

# THE LEDGER

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON TACOMA



HAPPY  
HALLOWEEN!

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## OPINION: 4 conspiracy theories that catch the eye

Conspiracy theories are fun to talk about, but could some of them hold some truth?

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- Your first and last name
- "Dear Editor," as the opening of your piece
- Respond to one of our articles or happenings on campus



## Huskies in the hallway: What is your opinion on candy corn? Why?

COMPILED AND PHOTOS BY REMI FREDERICK

				
Victoria Johnson	Olivia Whitmarsh	Maddie Emerson	Lucy Malone	Ellen Moore
She/Her Sophomore Law and Policy	She/They Junior Psychology	She/Her Senior Biomedical Science	She/Her Senior Communications	She/Her Teaching Professor
“Candy corn is great. It’s a staple! It’s a reminder of my childhood. Taste-wise it’s not the best... It’s very nostalgic.”	“Yes! I love candy corn. I think fall is one of my favorite seasons, it’s something to bring us back into fall. It’s a staple fall food.”	“No! It’s so bad. Way too sugary and to me it has no flavor. I’m more of a chocolate person, myself.”	“Yes. Because it’s a traditional festive candy. I like the idea of it. It’s more like [for] decorative purposes.”	“Absolutely not. It does not deserve a place on the Halloween menu. It is all sugar and no taste.”

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# What's upcoming for our Library

The Snoqualmie Libraries construction has extended past their original projection, here's what you need to know going forward.

By **NICKOLUS PATRASZEWSKI**  
PHOTOGRAPHER

The Snoqualmie Library is going through heavy construction work that's extended past the online learning period. However, starting Winter Quarter, students will find a variety of brand new facilities and community features, spanning from research help and study assistance to a community kitchen and meditation room.

Having been closed since March 17th of 2020, the Snoqualmie Library in particular has been under construction since May of this year, and despite the original opening projection of September, in time for Fall Quarter to begin, the construction has taken longer. Supply chain difficulties prevent a hard date from being set; it's projected to finish in time for Winter Quarter, according to Dr. Annie Downey, the Associate Dean of University Libraries, and the Director of the Tacoma Campus Libraries.

While it's under construction, students won't miss out on any necessities, as all of the Snoqualmie Library's standard services are being

handled by the Tioga Library, whose own renovation was finished earlier this year.

Additionally, the Teaching and Learning Quantitative Center has begun offering services in what is available in the Snoqualmie Building, with students merely needing to check into the Tioga Library first-floor desk to access it.

And that's not all, when construction finishes students can look forward to a renovated and renewed space, a co-location for the Research Help Desk and TLC Writing Center services which Downey says shall "allow us to offer services that naturally go together to students in the same space."

Dr. Downey also is excited for the new Makerspace coming to the Snoqualmie library, which shall offer "laser printers, 3D printers, sewing machines, tools, maker classes, and so much more."

The renovations will also bring forth The Center for Equity and Inclusion to the Snoqualmie Library, which will not only offer a community kitchen and classroom, but also a meditation room and space meant

for collaboration, all of which will facilitate many new programs.

"As a responsive student-focused organization, the Library is committed to providing services that meet students' current needs. As we've returned to in-person classes, we are relearning and adapting to how students' study and work habits and needs have changed and/or stayed the same."

Keep your eyes and ears open for announcements and news regarding the Library in the future, including about Grand Opening events at the start of Winter Quarter.

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**At this time, the Tioga Library is open:**

*7:30 a.m to 7:30 p.m,  
Monday through Thursday*

*7:30 a.m to 5 p.m on Friday*

*Curbside pickup available by  
appointment from 12 p.m to 4 p.m  
on Weekends, along with the library  
website being available for research  
assistance 24/7.*

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PHOTO BY NICKOLUS PATRASZEWSKI



PHOTO BY NICKOLUS PATRASZEWSKI



# Add these Halloween songs to your playlist ASAP

With Halloween coming up, it is important that you've got the perfect Halloween playlist.

By REMI FREDERICK  
OPINION EDITOR

This Halloween will be the first one since COVID-19 vaccines were made available to the public. So throw a safe Halloween party and be sure to add these spooky songs to your playlist. I promise you won't regret it.

## STARTING WITH THE BOTTOM OF THE LIST, NUMBER FIVE IS "WEREWOLVES OF LONDON" BY WARREN ZEVON.

This song was released in 1978 and still appears on Halloween playlists today, for example, Spotify has it on their "Spotify's Top Halloween Tracks." "Werewolves of London" is catchy and has the spooky spirit sprinkled into the lyrics.

