them all: Crazy fans of skinny female celebrity chefs.

You know the kind of skinny chef I'm talking about. They wear size 00 designer clothes. They never get a speck of oil on them. Their hair is perfect. They never sweat on TV.

Sure, their food looks fine, but the chefs themselves look like little pixie sprites who've never dared to dip a crust of bread in their own sauce.

Coincidentally, celebrity chef Giada De Laurentiis is in town, promoting a new line of affordable cookware to her legion of adoring Giadanistas.

Here at the office, some people are excited about the pixie chef's visit. They're almost as wiggy as the time Barack Obama came by to say hello on his way to the White House.

"Are you going to see Giada?" asked one eager Giadanista. "She's so petite! Isn't she just adorable?"

"Giada's coming! Giada's coming!" said her fellow Giadaphile. "You're going to see her, aren't you?"

No. "But isn't she adorable?" they said, teasing me.

To you she may be adorable, but for me there's only my wife and my sons.

Besides, she's much too skinny to be a proper cook. Cooks require heft, to prove they eat their own creations. And I'm as suspicious as the next fat guy about this skinny chef trend.

But my wife and two sisters-in-law have made it clear they just love Giada.

"Leave Giada alone," said my wife, frostily. "She's perfect. She has great recipes, and she doesn't tell you to use 300 fancy ingredients that you can't find."

Honey, everybody knows that you can't trust a skinny

chef. "You don't want to go there," she warned.

But I'm compelled to charge forward, into the jaws of hell. I just can't seem to stop angering people. The other day, I compared a Chicago politician to a wolf, and a wolf-loving woman from Highland Park chewed my ear off for an hour for demeaning the noble yet cunning predators. (The wolves, not the politicians.)

Then I foolishly poked a stick at the bloggers. Now they're fiercely snapping at my ankles like a pack of bloodthirsty, feral Chihuahuas, just because I said they tend to blog from their mommy's basement.

For days they've been Twittering and tweeting and viciously "smacking me down" and whatever other tortures they visit upon their sworn enemies in the magical universe called the blogosphere.

Egad! Imagine if I'd left in the part about how they pick lint from their navels while waiting for Mommy to fix them

a nice lunch of cream of tomato soup and grilled cheese sandwiches?

Which offers this fat guy a rather smooth and subtle segue back to food and the skinny-chef thing.

It's not just the skinny women chefs. I don't trust skinny male chefs either, especially if they're dressed like teenage vampires in "Twilight" with their skinny black jeans and tight T-shirts and ample hair product.

When I think of a chef I can trust, I think of cooks with gravitas, some weight on their bones, women who clearly are no strangers to the knife and fork.

Cooks like the late Julia Child, who was something of a counterspy during World War II, coaxing information from her dinner guests as easily as she extracted flavor from beef bones.

Or Ina Garten, who was an economist in the Carter White House but left to do something useful. She eventually became

the "Barefoot Contessa" on TV and now uses even more butter than Julia.

And what about Lidia Bastianich, host of "Lidia's Italy"? She's obviously no size 00. She grew up in a refugee camp in Trieste after World War II, when skinny was not stylish.

Lidia's hair may not be perfect like Giada's, she doesn't wear skinny teenage vampire jeans like that egomaniacal Bobby Flay, and her waist is no longer as thin as a wasp's.

But she's a poet when discussing Italian artisanal foods, breads, olives, various cheeses. And who can forget the time she rolled up her trouser legs to wade stumpily into the chilly Adriatic, and filled a basket with fresh clams?

All Lidia has to do is put some oil in a pan, toss in red pepper flakes, those clams of hers and a little wine, and men of all ages line up to propose marriage.

Same with Ina Garten. When the Contessa works her magic with scallops and cream and

more butter, you feel like driving to the Hamptons to camp out in her driveway.

What's more, Ina always says incredibly sensuous things like, "Jeffrey just loves cheese." Or, she'll taste her sauce, get that smoky glint in her eye, and purr, "I can't wait till Frank gets here," and you just know it's true.

