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Making a Monster

USF theater student gets ghoulish for the witching hour

Senior Bill Starcevic, a social science major, has a ready smile and cherubic face, one which would make the parents of any potential girlfriend sigh in relief to make him over. Starcevic’s face, one which would make the parents draw it back in starker, more pronounced Starcevic’s face.

For Starcevic has one of “those” neighbors, senior Ally Menton. Menton is a theater student. And Menton is going to make him over.

“It’s all in good fun. With Halloween right around the corner, Inside USF asked Menton to use the skills she learned in Professor Roland Guildry’s theater makeup class to turn her cherubic neighbor into something you might see keeping time in the local cemetery. It’s all about facial structure, Menton says, as she applies a foundation who want to imitate Menton’s work uses a darker foundation, aptly titled Starcevic’s drab pallor. Where there’s shadows, such as under checkbones, creases of the nose and wrinkles in the forehead, Menton uses a darker foundation, aptly titled Starcevic’s drab pallor. After some basic theater makeup classes in high school and an art institute, she enjoyed painting cuts and slashes on all her friends.

The next step, for Halloweengoers who want to imitate Menton’s work, is Oct. 31, to study where light and shadow fall naturally on the face. Where there’s shadows, such as under checkbones, creases of the nose and wrinkles in the forehead, Menton uses a darker foundation, aptly titled Starcevic’s drab pallor. After some basic theater makeup classes in high school and an art institute, she enjoyed painting cuts and slashes on all her friends.

For Starcevic is about to change. It’s all about facial structure, Menton says, as she applies a foundation who want to imitate Menton’s work uses a darker foundation, aptly titled Starcevic’s drab pallor. Where there’s shadows, such as under checkbones, creases of the nose and wrinkles in the forehead, Menton uses a darker foundation, aptly titled Starcevic’s drab pallor. After some basic theater makeup classes in high school and an art institute, she enjoyed painting cuts and slashes on all her friends.

A more recent, less gruesome assignment was assisting the cast of USF’s recent production, “Vinegar Tom.” For now, she takes a brush to a green tint, applying it liberally on Starcevic’s drab pallor.

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She breaks out the putty nose. His crypt keeper needs to be shaped a bit. Menton’s hands work over it, followed by a dark color applied liberally all over the face. After an hour, the look is done. Starcevic looks into a mirror and admires it. It’s pretty cool, Ally,” Starcevic admits. He ambles over to some pictures before attaching his fingers to his nose and pulling off the putty horror. Starcevic has a date tonight. He needs that cherub face back.

Top: Theatre major Ally Menton and her Halloween creation, the crypt keeper.
Bottom left: Fresh-faced senior Bill Starcevic, before Menton transforms the social science major into an ooky monster.
Bottom right: Menton attaches Starcevic’s new honker.

Bat-er up! The facts on flying furballs

You’re scurrying down a darkened sidewalk, clutching a trick-or-treat bag in your hand and listening intently to the other. You spot a darkened mass hanging from a tree branch.

OK! OK! Glenda Woolfenand, a USF Biology professor, is here to dispel the rumors associated with the furry little creatures forever deemed to be considered miniature Draculas.

Myth: Bats will fly into your hair. Fact: “No. Certainly not intentionally,” Woolfenand said. And he can back that up by dispelling the next rumor:

Fact: Bats are blind.

Fact: “Such an idea originates from European folklore of the early 19th century, in which it was believed to be a time when dead relatives came visiting before the cold set in. Dressing up like ghoulies or other things that go bump in the night might have been a way of replicating those dead relatives, according to Heim. The costumes might also have been considered a way to scare away evil spirits, or at least convince them that scaries were already afoot in the neighborhood, so the ghosts should just pass their houses by.

Dressing up for Halloween might be related to North European beliefs that ghosts were abroad when the days became shorter in the fall, according to English Professor Bill Heim. It was believed to be a time when dead relatives came visiting before the cold set in. Dressing up like ghoulies or other things that go bump in the night might have been a way of replicating those dead relatives, according to Heim. The costumes might also have been considered a way to scare away evil spirits, or at least convince them that scaries were already afoot in the neighborhood, so the ghosts should just pass their houses by.

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Professor spends his time in grave undertaking

He spent every day in a cemetery staring at the same grave. Each day brought new visitors, and yet the faces never seemed to change.

Communications Professor Mark Neumann spent the spring of 1997 at the Paris grave site of Doors lead singer Jim Morrison. Neumann said the idea stemmed from an interest in the connection between popular culture, fans and the death of idols.

