



Behind The Mask

By: Amma and Macy

Once a year everyone dresses up on Halloween as their favorite characters going door to door gathering candy. Considering everything going on with Covid, will Halloween look different this year? Here are a few students and their thoughts on how Halloween will work out this year and what they plan to dress up as.

Eighth-Grader Conner Christmas received a costume hint from his friend Karlee Sawyer and Pinterest. He is leaning towards a 'traffic cone.' "I want to add a sombrero," he said, still contemplating his wardrobe. On a somber note, Conner is concerned about what Halloween will look like this year. "I think a lot of people won't participate handing out or receiving candy. many people will most likely be wearing masks and many kids probably won't be allowed to trick or treat," he lamented.

A similar sentiment was expressed by Freshman Montana Allen and Eighth-Grader Yasmine Else. "I think many people will stop from doing halloween or Maybe make costume adjustments," says Montana. She plans on dressing as Jack from "Hotline Miami." The character wears normal clothes, a letterman, and a chicken mask. Yasmine also believes there will be a bigger problem than finding a costume, saying "A Lot of people will get coronavirus from halloween parties, especially from high school students." Despite her misgivings, Yasmine plans on becoming a character from the video game "Among Us."

Not all Students are deterred by the virus. "Covid isn't going to stop anyone from going trick or treating," said senior Trevor Reeves. "The news can try and stop people but they're not." Trevor plans on wearing a crusaders outfit. Donning an iron face shield, Iron Mail, and trusty excalibur, he hopes to strike fear in all non-believers, while trick-or-treating with "pride."

Of all the Halloween Traditions there are, none seems more important, and celebrated, than costumes. From scary creatures, ghosts, Goblins, and media characters, the young and old don masks and wardrobe for the ultimate celebration on "Hollow's Eve." T.E.C.H.S students are no exception to the rule. Because of this, Principal Bob Garcia is allowing students to wear their costumes Friday, before Halloween. The Covid Virus may have curbed some from the traditional celebration, but at T.E.C.H.S, the halloween Haunt shall continue.

Halloween at T.E.C.H.S.

Photos by Jaleigh Littrell



Shaun Burns needing a shave



Comrades Hayden and Trevor



Mutant Ninja Logan



Josh contemplates class



Macy Partee says "Howdy!"



Sagan is such a 'dear!'



Montana returns from the dead



Ariana to the rescue!!

Wanted

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Happy October Birthdays to the Following Students!

By: Kaydence Smith and Jaleigh Littrell

- October 10th, Joana Vences, (15)
- October 14th, Raeleigh Willburn, (15)
- October 15th, Roman Graves, (17)
- October 15th, Jaleigh Littrell, (15)
- October 16th, Tucker Hasler, (17)
- October 19th, Kenneth Kelding, (17)
- October 21st, Adrian Ulrich, (14)
- October 25th, Jordan Alexander, (16)
- October 28th, Pavan Cox, (17)
- October 31st, Paul Simmons, (17)

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Student of the Month

By: Josh Johnston

For the first time in a year and five months, Texas Early College High School is proud to announce the return of Student of the Month. These students are chosen by their teachers for their exemplary academics and character. Congratulations to these students for their hard work. Keylee Daly is the first student to be in Student of the Month after a long time period. Without further ado, here is Keylee Daly.



Senior, and camera-shy, Keylee Daly, this year's first Student of the Month



Trevor Reeves, Senior, takes an opportunity to smile in between Edgenuity and college class

Photos by Jaleigh Littrell

Keylee Daly was born in Longview, TX, and she is 17 years old. She first joined TECHS in early October of 2018 in her 10th grade year. Prior to this article, she was the "Student in Focus" in the May 2019 issue. Now in her senior year, she is this month's Student of the Month.

Keylee's favorite subject is English. Her hobbies include drawing, writing, and music. She learned to play the guitar, ukulele, piano, flute, and clarinet. She used to be in the Hallsville band, but she didn't like it. She was offered "first chair" and thought about becoming a drum major. Keylee attended Hallsville and Cowboy Church school.

When Keylee is a grown-up, she would like to write, draw, and produce TV shows and cartoons. She is currently taking two Edgenuity classes and a Biology class for college this semester. "You can't put it off. You have to get down to it," Keylee states. She says she can't procrastinate in her college class.

Keylee says she thinks that she was picked Student of the Month because she is quiet and gets her work done. Her advice to other students is to not procrastinate. "You can't wait until the last minute to finish your work."

The second Student of the Month is none other than Trevor Reeves. Trevor was born in Longview, TX, just like Keylee. He attended Davy Crockett, Sam Houston, Marshall Junior High, and finally made his way to Texas Early College High School in the 9th grade.

Trevor is currently taking three Edgenuity classes on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. He works on his college classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. When he gets home, that's when he also works on his Edgenuity classes.