Also, there's Paula Deen, whose butter usage is all but felonious, and Paula wouldn't be caught dead in skinny vampire jeans.

And Gina Neely, of "Down Home with the Neelys," who keeps telling her husband, Pat, "give me some sugar, baby" before she adds a dollop or two of butter and a couple pinches of cayenne to spice up the bacon.

So you won't see me down there with the Giadanistas.

Do they make skinny jeans in XXL?

(c) 2010, Chicago Tribune.

### A word from the Editor

I just wanted to say a big thank you to all of our readers. We couldn't do what we do every week without you! We have been busy this year, coming up with new ideas and concepts just for you, our readers. Do you like our polls? Did you like an article? Were you not so thrilled with an opinions piece? Thoughts on our website? Story idea? I would absolutely love to hear anything that you might have to say. To me, there is nothing better than getting feedback (good or bad) from readers. It's points us in the right direction and we can get to know what's on your mind, as well. Thank you, and please feel free to stop by our office, X-155, or E-mail me at prospectus.editor@gmail.com

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## Prospectus Advice

Introducing our brand new weekly advice column! Ask questions and we will do our best to answer them. Enjoy!

Q: *Hard Worker* asks "what is a healthy balance between your school and work schedules?"

A: A good way to go about creating a healthy balance between school and work is to first of all, get your work done. Whether it be a school project, studying for a test, getting homework done or anything else school/work related, get those things done before you do anything else. "Work hard, play hard." After you finish the important things, make time for yourself. Hang out with friends, this will help relieve stress and make you feel better overall. By getting the important things out of the way, you won't have to worry about them anymore. Plus, it's always better to do things sooner rather than later. If you need help with organization, write out a schedule/to do list and be sure to include relaxation time. Best of luck!

If you have a question you would like to ask us, please E-mail [prospectusadvice@gmail.com](mailto:prospectusadvice@gmail.com)



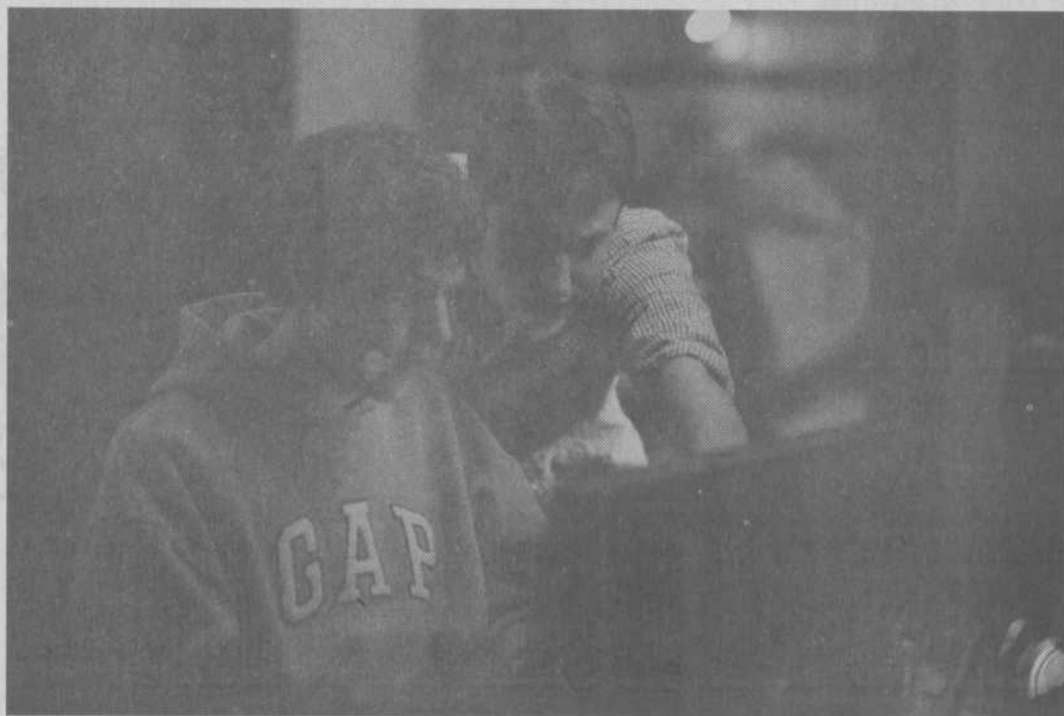
## ZUCKERBERG LEFT WITH PLENTY OF SUCCESS, BUT NOT MANY "FRIENDS" FACEBOOK CREATOR SHOWN AS MORE THAN A COMPUTER GENIUS IN NEW FILM, THE SOCIAL NETWORK

