

Ding Dong, the witch is gone

Heather Mills
The Clackamas Print

Susie Cue, age 9, was walking by herself last Wednesday night when a dark figure reportedly tried to grab her at the corner of Tony and Stark.

"I was leaving the library at half past midnight, when suddenly this stranger tried to grab me," said Cue. "I didn't see what they looked like, but whoever they were said 'I'll get you my pretty!' and then they were gone."

Susie Cue, who has been living along Drury Lane, just half a block away from where the incident took place, says she no longer feels safe in her neighborhood. Her parents are convinced that her attacker is still at large.

"We've been getting strange letters," said Dorothy Cue, Susie's mother, "written backwards on our bathroom mirror, sometimes carved into our front door. Whoever it is, they're saying they'll get our little dog, too. If things continue this way, I think we're going to have to move."

The Cues have only been living in their home a few short months, already they are surprised at the amount of supernatural activity that has been

happening in the neighborhood. "We're definitely not in Kansas anymore," said Dorothy Cue.

However, it wasn't until the body of an elderly, unidentified female was found in the vicinity, that local authorities really started to get involved. The female in question was between the ages of 50 and 80 years old, had long, dark hair and based on the appearance of her clothes, was homeless.

Anybody who might be able to identify the woman is urged to come forward.

In the meantime, this incident has caused the police to do a background check of all the residents who live there, and increase patrols in the neighborhood.

"All we can say now is that the cause of death was a large fall from a very great height, which would be fatal to any woman of any age," said chief of police Jim Gordon. "The woman seemed to have been caught unaware. She still had a broom in her hand, which is a mystery because we think she was homeless. What was she sweeping? This was obviously murder."

The background check on local residents has produced startling results. Within a one-mile radius, law officials found at least two unregistered vampires, one ghoul and at least three registered witches, the latter of which were all in violation of their parole by being within one block of a school. Questioning of residents, however, also reveals

concerns about a so called Bigfoot – or Sasquatch living in the park.

Remus Lupin, 41, a community member, is keeping a close eye on the situation. As a registered Werewolf, he wonders where the fingers are going to point next.

"It's been difficult for me to keep a job as it is. Now that they're talking about murder, things are getting more uncomfortable," said Lupin. "I know they're going to look at me because of what I am, but honestly, it sounds to me like the work of The Muffin Man – which isn't a reassuring thought. Whoever it is, I hope they catch them soon."

Lupin isn't the only resident talking about The Muffin Man. If you aren't acquainted with The Muffin Man, he was a notorious figure on Drury Lane in the late 80s.

"There's no reason to suggest that The Muffin Man is behind it. He hasn't been active in Drury Lane for more than 20 years," said Gordon.

Recent reports, do however, point to activity centering around the old Keebler Place. Chief Gordon assures the public that the City Police is doing the best they can do resolve the matter, and that there is really very little to be concerned.

That being said, he advises all community members to please keep an eye out for any suspicious activity, and to please follow basic safety precautions when walking at night, especially on Halloween.

Do not to talk to strangers, wear



Photo illustration by Anna Axelson The Clackamas Print

While the remains were too disfigured to secure a identification, the wicked witch's death raises many more questions than answers.

a coat, don't eat any suspicious looking candy, generally avoid dark looking places at night, and blow your nose into a tissue or napkin, not on your sleeve or the sleeve of a neighbor. Wear bright looking clothing. Be loud and travel in groups. Carry a flashlight with extra batteries.

"The most common mistake people make is in their own homes," Gordon said. "Most people make the mistake of not turning on the light before they enter a room. I just can't explain how dangerous this is. Unless the power is out, NEVER enter a dark room by yourself. And even then, make sure you have a flashlight, and that it's turned on."

Parents are responsible for keep-

ing their children safe. Never let any children trick-or-treat unsupervised. Local citizens can do their part to help ensure everyone's safety as well. Keep porch lights turned on for your local area trick-or-treaters this Halloween, and report any suspicious activity to the local authorities as soon as possible.

Any residents who may have any information on recent events are urged to report directly to Gordon, or the commissioner, Harvey Dent. A \$2,000 reward is offered by the county for anyone with information leading to an arrest in these cases.