In college, Trevor plans to be a business major. He hopes to own his own business one day. He can't decide for his future business to be in gardening, landscaping, floral arrangements, or nursery.

What motivates Trevor the most is some of the hardships he's had to overcome. He suffers from dyslexia and seizures. This year, he's had 12 seizures. They began in 2014 after his house caught on fire.

Trevor's advice to other students is to ask questions. Don't be afraid to ask for help. "There's no such thing as a stupid question." Asked why he thought he was picked Student of the Month, and Trevor replies, "I didn't choose it, they chose me. I think it was because of my honesty, actions, and work."

Top 5 Scary Movies

By Jillian Murphy, Sagan Jameson-Hatch, and Josh Johnston

Scary movies, either you love or hate them. Halloween is a special time for those who enjoy spooking others, dressing up in costumes, getting a truckload of candy, and last but not least, watching scary movies. The three of us have decided to compile a list of the five scariest movies ever made. Make sure to watch these movies for your next party or get-together. With that out of the way, let the haunting begin.

"Here's Johnny!" The Shining has made its way to the number five spot. Based on Stephen King's hit novel of the same name, the film is directed by Stanley Kubrick. Jack Torrance, an anxious writer trying to make sense out of his work, is hired as the new winter caretaker for Overlook Hotel. He brings his wife and son together, Wendy and Danny, to stay in the hotel with him until May arrives. Danny is plagued with nightmares and premonitions. He starts seeing things such as two girls in light blue clothing and blood coming out of an elevator. When the family starts experiencing strange things, Jack eventually turns crazy and starts targeting Wendy and Danny. All they can do now is run and hide. The film turned out to be a success. It was so successful that the series turned out to have a sequel, Doctor Sleep. We know that all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.

Scream for Scream! The number four movie turns out to be "Scream." This film is directed by Wes Craven, the same director of another film that will be included in this article. In this combination between horror and comedy, a masked maniac with a knife stalks high school students in a normal-size town. It's up to the students to escape the masked psycho. The movie turned out to be a success, spawning three sequels. Don't worry, there's nothing to scream about.

Get off the streets! A Nightmare on Elm Street is the king of the road for number three. Wes Craven hits another home run with this slash-horror thriller. In the midwest, a group of teenagers attempt to escape the wicked clutches of Freddy Krueger. He is motivated by an evil spirit that preys on the teenagers in their dreams- which, in turn, kills them in reality. This film has become so popular and successful that 26 years after the original was released, a remake was made in 2010. When nightmares turn into dreams, am I right?

Halloween, the perfect time to watch Halloween, obviously. That's number two for you. Believe it or not, the Halloween movie franchise has eleven films, including two remakes of the original and a remake of the second film. The original film is directed by John Carpenter, the same director who directed The Fog and Escape from New York. On Halloween night in 1963, six-year-old Michael Myers killed his older sister, Judith. After the murder, Myers was sentenced and locked away for 15 years. On the day before Halloween in 1978, he managed to escape. Now he's back on the streets, ready to strike again. Halloween takes the runner-up spot for number two.

Prepare to be scared. The Exorcist is the movie that takes the number one spot. The Exorcist is considered by many to be one of the scariest movies ever made. Based on author William Peter Blatty's novel "The Exorcist," the film follows a possessed child and the dual priest team sent to exorcise her. The film received ten Academy Award nominations, including Best Picture, marking it as the first (and still one of the few) horror films to be nominated for Best Picture. The intense acting and terrifying special effects created such an effective film that the production itself was rumored to be cursed. According to Hollywood legend, nearly everyone associated with the film was injured, fell ill, or suffered a death in the family- and the whole set almost burned to the ground. Talk about a truly scary movie.

So there you have it. These are the Top 5 Scariest Movies ever made. Who knows... maybe you'll like watching these movies. And sometimes, maybe you won't. Happy Halloween.

The Origin of Halloween

By: Taylor Skinner and Katya Sleazina

Candy, pumpkins, witches, skeletons. These are some of the spooky things associated with the beloved holiday of Halloween. Every October 31 of each year, hundreds of thousands of people partake in the Halloween tradition of dressing up and eating candy. Most people go through the motions of participating in Halloween without wondering, how did this holiday originate and find its way to western civilization?

Halloween's origins can be traced back to the ancient Celtic holiday known as Samhain (saw-win). Samhain comes from regions that are now known as Ireland, Scotland, Great Britain, and some parts of Europe. Samhain, meaning "Summer's End", was celebrated to mark the end of the summer season and the beginning of the Celtic new year. The creepy aspect of Halloween began during Samhain, as the holiday celebrates the end of the "light" half of the year and the start of the "dark" half of the year, a time that was often associated with human death. On October 31, Celts believed that the ghosts of the dead crossed back into the land of the living.