**Janelle O'DEAD**  
(Janelle O'DEAD)  
Staff Writer

Facebook is a staple in every college student's "online routine," mixed in with the daily email checks and bank account supervision. Some Facebook users may even express a strange "emptiness" they feel when they don't get to check their Facebook. At one point in the recent film, *The Social Network*, Sean Parker's fling expresses how she's hooked. "It's freakishly addictive, I'm on it, like, five times a day," she said.

But, how did Facebook come together to begin with? Where did it all start? Did Mark Zuckerberg have any help, and if so, how much? How does Facebook receive money if we, the users, don't have to pay for it? All of these questions are answered in the movie, *The Social Network*, directed by David Fincher and produced (in part) by Kevin Spacey.

In *The Social Network*, Mark Zuckerberg (the creator of Facebook) is portrayed as a computer nerd who enjoys nothing more than a night of blogging by himself, accompanied by none other than a couple of 40-ounce beers. His only friend in the world is Eduardo Saverin (played by Andrew



Jesse Eisenberg, left, and Joseph Mazzello in Columbia Pictures' *The Social Network*.

(Courtesy of Merrick Morton/MCT)

Garfield), a fellow Harvard student with business smarts as a major in economics. Saverin was the first to invest in a company he wasn't sure would have any success. As it turns out, it was probably one of the smartest investments ever made. Whether it was smart for Saverin is still unknown — in the end, he received a settlement of an unknown amount of money.

According to the movie,

it all began one night after Zuckerberg's heart was broken by his girlfriend, Erica Albright (played by Rooney Mara). The movie opens with a scene of Erica breaking up with Mark, giving him just the fuel he needed to become the world's youngest billionaire. He sprinted home and began heatedly working on a new idea in his dorm room while simultaneously drinking beer and blogging about the break-

up with Erica, the girl who expressed to him that "dating you is like dating a Stairmaster."

This session of blogging comes back to haunt him, but the website he created that night, then called FaceMash, was only the beginning of the little world we all know as Facebook. After FaceMash, it began as "The Facebook," but soon after Parker got involved, Zuckerberg dropped the "the,"

because, in the words of Parker, "it's much cleaner."

Zuckerberg understood the potential Facebook held from the minute he created it. The night that FaceMash was launched, Zuckerberg, with a simple crack of his fingers, hacked all of the Harvard houses without a problem. Soon, the Harvard network was loaded with 22,000 hits to the same page in the wee hours of the morning. When the server crashed, Saverin looks dumbfounded at Zuckerberg. "...you don't think?" He asks hesitantly, referring to if the site had crashed the network or not. "No, I do." Zuckerberg replies and nods, with a smug smile on his face.

From there, the website explodes. It spreads quickly to all of the Harvard students, and Zuckerberg (after another encounter with the still-irritated Erica at a bar), decides that the website is ripe for expansion. He takes it to other college campuses, including Stanford University, where Sean Parker finds it. Soon, Zuckerberg is convinced to move to California. This is where the real "trouble" begins for him, when Saverin and other Harvard students begin to feel they are being cheated out of a project they were involved in. See the

movie to find out if Zuckerberg did it all on his own, or if he got a little help from his friends.

The movie made it seem he was determined to make sure the world knows he actually created it, no matter who's idea it was or who provided the seed money for what is now a multi-billion dollar corporation. He says, at one point in the litigations with the Winklevoss brothers, "If you guys would have invented Facebook, you'd have invented Facebook." While others may have helped, Zuckerberg wrote the code. He is the true inventor.

