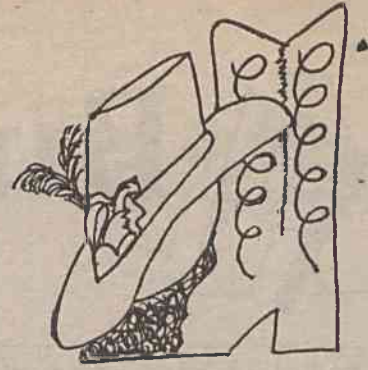




# Features

EDITOR: SALLY LOWDER



## Theory of the 31st

By Shanta Maske

Did you ever see a ghost running down your street at night? Of course you have. In fact, maybe you were the ghost-but only on Halloween, the 31st of October. This is when people wear costumes and pretend to be ghosts or witches or anything they want to be. But long ago, long before Halloween became Halloween, some people believed that ghosts groaned and moaned as they roamed about on the last day of October. These superstitious people built bonfires to keep ghosts away. Then they used the bonfires to cook a feast. They were celebrating the end of summer. Later, the celebration became known as Halloween. Hallow means "holy" and "e'en" is short for "evening." Many people for Halloween make jack-o-lanterns. When you make a jack-o-lantern for Halloween you carve either a scary or

funny face on a pumpkin and put a candle inside it. Have you ever wondered why people make jack-o-lanterns? People of Ireland say it is because of a man named Jack, who lived long ago. Jack was so stingy that he couldn't get into heaven. He had to walk around the earth and carry a lantern everywhere he went. People called him "Jack of the lantern" or "Jack O' Lantern."



## A Country Boy Can Survive!

By Leslie Morgan

Do you have friends in low places? Boy, how times have changed. Not long ago would you find many people listening to country music. Today more and more people are changing their stations to 96.9 or 103.7. Country music has changed over the past few years. There are many new country singers. There are also a couple of old singers too. George Jones, Willie Nelson, and Hank Williams are just a few of them. Some country music has lots of beat to it and some songs are very slow and sad. The Kentucky Headhunters and Hank Williams Jr.'s music is totally different than that of Travis Tritt and Garth Brooks.

At the beginning of the month the 25th Annual Country Music awards came on television.

There were many singers and groups who performed their new songs at the awards. The Judds were also there saying good-bye to country music fans. For you who don't know the Judds, they're a mother-daughter group who has had many hits in country music. The Judds are splitting up because the mother has cancer. During the awards Garth Brooks was named entertainer of the year. Vince Gill got male vocalist of the year. Tanya Tucker was named female vocalist of the year. There were also many more awards given away.

You people who don't care for country music, you're missing out. Country music is good to listen to when you need to be relaxed. But, if you don't like it and think you never will, here's a quarter, call someone who cares!!!

## No Treats, Just Tricks

By Sally Lowder

Imagine it, it's October 31, Halloween night. The full moon rests upon the black clouds and visions of goblins and witches fill your imagination with terrifying thoughts. But just when you thought it was safe to walk to a friend's house down the street, you find yourself getting clobbered with eggs coming from all directions. Tricks like this one always seem to take place on October 31. Here's some AHS students who in the past have enjoyed scaring the pants off of people on Halloween nights. Lets see what they did to make their victim's hearts skip seventeen beats!

Josh Cates - I told my cousin that I had paid for a hooker. When she knocked on the door, he got scared and ran!

Eric Culp - I torched a bag of biodegradable waste, put it on somebody's doorstep, and rang the doorbell. You should have seen the stuff on his shoes!

Kyle Marx - Told my brother someone stole his truck. He ran out and looked and it was gone. Really my mom had taken it to my aunt's.

Becky Wood - We took some friends down a long dark road and had people dress up like they had been killed and were coming after us. We "accidentally" locked the car doors and had to hide in the woods.

Chris Huneycutt - I destroyed pumpkins and put a dead possum in someone's mailbox.

Curtis Cox and John Page - We tied some thirteen

year old to a tree and instead of taking his candy, we took his mom! (Always check your candy before you eat it). All right!

Coach Weiker - I put worm dirt in my best friend's Copenhagen container and even put a worm in there!

Mr. Johnston - Sat on front porch and dressed as a scarecrow sitting in a rocking chair. When the little Halloween creatures would leave after collecting their treats, I would move or jump out of the chair and scare them. Get ready, Marcee Vanore, because I know you'll be trick or treating again this year!



Mrs. Bureson and Mr. Hoyt are ready for Halloween '91.