During some celebrations of Samhain, villagers disguised themselves in animal skins to drive away ghost visitors, and tables full of food were left out to serve unwanted spirits. Soon, as Roman Catholicism began spreading across the world, the Celtic holiday merged with a Catholic holiday called "Saints' evening" or "Hallowe'en". The term "Hallowe'en" dates to around 1745 and is an abbreviation of All Hallows Eve. When immigrants from Scotland and Ireland came to the United States, they brought this holiday along with them. In true American fashion, the holiday soon became commercialized. Costumes began hitting shelves in the 1930s and trick or treating began taking place in American streets in the 1950s.

Now, many families celebrate Halloween by dressing up in costumes and going around, house to house, asking for candy. Some even celebrate by throwing fun costume parties and baking delicious harvest-time goodies. The holiday has become so commercialized that it might be hard to remember the rich origins that this old holiday has. Next time you're celebrating this spooky holiday, take the time to remember it's amazing origins and how it got to us today.



Happy

Halloween

'Picture Day' at Texas Early College

What is now a must for the school yearbook, and fondly known as "Picture Day" students from home joined the students already in attendance for a day of photoshoots and dialogue. It was good to see some students for the first time this year. An added feature of this years photos is that the seniors will be photographed in cap and gown.

Photos by Jaleigh Littrell and Kadie Cason,



Seniors Up!!

Graduating Seniors this year, Ariana Williams, Miguel Tamez, Lindsay Pleban, and Emily Cummings primp, prepare, and pose for their LAST high school photos.

Halloween Jokes

By Kaydence Smith and Jaleigh Litterell

Why did the vampire like baseball?

Answer: Every night he got to turn into a bat.

With whom did Frankenstein go trick or treating?

Answer: His ghou-friends

What do witches put on their hair?

Answer: Scare spray.

Why did the vampire vomit after biting Taylor Swift?

Answer: She had bad blood!

What did the ghost teacher say to her class?

Answer: "Watch the board and I'll go through it again...."

What does the vegan zombie eat?

Answer: GRAAAIIINNNS!

Why don't skeletons ever go trick or treating?

Answer: They have no-body to go with!

What do birds say on halloween?

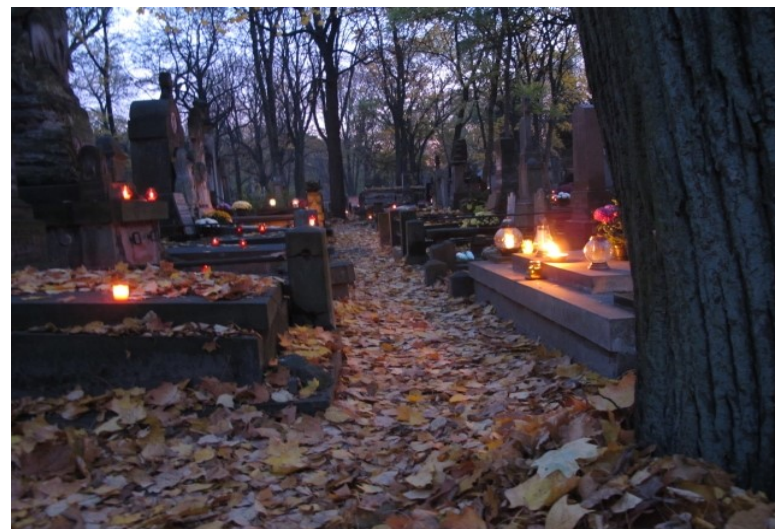
Answer: Twick or tweet!

Where do ghosts get their candy?

Answer: The ghost-ery store.

In what room of the house would you never find a ghost?

Answer: In the living room.



Stagecoach Road

By: Connor and Amma

With Halloween approaching everyone is hoping for a little scare, and what is better than some of our own town's history and legends. Every town has local haunts, here in Marshall ours would be Stagecoach Road and the Texas and Pacific Hospital.

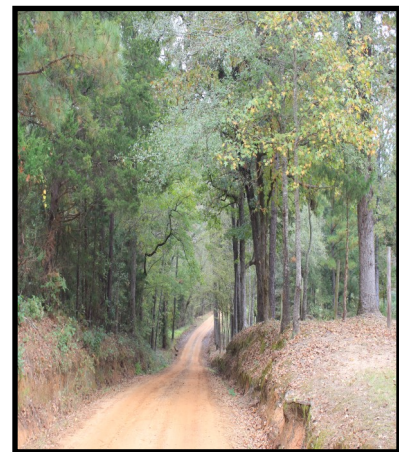
Stagecoach road isn't anything new: it actually has much history behind it. In the early to mid 1800s, Stagecoach Road was used for major travel for horses and carriages. It became the main road of travel from Shreveport to Marshall, via Jefferson. During the Civil War, it was used to transport soldiers, prisoners, and supplies between Louisiana and Texas. Before long, it extended to Hallsville, Longview, New Orleans, and Dallas. At that time, however, a new technology replaced the undependable, often washed-out mode of travel -- the railroad. Since that time, The road fell into disuse and disrepair. Now it is a curiosity and source of myth and spooky legends.

