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WCPL has Halloween activities through October

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The Warren County Public Library has a wealth of adult events planned in October, many of them in the Halloween spirit.

An introduction to tarot card reading, a horror movie trivia event and stories about area hauntings will all be offered throughout the month.

Rachel Ferguson, the library's adult programming coordinator, said she organized a number of events with Halloween connections because of her love for the holiday, which she knows she shares with many others.

"I am kind of a big Halloween nut, so some of these things are planned because I like them and I know other people like them," she said.

The events will feature a range of activities, such as presentations from local experts to more hands-on activities, Ferguson said.

"We are very excited about what we've got coming down the pipe this month," she said.

"We've got a lot of diverse things this month."

Jonathan Jeffrey, department head for library special collections at Western Kentucky University, will host a discussion of the art and form of tombstones at 6 p.m. Monday at the WCPL's Smiths Grove branch, 115 Second St. The event is not specifically tied to

Halloween; instead, Jeffrey said he's long been fascinated with tombstones and aims to teach an audience about what these markers say about the time and place they come from.

"I always tell people cemeteries are a sort of outdoor museum," he said. "There's something about the stone that tells us about the person buried there."

Jeffrey said he'll be showing examples of graves from across the state, although he will mainly focus on tombstones from Warren County that mostly exemplify normal trends in grave-making through the ages. His presentation will feature a few oddities, such as pictures of zinc alloy graves that still survive.

Focusing on the crafting of tombstones rather than the epitaphs, Jeffrey said his presentation will emphasize the artistry of the masons who crafted the tombstones of the past.

"They weren't just going by a pattern," he said "They were interpreting. They were artists, truly."

Patty Teague, the library's home delivery coordinator, will teach a beginner's course at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 19 on the meaning of tarot cards at the Bob Kirby Branch, 175 Iron Skillet Court. Teague will go over the meaning of each tarot card, which can vary depending on the question you ask before drawing, she said.

"You basically make a contract with the universe and the universe gives you the cards," she said.

Preregistration for the event is required. According to the library's webpage, people can register by calling the Bob Kirby Branch or by sending an email to registration@warrenpl.org.



Teague requests that people bring their own tarot decks to the lesson.

"I'd really like it to be hands-on, not just me telling people stuff," she said. "I want people to play with their cards."

On Oct. 26 at the Bob Kirby Branch and Oct. 30 at the main library, 1225 State St., Tamela Smith, manager of audiovisual services at WKU, will be sharing stories about ghosts and hauntings in the Bowling Green area. Both sessions begin at 6 p.m.

"When you share ghost stories, you share a little bit of the history of the community, so it's a fun time," she said.

Van Meter and Potter halls, both on WKU's campus, and the Capitol Arts Center are among the many local sites where supernatural occurrences have been recorded, Smith said.

"It's just fun to talk about the stories and what people experienced in the area," she said.

According to a news release from the library, other notable events include:

- "Horror Movie Trivia Night," 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the Graham Drive Community Library, 305 Graham Drive. Teams of four can register for the event.
- "Shirt Sleeve Pumpkins," 6 p.m. Oct. 23 at the main library. Participants bring long-sleeved shirts that can be made into pumpkin decorations. Registration is required.

- "Poetry Night," 5:30 p.m. Oct. 25 at the main library. Local poets Trish Jagers and Cheryl Hopson will read poems from their recently published books.
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