According to Mashable.com, Zuckerberg keeps his opinions mostly to himself regarding the portrayal of him in the movie. Many people who have seen it attest that the movie makes him look very selfish and ruthless. Zuckerberg doesn't seem to care about the impacts the movie has on Facebook's image, and why should he? In a statement to Mashable, he said, "We build products that 500 million people see...if 5 million people see a movie, it doesn't really matter that much." With over 20 countries using Facebook every day, Zuckerberg couldn't be more correct.

## HOW TO STAY SAFE THIS HALLOWEEN WEEKEND

**Jake GOBLIN**  
(Jake GODIN)  
Staff Writer

Halloween isn't quite like any other night, right? Sure there's candy involved, but from a safety standpoint, there are a few differences. On any regular night, there are certain rules one should keep in mind while traveling such as not going down dark allies and staying in well lit areas. These same rules apply on the night of Halloween. There are kids everywhere, some with parents; some being lone wolves that you'll have to watch out for. There are masked people everywhere on the street, concealing their identities. Large groups of people are moving from one party to another. Inebriated people are stumbling around the street where one can only guess where their next step will be. All of this presents new challenges to be considered if you, yourself, are out wandering on Halloween night.

Taken from davescampus.com, here's a small list of three key tips to keep in mind when out and about as an adult on Halloween...

• If you plan on drinking alcohol (or even if you aren't), take



Photo By O.J. Winston (Ian Winston)/Prospectus

measures to ensure safe travel home. You know the drill, but a reminder can't hurt.

• Speaking of driving, be especially aware of those young trick-or-treaters scampering about. They are excited about the costumes and candy, and thinking about things other than those big heavy machines traveling down their streets.

• If you are hosting a party,

think about how free-flowing alcohol and clumsy costumes may impact your guests' ability to navigate the room and interact with one another. Make sure you have basic first aid supplies handy and emergency phone numbers available. Keep fragile and valuable items out of reach. Be aware of food safety: keep foods hot or cold as necessary and don't

let people eat the dry ice in the punch (not a good thing).

If you are looking for more information on safety tips for Halloween in general, there are plenty of resources online to consider.

As much as any college student wants to be, they just aren't the little younglings that we were back in their hometowns years ago. There's more to keep in mind than just the mindless pursuit of a full bag of candy, and it becomes especially apparent on a college campus. Don't ruin your Halloween night with an accident. Keep this information in mind and it just might help you avoid one.

### Safety tips from Parkland College Relations Officer Matthew Kopmann

1. Always be with a group. Malicious attackers, if alone, will only target individuals.
2. Be aware of your surroundings and where you are at.
3. If drinking, be in control and be of age. Don't get so drunk that you don't know where you are at.
4. Stay in well lit areas; don't go running around in dark allies where you're not even supposed to be at in the first place.
5. Keep in mind that there's always a safety concern about where you are.
6. If gathering candy on Halloween, always make sure the candy is closed and not tampered with.
7. If wearing intricate costumes, always make sure you can at least breathe in it and that you can see properly where you're going.
8. Know where your drink came from if at a party. Try to only drink something that you brought, and never drink and drive.
9. Keep an eye out for small children on the streets. And, if driving, be absolutely sure to watch for people crossing the streets, because there'll be a lot of them.
10. Safety considerations should not be overlooked just because it's Halloween. The dangers of roaming someplace like the U of I campus are just as present as they are on any other night.

[www.eiu.edu/~adulted](http://www.eiu.edu/~adulted)



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# FORMER PARKLAND INSTRUCTOR WINS GOLD MEDAL

**Josh GRUBWORM**  
(Josh GRUBE)  
Staff Writer

Just because former Parkland psychology instructor Phyllis Hughes has retired doesn't mean she is plans to slow down anytime soon. Just recently, she dominated this year's Huntsman World Senior Games in table tennis, taking home three medals.

