

Campus Halloween activities continue despite coronavirus

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STAFF WRITER

A-State is not letting the COVID-19 pandemic ruin any Halloween fun. Many festivities are planned for the upcoming week in light of the approaching Halloween holiday.

Abby Antici, president of the Honors College Association, said HCA had to pivot their usual Halloween party in order to make it comply with social distancing, then once again due to weather concerns.

"HCA will be hosting a Netflix Party for the movie 'Hush' at 6:30 P.M. on Thursday, with a Halloween costume contest going on throughout the day on Instagram and Facebook," Antici said.

Netflix Party allows groups to virtually watch any movie on the platform at the same time, and it includes a chat function for members to share their thoughts on the movie.

In addition, HCA will continue with their annual



COURTESY OF HONORS COLLEGE ASSOCIATION

costume contest, but it will look different this year. Anyone can post a photo in their Halloween costume anytime on Thursday on Facebook or Instagram using [#HCAHowloween](#) to be entered into the contest. Antici said HCA is excited for this new event.

"We hope to see all of you there for a scary good time," Antici said.

HCA is not the only organization on campus that is planning on hosting a spooky event. The Student Activities Board is planning a COVID-friendly haunted



COURTESY OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES BOARD

house on Thursday as well.

SAB president Keyon Atkins said, "This year we are requiring participants to sign up for a time slot where we will message them when they can go into the haunted house."

Atkins also said that masks will be required at all times

and groups going through will be limited to a maximum of four. This is occurring in an effort to stay safe amidst the ongoing pandemic.

Other events that will happen at campus throughout the week include Halloween Game Jam hosted by the A-State

Art + Design department on Wednesday starting at 8 p.m. This will allow teams and individuals to virtually create Halloween-themed videogames. Participants can sign up online.

There will also be a Zoom call putting knowledge of horror movies to the test on Thursday hosted by the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity. The event starts at 7:14 p.m. The event requires the download of the Kahoot app or a visit to the website.

A-State will also host the International HOWLoween Celebration on Friday. Halloween treats will be available at the International Program's building from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and will show a Halloween film from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Despite the gloom of the coronavirus pandemic, Halloween events at A-State continue to ensure a fun and festive season for all A-State students.

SGA appoints new staff member, hears proposal to rename building

TRISTAN BENNETT

NEWS EDITOR

The Student Government Association met on Tuesday night to appoint a new public relations director.

Former public relations director Courtney Gibson recently stepped down from the position, leaving a space needing to be filled. Rashad Kirksey, SGA president, said Gib-

son chose to move on to other things.

"I just want to say we are totally grateful for all that Courtney has done for us, and we're appreciative as well," Kirksey said.

Because the position had to be filled immediately, SGA staff appointed Blaze Cantrell, a senior creative media production major, to the position.

"I have done a lot of stuff within my major including ASU-TV," Cantrell said. "I've done graphic design and tak-

en many graphic design classes as well as classes like desktop publishing, so I'm very proficient in the different kinds of softwares we need to create videos and make different kinds of graphics."

Senator Molly Grace Williams spoke on behalf of Cantrell.

"Blaze has been very involved on campus," Williams said. "I love Blaze, and I think that she would be an exceptional person to be put in this position."

The senate voted unanimously

to confirm Cantrell to the position.

Senators then heard a resolution from Kirksey which proposed renaming the Military Science Building to the Lieutenant Colonel Frederick C. Turner Jr. Military Sciences building.

Turner was one of the first African-American students to graduate from A-State, and he meets the requirements to have a campus building named after him.

The senate will vote on the resolution

during their next meeting on Nov. 10.

They also voted on a Shared Governance Oversight Committee resolution on limiting the amount of credit hours that transfer to multiple graduate degrees to just nine.

Sixteen senators voted against the resolution while only 12 voted for it. Although it failed to pass SGA, there is a possibility it will still be enacted if approved by the other organizations within the Shared

Kays Foundation awards grants for faculty research

A-STATE NEWS

NEWS RELEASE

The board of the Kays Foundation has awarded grants to four Arkansas State University faculty members to provide support for their projects during the 2020-21 academic year.