Observatory haven for Haggart haunting

Felicia Skriver
News Editor

The gravel road tucked in the back of campus sits un-noticed all year long by travelers, until the fated night of Halloween when it sucks in unfortunate souls walking by. The road leads past the old Observatory that lurks above us all.

There have been reports within the years of people being drawn in, like insects to a light. Some say that culprit is the ghost Harold Haggart, the creator of the dome. He's said to have come back from his grave and claims spirits from his watchtower. In the last 24 years that the dome has been on Clackamas soil, there have been many mysterious disappearances surrounding the observatory.

"I know for a fact that creepy Observatory had something to do with Trevor's disappearance," said Tiffany Newton about her longtime friend Trevor Den. "During our Plant Harvest class he would randomly zone out towards the dome and mumble things under his breath. It was weird. He'd wander towards it while we would walk to the community gardens. It was hard to break him out the trance; I found myself yelling at him once or twice."

Since its arrival in 1988,

Clackamas Community College has had constant rumors swirling that Haggart returns every Hallow's Eve to collect souls. The unfortunate who have been drawn in to this scheme are said to be Haggart's astrological slaves, roaming star to star. They return on Halloween to help Haggart do his bidding.

"There have been no definite links between the observatory, and the disappearances," said Evan Shroud, senior assistant to the director of campus safety. "The disappearances that you're inquiring about have never actually been traced back to Haggart. You can ask the OCPD if you don't believe me. It's all a part of a big hoax to scare students."

Shroud denies the connections in the cases; however students on campus are becoming more aware of the looming Observatory. The only astrology class provided by CCC is now online, being that students are hesitant to register.

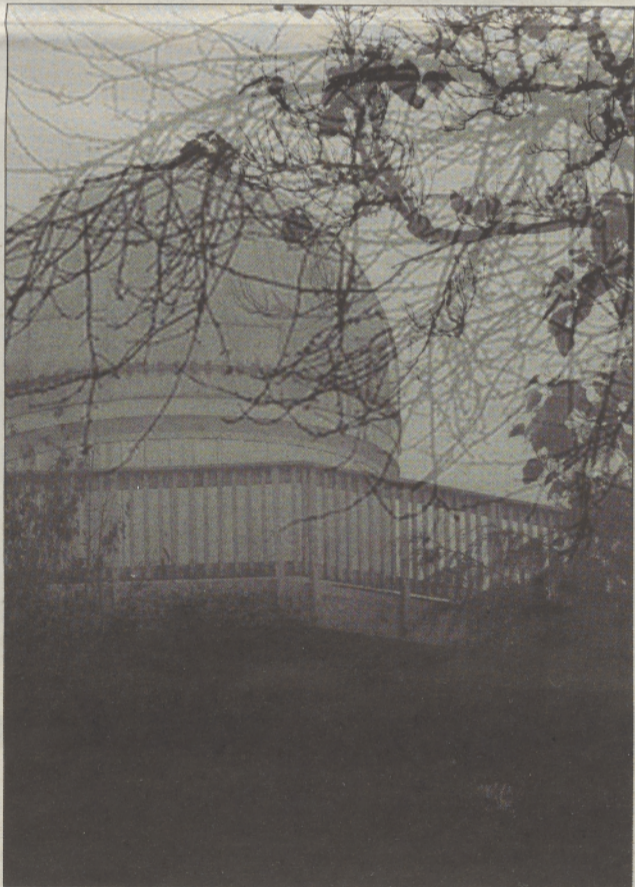
"The chill in the air made it hard

to breathe," said Alex Gerald, a student here at CCC. "The oxygen levels in the air seemed to drop with every step I took."

Gerald was taking the last astrology class offered before it went online. Around mid-terms the class visited the telescopes one late October day. Gerald and all the other students were heading back when suddenly he ended up back at the base of the stairs to the Haggart observatory without any memory of how he got there.

"I was just about to climb the stairs when I—well it looked like the shadow of a man...I was so scared it broke the weird trance I seemed to be in," said Gerald. "I honestly don't run much, but I booked it out of there." Gerald stated that he hasn't walked past the road since that day.

Since the incident, fewer students have been willing to approach the tower. As tonight is Halloween, students of CCC are urged to take care and take caution when wandering campus after dark.



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Harold Haggart, the creator of the dome, comes back every Halloween to haunt the grounds of Clackamas Community College.

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