"This was my third year at the senior Olympics," Hughes said. "I won number one in the world for my age group in singles. In women's doubles I played in the 65-year age group and won silver. In mixed doubles I played in the 65-year age bracket and won bronze. It was good competition but I was ready!"

From October fourth to the eight, table tennis experts and enthusiasts met up in St. George, Utah to fiercely compete for the gold amongst different



Phyllis Hughes, 82, a retired Parkland psychology professor, recently won a gold medal in the International Senior Olympics in her age group (80-84) in table tennis.

Photo courtesy of Phyllis Hughes

divisions and age brackets.

Her love, and skill, of the sport first began much earlier. "I just returned to table tennis after a 55 year hiatus," she explained. "I had a sister who was a year older than me. She was absolutely gorgeous and nobody paid any attention to me. So I went down in the ping-pong room at the community center where there were all boys, and that got me started in the sport. Fortunately, I was a natural so I learned it quickly. I just wanted some attention." She received just that. In her youth she held the Michigan state champion title in singles, doubles, and mixed doubles for seven years.

"It's a great sport for females to enter because it's one of the few sports that females can play almost equally with men," said Hughes. "It requires the fastest hand-eye coordination of any sport. I am 82 and I don't even wear glasses." As well as her previously mentioned vic-

tories, she has also won the Nevada State Open and Illinois State Title for singles, doubles, and mixed doubles.

Hughes began teaching at Parkland in 1968, and was also the head of the psychology department. "I taught at Parkland for 19 years. I enjoyed teaching there, it was a very good experience," she said. "I developed a course on death and dying and I also developed a program for long living. I particularly liked teaching death and dying. It sounds strange but I did enjoy it." Although she retired from Parkland over 20 years ago, her course on death and dying is still taught to this day, as PSY 105.

Despite how accomplished Hughes is in Psychology and ping-pong, they aren't her only pursuits. She is also a musician and artist. "I play the mandolin and the vibes," she said. "I just played at an artist reception at Parkland. I've played at a number of different places, my

musical partner Mark Ginsberg, and I do regular gigs. He plays the guitar."

When it comes to art, she creates pen-and-ink drawings and mixed media. "I have had art shows all over," she explained. "I've had them at Heartland Gallery, I used to be at Pages for all Ages, but they closed, I had a show at the University of Illinois, Illini Union..." If you are interested in taking a look at her art, you can view, and even purchase, some of it at [www.phyllishughes.com](http://www.phyllishughes.com).

When asked how she has remained so active throughout the years, Hughes had this to say: "I think it's mostly because I'm happy; I really love everything that I do. I also have a husband who is extremely supportive. He's wonderful." Phyllis Hughes is a perfect example that you should go out and pursue what makes you happy, and that age is, in many cases, just an illusion.

# NEBRASKA BRINGS TRADITION TO BIG TEN TABLE

**Jo-Ann BARNAS**  
Detroit Free Press

LINCOLN, Neb. - He is not on unfamiliar ground. That you should know right away. For 25 years, Tom Osborne coached one of the nation's most successful football programs at the University of Nebraska. Then he was a three-term U.S. congressman. Then a teacher.

Now, at 73, he sits in his third-floor office of the building that bears his name - the Osborne Athletic Complex - where he serves without a contract as Nebraska's athletic director, a position he has held since 2007.

Transitions? Yes. Osborne knows a thing or two about managing transitions. So when he says "we're in a little bit of a schizofrenic situation" regarding Nebraska's attempt to finish out strong in its final year of membership in the Big 12 Conference while prepping for its move to the Big Ten, you know not to take the phrase seriously: He delivers it with unwavering composure, the same inflectionless tone that has long been his trademark.

"I think we're on a good trajectory," Osborne says. "We feel good about the Big Ten. We think it will certainly enhance our academic resources, the shared IT ability to access a wide range of materials from other Big Ten schools that will help our students. We feel the culture is a good match, and we've done things with our facilities here and are going to continue to do so.