“I was fascinated at the fact that people would travel to come stand over the bones of this dead rock star,” Neumann said. “For some, it was a real connection with Morrison himself, but others really saw a bit of their own lives in this place. It was somewhat of a para-social infatuation.”

Neumann observed scores of daily Morrison visitors, noting the more interesting. One California college student traveled to the Pere Lachaise cemetery on vacation. When he got to Morrison’s grave, he took two cigarettes from his bag, lit both in his mouth, placed one on the grave and smoked the other.

“My kid wasn’t a fan of Morrison’s music,” said Neumann. “But his best friend idolized the Doors, and when that friend left his life, Morrison was a connection point between the two. This guy ritualized this connection and it really meant something to him.”

Many young people, Neumann said, come to Morrison’s grave as new fans, thanks to the recent movie made about the Doors.

“People come to Morrison’s grave as new fans, thanks to the recent movie made about the Doors.”

Professor spends his time in grave undertaking

“The generation of fans sees Morrison as Val Kilmer from the movie,” Neumann said. “It’s interesting to hear the way the new generation discovered this group. They find out their parents were fans and they bought the record. They segmentation and open those lines of communication.”

Neumann himself was never a big Doors fan, and still isn’t, but he acknowledges the need people often have to unite with departed idols.

“People who see their fellow fans and it makes all something to identify with, and fans just magnify this process,” Neumann said. “People can be like someone else, and they often need to raise the ghosts.”

by Heather L. Hicks
Learn the facts about HIV, AIDS

HIV is a pervasive virus that infiltrates every population, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, age or sexual orientation.

Since 1980, more than half a million cases of the disease have been reported in the United States. Tampa and St. Petersburg are 18th in the nation with the number of cumulative AIDS cases.

Facts on HIV and AIDS include:

- HIV is not transmitted by casual contact in the workplace.
- People who are infected with HIV may not show symptoms for many years and, because of newly developed therapies, some are living and working much longer than in the past.
- HIV and AIDS are covered disabilities under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Employees who did not attend one of the HIV/AIDS awareness training sessions offered in 1997 are strongly encouraged to attend one of the upcoming sessions.
- Nov. 3, 1:30-4 p.m., Student Services building, room 2070.
- Nov. 12, 8:30-11 a.m., Student Services building, room 2070.

To enroll, call Nancy Ward in Human Resources at ext. 4-5708. Questions regarding the sessions should be directed to Penny Phillips at ext. 4-5703.

New vendor announced for temporary staffing

USF entered into a contract with Norrell Services, Inc. for full-service, temporary staffing needs. Norrell Corporation is the leading strategic work force management company, with a network of more than 460 company-owned locations throughout North America.

It provides temporary staffing to other universities such as Harvard, UCLA, Emory and Georgia State. Norrell can provide temporary personnel within 48 hours, excluding weekends and holidays.

It also performs criminal background checks on temporary personnel, if requested by the department. Departments should contact Norrell prior to peak periods, when the services of a large number of temporary personnel are needed, so Norrell can be prepared to fill the order.

Salary rates depend upon the skills required by the department. Norrell has three branches to service the needs of regional campuses:

- Tampa branch: (813) 288-8770, or fax (813) 289-8975;
- Clearwater (for St. Petersburg and Sarasota campuses): (727) 536-2400, or fax (727) 926-9292;
- Lakeland (for Lakeland campus, and Bartow department): (941) 667-0800, or fax (941) 667-0962.

Contact Sandi Conway at ext. 4-5701 for additional information.

Moving expense forms require proper procedure

Since the approval of a moving expense request is based on the estimate provided, hiring departments should ensure the quote includes all components of the move which are compensable. Compensable components include packing, shipping and storage of household goods, and any expenses incurred for moving an automobile.

When the moving of a mobile home is involved, the costs should also be included.

Packaging services, although they might not be used, should always be included in the original estimate.

Some moving companies have been known to add the cost of packing to a contract after it has been signed.

There is no way to determine whether the employee being moved decided later to include the packaging service or the moving company added a bogus charge.

By including the cost of packing services in the original estimate, the paying department has a better picture of the total anticipated costs for budget purposes.

The university will not authorize payment of moving expenses for unpacking, cleaning of the residence or extra insurance coverage.

Additional information about the moving expense process and the blank request form may be found on the Web at http://fcn.state.fl.us/dms/pms/rukes/krules.htm#001.

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Address correspondence to Davita Arnold. Because of space limitations, articles might not appear in the issue immediately following submission. All faculty/staff notes, calendar items and announcements must be submitted in writing. Story ideas are accepted over the phone.

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