According to Terry Carty, executive vice president of The Kays Foundation, the grants are part of the foundation's ongoing commitment to assist the university through grants that help advance its academic, service and research missions.

A proposal by Dr. Philip Tew, associate professor of finance in the Neil Griffin College of Business, was approved for an \$8,000 grant to expand the A-State Scarlet to Black Program, a financial literacy initiative that began in 2018.

The grant will enable Scarlet to Black to partner with the H.O.W.L. Transition Program and develop a peer-to-peer financial counseling and mentoring program to benefit its students.

A \$50,024 grant proposal by Dr. Shawn Drake, professor of



imaging and department chair, College of Nursing and Health Professions, was approved for funding. With the \$14,944 grant, the Department of Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences (MIRS) will purchase two GE Vscan portable sonography machines. Goals include increasing diagnostic medical sonography (DMS) student and faculty collaboration with community health fairs and various research projects.

A proposal by Dr. Than Boves, associate professor of wildlife ecology in the College of Sciences and Mathematics, was approved for a \$8,400 grant to support his project, "Uncovering the factors associated with host-switching of specialized parasites."

This is a study of one lineage of feather mites and a set of 50 closely related avian host species of warblers to examine how parasites can shift host species.

The Arkansas State College Foundation for the Advancement of Higher Education, which operates as Kays Foundation, traces its beginnings to 1911.

CAMPUS CRIME

TRISTAN BENNETT

NEWS EDITOR

Oct. 22 | 1:07 p.m.

A University Police officer stopped a vehicle for going 37 mph in a 20 mph zone on Marion Berry Parkway. The officer made contact with the driver, Edgar Brandon, who gave him the name and date of birth of Jeffrey Brandon, which came back to no known person in the system.

Then, the officer asked for consent to search the vehicle. During the search, he found an Arkansas Identification card with his real name on it. Brandon was placed in handcuffs and began to run down the hill towards the fence that separates the road from the railroad tracks. The officer drove his patrol car down to where he was running and saw him attempting to push his way through bushes to climb the fence.

The officer used his pepper spray and hit Brandon in the face. He stopped running and was placed under arrest.

Brandon began complaining that he could not breathe and advised the officer he had heart problems, so the officer called for EMS. He was transported to St. Bernards

Hospital, treated and released.

After his information was run through dispatch, it was discovered that Brandon was driving on a suspended license and had multiple warrants with several police departments. He was transported to the Craighead County Detention Center with a hold placed on him for the Newport Police Department.

Brandon was charged with speeding, driving on a suspended license, obstructing governmental affairs and fleeing, and he is awaiting his court date.

Oct. 22 | 7:05 p.m.

University Police initiated a traffic stop on a silver Chevrolet Sonic for improperly displaying license tags. When the officer asked the driver, Corneless Jones, for his license, he asked if he was required to give it to him. The officer explained that it was required several times, and Jones continued to be noncompliant, so the officer requested assistance from another officer.

The two officers placed Jones in handcuffs and searched him. He was placed under arrest for improper display of a license plate, driving on a suspended license and obstruction of governmental operations.

Oct. 23 | 12:31 p.m.

Officers were dispatched to Arkansas Hall in regards to a hit and run accident. Bryce Nance told UPD he came outside to find damage to the front bumper of his vehicle and a note on the windshield. Nance had tried repeatedly to call the number left on the note but was unable to make contact. He filled out a statement and officers took photos of the damage and advised him to call his insurance provider.

Later, officers were able to make contact with Garrett Hatfield, who hit Nance's car. He was told to come to the police department to fill out a statement.

Oct. 25 | 7:24 p.m.

Officers were dispatched to the Chi Omega Sorority house as the fire alarm was going off. Ashley Pugh told officers she had been straightening her hair and set off the alarm. There was no smoke or fire, so the Jonesboro Fire Department gave the all clear for the alarm to be reset. This is the second incident involving hair styling products in the Chi Omega house this semester.