"So often, when schools have been added to conferences, there hasn't been much attention to culture, and, as a result, you sometimes have some frayed feelings right away, and that shouldn't happen."

The Big Ten won't let it happen. As was the Big Ten Coun-

cil of Presidents/Chancellors voted unanimously in June to make Nebraska its 12th member, work was under way to ensure a smooth transition.

The Cornhuskers - the first team added since Penn State was invited to join in 1990 - will begin competition in all sports in the 2011-12 academic year.

Last week, the University of Nebraska Board of Regents approved the terms of a \$9.25-million settlement agreement with the Big 12 as a result of Nebraska's withdrawal to join the Big Ten.

Nebraska had been a member of the core Big 12 group since 1928, when it was known as the Big Six. In addition to losing the Huskers, the league will lose Colorado to the Pac-10.

"We're a little bit crestfallen that they're not going to be with us," Texas football fan Dan Gold, 54, said before the Longhorns defeated the Huskers, 20-13, on Oct. 16 for the ninth time in their last 10 meetings. "When you see something like that break up, it's almost like family breaking up in a sense."

Although the university is located in a city of about 250,000, Lincoln has the feel of a small, friendly Midwestern community. At the forefront of Husker traditions is applauding football opponents as they walk off the field - win or lose.

Gold's son, John, is the punter for the Longhorns. As Dan spoke outside Memorial Stadium, a Nebraska fan walked up and said, "Thanks for coming."

"See, that's what I mean," Gold said, shaking his head. "I'm just sorry to see them go."

Nebraska's membership will give the Big Ten three of the nation's five winningest Division I football programs of all-time. (Michigan and Ohio State are the others.)

"You can't underestimate fit," Big Ten commissioner Jim

Delaney said. "I sort of equate Nebraska to the Big Ten in terms of marketing to what the Green Bay Packers are to the NFL: small market, national brand. And so I think the fan bases are all excited throughout the Big Ten to see Nebraska play."

For football, the Cornhuskers were placed in a division with Iowa, Michigan, Michigan State, Minnesota and Northwestern. Their annual cross-over game will be against Penn State.

Nebraska's Big Ten schedule next season will be challenging: open at Wisconsin, then come home to play Ohio State, then off to Minnesota, followed by home games against Michigan State and Northwestern. Then the Huskers play back-to-back road games - at Penn State and at Michigan - before finishing at home against border rival Iowa.

They have a 81-68-10 record all-time against the league's other 11 members. Nebraska most recently met a Big Ten opponent in 2005, when it defeated Michigan, 32-28, in the Alamo Bowl.

"I don't think you can manufacture rivalries," Osborne said. "We experienced that in the Big Eight Conference. Colorado, for whatever reason, declared us their rival. We didn't have a real strong history of competitive excellence with them. Now we did with Oklahoma. Oklahoma was a very natural rival. I think those things develop over time, over history."

Although Nebraska won't become a Big Ten voting member until July - and reportedly won't fully share in league revenues for five to seven more years - Osborne said that the Big Ten has done a good job so far in helping with the administration, particularly on the administrative side. His department also has had meetings with the

Big Ten Network.

Delaney said the league learned from mistakes it made during Penn State's integration into the conference 20 years ago.

"I'm not sure we understood all the dynamics that play out, when institutions move a set of relationships which have developed over 50 or 100 years to another set of institutions," Delaney said. "I think it takes probably a generation to replace one set of memories and experiences with another."

Ideally, Delaney said he'd like to shrink the "transition time" from one generation to "a half a generation" when Nebraska officially joins the conference next year.

"On the academic side, I don't think there's a huge problem," he said. "But on the athletic side, where there's so much competition, it's easy, sort of, when things don't go your way, to kind of project, 'Well, we're the new guy on the block.' So I want to curtail that as much as possible, show as much good will."