## Ever Heard of Booger Holler?

### Don't Doubt Mystical Powers!

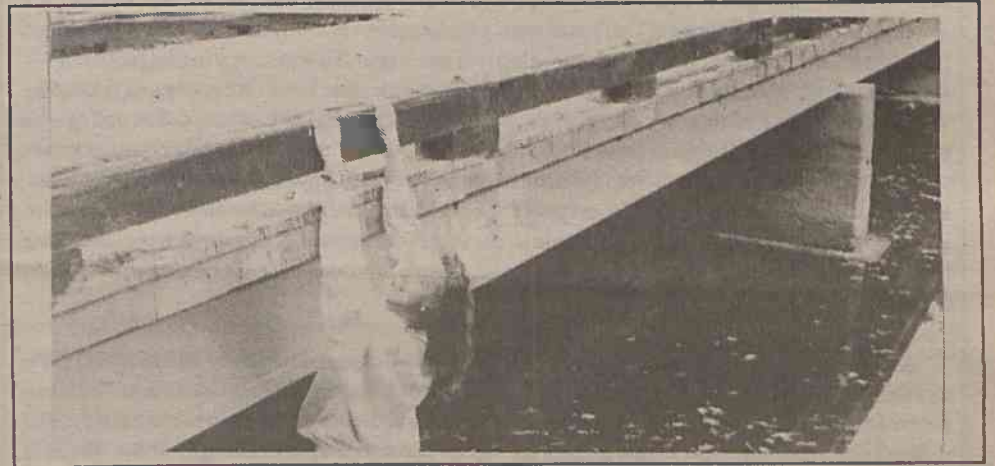
By Christy Hendrick

With Halloween approaching many people begin to get the "spooks". Along with Halloween comes thoughts of ghosts, mysteries and legends. In Stanly County we have a few places locals go to get a good scare around Halloween.

One of the first places is Booger Holler. Booger Holler is a bridge located in West Stanly. The legend that goes along with this bridge is quite spooky to say the least. It is said that one Halloween night a group of people's car stalled on the bridge. They got out of the car to try to find out what the problem was. After getting out they heard chains rattling out from under the bridge. Suddenly a figure of a woman and a baby appeared coming out of the water. It is told that the figure took the people under the bridge and they were never heard from again. It is now said that someone can park on the bridge at night and hear the screams of the victims.

Another place that comes to mind when thinking about Halloween adventures is Gravity Hill. If you have ever been on one of those midnight rides to Gravity Hill, you know you can put your car in neutral with your parking lights on and be pushed up the hill...by gravity? No one knows, but if you are really daring you can sprinkle powder on the back bumper of your car and see handprints! The story behind this mystery is UNBELIEVEABLE!! In the early 1950's a woman and her infant were traveling down a rural road when their car broke down. Upon getting out to check on the car the woman sat the baby down behind the car. The car suddenly began rolling backward and rolled over top of the baby. In panic the woman pushed the car off of the baby. To this day you can go to Gravity Hill, put your car in neutral on the X and feel your car being pushed up the hill.

If you dare this Halloween, go visit these places. I promise you, it will make you wonder—WHAT WAS THAT?



Wendy Smoak holds on for dear life on "Booger Holler" bridge.

## Teachers Prowl the Night!

By Natasha Byrd

Halloween night is always full of experiences never to be forgotten. Some of the faculty here at AHS have some strange memories they would like to forget. Others admit to really never doing anything that bizarre on Halloween. There are also teachers that would like to forget some things done to them on Halloween night.

Just by looking into the faces of some of the faculty, you would never know that they had been wild in high school or college. Mr. Morgan remembered a Halloween night when some of his friends threw rotten eggs on him. He said he could smell that odor for two or three weeks afterwards.

Mr. Shaw told of an encounter of mistaken identity on Halloween night. He and some friends had been driving around when a car pulled up beside them and pulled a gun on them. The other car thought they had been throwing rotten eggs. Mr. Shaw was completely terrified.

Mr. Stewart when asked what he used to do on Halloween night with his friends, replied "You could not print what we did!" One has to wonder what all that would include.

Mr. Marshall has a less bizarre memory of a Halloween night in college. The strangest thing he could remember was that they would all dress up as nerds on Halloween.

Mrs. Bureson could not think of anything she

did in college or high school on Halloween. She admitted to being involved in her studies and staying away from the crazy things everyone did in college for Halloween.

Mr. Holcomb, Mr. Johnston, and Mr. Hedrick have some memories of what some students did to them. Mr. Holcomb, however got his "trick or treaters" back. Some of his students came and were about to do something to his car. He got on the roof and surprised them with a shower from his water hose.

Mr. Johnston can remember when students rolled his total house. They rolled it from front to back and stuck plastic in his chimney. It was completely unbelievable to him.

Mr. Hedrick has been through it all with his students. He remembered many rolled yards and rotten eggs during his fifteen years here. After all that time, he really has to get tired of it.

The faculty at AHS tell some stories that are very surprising. If this is what they did on Halloween, wonder what they did on normal nights out on the town. When you are sitting in class the rest of the school year, take a different look at the teachers. They were a lot like you. Also, the next time you think about doing something to a faculty members yard or house, DON'T!!!! A surprising unexpected shower might hit!!!