According to some, the road is haunted. There have been reports of "ghost stagecoaches" strolling down the road at night. Some have seen horse-and-carriages carrying coffins. Others have seen a ghostly woman, dressed in white. Many claim to hear crying and other strange noises.

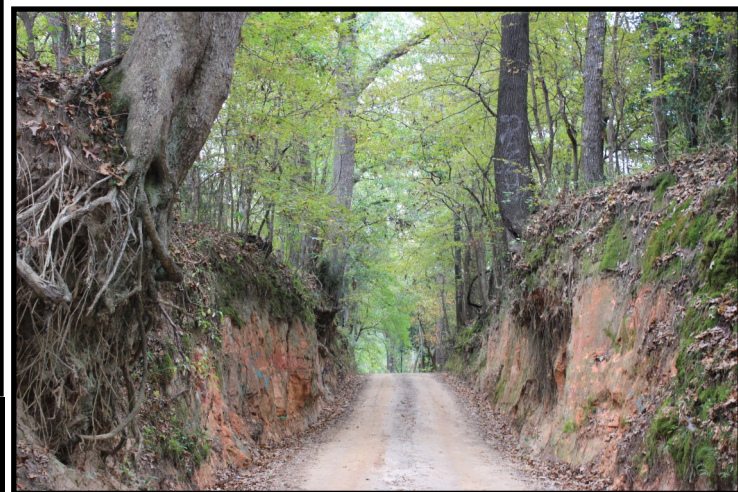


Located off of Loop 390 E. Stagecoach Road is scenic, but bumpy and narrow drive, during the day. But only travel at night.... If you dare.

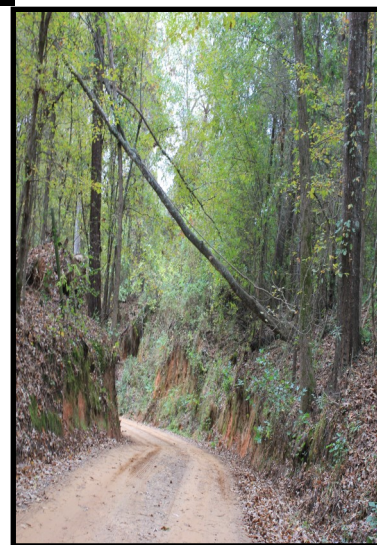
Photos by Katya Sleazina



Goodbye Yellow Brick Road



Tree roots and clay cliffs line the narrow dirt road where there is no turning back.... Unless in reverse



Low Bridge!

Texas and Pacific Hospital

By: Conner, Karlee, Taylor, and Yasmine

Following the construction of the Texas and Pacific railway, the T&P Railroad Company built a hospital to recompense for the injuries that the employees endured during their work. It opened in 1885 and was open until it mysteriously shut down in 1932. The T&P hospital reopened later that same year and served the T&P railroad workers again until 1974.

There is a massive lack of information on the hospital and why it closed, and the museum here in our town commemorating the railway barely even mentions it. We learned it shut down simply due to the fact that the T&P railroad didn't need it anymore. Marshall Memorial eventually bought it and reopened it as a regular hospital to accommodate anyone in the Marshall area. Later, when a newer hospital was built, the building was sold.

The conspiracy surrounding this place is very weird, which is what makes it creepy and interesting. We stumbled upon a blog page that contained very valuable comments to our research. A notable comment remembered it being a juvenile detention center. But what we found interesting about this specific story were the newspaper articles and information confirming that it once had been a juvenile detention center. However, it is still unknown why it was eventually abandoned.

People who have gone inside the building have recalled hearing ghosts moaning and things falling in different rooms when no one else was in there. Some videos of the inside of the building show that it is completely ravaged inside and appears that possibly some homeless individuals may live there. Although, some rooms remain intact, like storage rooms with chairs, rooms with beds, and fully fitted out bathrooms with complete bath tubs, sinks, and toilets. Many people who have been inside the building believe that there may be a basement and even remember seeing a staircase downwards, but have been unable to access it due to the amount of debris and trash inside the building.

The Texas and Pacific railroad hospital has been shut down for many years now. We still think that the lack of information on this whole thing is interesting and odd, and the conspiracy theory about the detention center was very weird. Despite our research efforts, the Texas and Pacific railroad hospital remains an odd piece of history with an unknown mystery behind it.



Once a building that provided needed health, the T&P Hospital now shelters homeless, vagrants, and the occasional ghost.

Photos by Katya Sleazina