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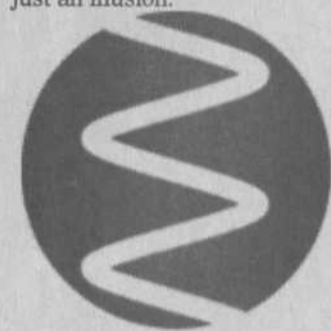
## ORIGIN

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hoods into school classrooms with rumors of treat tampering. Today, it is America's second most commercial celebration, with approximately \$6.9 billion spent on the accessories. There are even towns with names that we associate with the holiday such as Transylvania County, NC, Pumpkin Center, NC and Skull Creek, NE.

Americans, like most cultures, have celebrations of the dead including Halloween and Memorial Day. In his book *Halloween and Other Festivals of Death and Life*, editor, Jack Santino stated "if we are to judge by the masquerade parties, the many decorated houses and yards, the campus activities and the urban street celebrations around the country, it appears that today Halloween is very much an adult celebration. In this regard, it has come full circle."

Indeed Halloween appeals to the adult as well as the child with costumes bought and rented by the thousands. The money spent on the holiday establishes that it will continue to be a commercial sensation for years to come, even if it evolves again and becomes something that future children participate in with a whole new set of traditions.



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# IN SEARCH OF SPIRITS

## FOR GHOST HUNTERS, SPOOKY STUFF ISN'T JUST LIMITED TO HALLOWEEN

**H**alloween is the perfect time of year to host a night of ghost stories and scary movies. Your friends can take turns telling spooky tales about haunted houses and lost souls.

But while most people believe there are no such things as ghosts, others say they've seen the real thing and actually have tried searching for spirits.

Ghost researcher Leslie Rule is the author of "Coast to Coast Ghosts: True Stories of Hauntings Across America" (Andrews McMeel Publishing, \$14.95) and has visited haunted houses, hotels and schools. She says she believes ghosts don't realize they have died and that's why they're still lurking about.

"I (think of) a ghost like a trapped animal," she says. "It may feel like a little bit of a nightmare to them."

And since ghosts might not realize they are dead, Rule says they cling to places that meant something to them. A beloved house or the spot where they died are types of places that attract the afterlife.

Rule believes ghosts are everywhere, and says you might not realize you've seen a ghost. "They can appear so real and solid," she says. "One way to tell is if they're wearing out-of-date or out-of-season clothes. At the Alamo, there is a ghost that can be seen there that is wearing a black rain coat that is dripping wet even on sunny days."

But ghosts aren't always solid-looking people, says ghost researcher Richard Crowe, who gives tours of haunted hot spots in the Midwest. Crowe says ghosts can be present through sounds, smells or feelings. Phantom music from long ago or the lingering smell of an old perfume also could mean a ghost is present, he says.

A cold spot is another sign of a spirit, Rule says. She also believes objects are likely to disappear and animals may act funny if a ghost is lurking. "Also, (tapping) on the wall, tap water that turns on and off, lights that turn themselves off," she says.

But you could still bump into a ghost even if your house isn't haunted, Crowe says. He says ghosts aren't limited to spooky-looking old homes or empty cemeteries. "Ghosts are everywhere," he says. "They can be in stores, parks, churches, anywhere people are."

If you want to try a bit of ghost-hunting in your town, we've included a few tips on how to search for these elusive spirits, as well as some advice on overcoming fears of ghosts. Make sure you have an adult accompany you on your investigation.

And if roaming around a haunted cemetery seems a little strange to you, we offer a list of movies so you can watch ghosts and ghouls on your TV, instead of seeing them up close.

## GOING FOR THE GHOUL

Ready to snoop for spooks? Here are some tips:

**Find a happy spot:** Ghosts often haunt places they loved during their lives, says ghost researcher Richard Crowe. Is there an old dance hall or theater in your town? Research your neighborhood at your local library for clues as to where the ghosts may be lurking, Crowe says.

**Chat with your neighbors:** Ask older neighbors for details on neighborhood happenings from years ago. Find out whether they can remember which areas are rumored to be haunted.

**Have a snap attack:** Take lots of pictures and look for clues when the photos develop, Crowe says. You can use any type of camera to take pictures of areas you suspect are haunted. When the pictures are developed, look for fog or flashes of light as evidence of ghosts giving off electricity.

**Save your money:** Don't waste your money on ghost-hunting gadgets, Crowe says. Some ghost-hunting devices claim they can sense ghosts based on electrical currents. But most city areas are already filled with electrical currents from TVs, phones and other appliances.

## LOST SOULS LURK HERE

Certain spots are known to be more haunted than others. Here's a list of some of the most-spooked sites in America.

**Clark Street Bridge, Chicago:** Ghost researcher Leslie Rule says 844 people died in 1915 when the Eastland, a boat meant to take families out for a company picnic, sank in the Chicago River. Rule says people crossing the bridge have heard shrieks and even seen glowing figures bobbing in the river.

**Lemp Mansion, St. Louis:** Now a small hotel, the mansion used to be owned by the Lemp family, Rule says. The ghost of a deformed child once hidden in the house can be seen there, she says.

**Gordon-Lee Memorial High School, Chickamauga, Ga.:** Rule says the school is close to where the Civil War's Battle of Chickamauga was fought in 1862.

Students say the spirit of a Union soldier, nicknamed "Green Eyes," haunts the area with a pair of glowing eyes.

**Chase Creek, Clifton, Ariz.:** Rule says an apparition of a camel carrying a corpse has been seen and is said to be from an 1857 U.S. Army expedition.

## FIGHTING THE FEAR FACTOR

Scared of spirits? It's OK to be afraid of ghosts; scary stuff isn't fun for everyone.

But if you're too afraid to sleep without bright lights, ghost researcher Leslie Rule says you should remember you're stronger than a ghost.

"I have never come across a case where a ghost has physically harmed someone," she says.

Rule says not wanting to see a ghost is a good way to keep ghosts away: "I have cases where people have seen ghosts and asked them not to show themselves again."

Also, have a scientific attitude. Ghost researcher Richard Crowe says kids should consider the paranormal a new frontier of science. Using science instead of your imagination might help quash your fears.

## GHOSTS AND GREMLINS TURN YOUR SPOOKY DAY INTO A FRIGHT NIGHT

Break out the popcorn and prepare to be frightened, because we've rounded up some of the best video treats for Halloween.

**The Teenlight Zone:** Creepy substitute teachers, evil high school girls and childhood toys not ready to be stored in the attic. These and other terrors await you in "The Nightmare Room: Scareful What You Wish For," a collection of three episodes from the TV series based on R.L. Stine's best-selling books.



**Spiderfest:** A blast from the summer past, "Eight Legged Freaks!" unleashes behemoth mutant spiders on a small Arizona town. Bug out to these other creepfests: "Arachna-phobia" and, for old-school horror fans, the 1950s sci-fi classics "Them" and "Tarantula."

**Classic Knotts:** Get scared silly with Don Knotts in the 1966 comedy "The Ghost and Mr. Chicken," about a small-town guy who gets his chance to be a reporter by spending the night in a haunted house. "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein" is another horror comedy classic with movie monster Hall of Famers Dracula (Bela Lugosi) and Wolfman (Lon Chaney).



**Going ghoulish:** The haunted-house thriller "Poltergeist" is for older kids only and is filled with scary sights. Tim Burton's "Beetle Juice" is so funny it's scary.

**Pet projects:** "Don't ever expose him to bright light, don't ever get him wet, and don't ever, ever feed him after midnight." Of course, if Billy took proper care of his adorable "mogwai," it wouldn't transform into an army of "Gremlins," and we wouldn't have this comic shocker.

**Of mice and kids:** Anjelica Huston casts a wickedly funny spell as a witch who plots to turn all of England's chil-

dren into mice in "The Witches," based on Roald Dahl's book.

**Moonstruck:** More uplifting than frightening, "E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial" is available on DVD. The two-disc set features Steven Spielberg's original film and the 2002 edition. For the updated version, Spielberg improved the special effects and made some digital adjustments, like replacing FBI agents' guns with walkie-talkies.



— Donald Liebenson