## NEXT AT NUMBER FOUR IS "DISTURBIA" BY RIHANNA.

While this may not seem like a Halloween song at first glance, both the beat and music video prove that

in fact, it is. To me, this song brings back memories of visiting Wild Waves around Halloween time and seeing everyone in costumes surrounded by fog. The lyrics are reminiscent of being trapped in a haunted house.

## THE THIRD IS THE CLASSIC, "THRILLER" BY MICHAEL JACKSON.

Honestly, this song needs no explanation. It has it all, the lyrics are unforgettable and the music is just so perfectly peppy and terrifying at the same time. The spoken part in the song, said by Vincent Price, sends chills down my spine even during the thousandth listen. The music video has zombies and werewolves, I honestly don't know how much more Halloween you can get in one music video.

## THE SECOND-BEST HALLOWEEN SONG IS "HEADS WILL ROLL" BY THE YEAH YEAH YEAHS.

Though this song is about drug

use, according to Genius lyrics, it has little hints of Alice in Wonderland and the use of the guillotine throughout the whole song. Which makes it the perfect Halloween song, who doesn't want to hear about heads on the floor when they are drinking "blood" or eating brain bread.

Before we get to my personal favorite Halloween song here are some honorable mentions.

## FIRST UP IS "GHOSTBUSTERS" BY RAY PARKER JR.

Even though this is a hit song and I'm sure if you yelled out "Who you gonna call?" on campus you'd get at least ten responses, I decided not to include it due to its controversy. Mental Floss reports that Parker stole the bass and riff line from "I Want A New Drug" by Huey Lewis. Therefore, I decided to leave it off of the list due to its checkered past.

## NEXT IS "TIME WARP" BY RICHARD O' BRIEN, NELL CAMPBELL, AND PATRICIA QUINN.

While this song has distinctly Halloween themes and the musical it comes from, "The Rocky Horror Picture Show," is a classic, this song just isn't my favorite. Don't get me wrong, I'm always a sucker for a good Halloween dance song but the lyrics are very fast-paced which makes it hard to sing along.

## THE FINAL HONORABLE MENTION IS "(DON'T FEAR) THE REAPER" BY THE BLUE OYSTER CULT.

"The Reaper" is a great song about a man telling his partner to not fear death even as the partner dies. With lyrics like "Romeo and Juliet are together in eternity" it is debatable if this is a Halloween song. Because all my life I've considered this song to be part of my Halloween playlist, I'm giving it honorable mention status.

## DRUM ROLL PLEASE, HERE IS THE TOP HALLOWEEN SONG! "MONSTER MASH" BY BOBBY PICKETT.

This song features Dracula, Wolfman, and even ghouls making it the quintessential Halloween song. It has it all, a catchy beat, humorous lyrics that also paint a clear picture of what is happening in this castle filled to the brim with monsters.

Of course, I have missed some Halloween songs as I can't cover them all but if you think I've missed a particularly important one, write in and tell me so! I'm happy to hear everyone's thoughts.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NIGHTMARE ON FILMSTREET

The Reaper.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MJVIBE

Thriller is the most popular Halloween song as reported by both Insider and Billboard.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR

Rocky Horror Show live performance.





Illustration of what a flat earth would look like.

ILLUSTRATION BY JAIDA NOBLE

## 4 conspiracy theories that catch the eye

Conspiracy theories are fun to talk about, but could some of them hold some truth?

**By Madi Williams**  
MANAGING EDITOR

Conspiracy theories are everywhere as some people know all too well but others might not be fully aware about. Either way, diving deep into a conspiracy theory can be a wild ride and some may even leave you questioning what you knew before. Take a look at these theories and see if you agree or disagree and if one is intriguing enough, dive in a little deeper.

### FLAT EARTH

They call themselves the Flat Earth Society. These individuals believe that the earth is flat and not round as many others believe. If you were to look at a flat earth map the continents are in about the same place but Antarctica is instead on the bottom it is the whole outer rim of Earth, which has similarities to the United Nations logo.

They have a list of reasons as to why the earth is flat on their website [flatearthsociety.org](http://flatearthsociety.org), here are some

that I found interesting from the site. "The horizon always rises to meet eye level - which is impossible on a ball earth. The surfaces of bodies of water have been shown to be level. If the Earth was a Globe, this would not be the case." Further they explain how the curvature can't be seen from an airplane because "airplane windows serve to distort the view of passengers and make them believe they see curvature when indeed there is none."

The Flat Earth Society has many other theories as well so if you are interested in exploring this more I suggest you take a look yourself and see what you think.

### THE MOON LANDING FAKED

July 20, 1969 was a big day for the US for bringing the first humans to step on the moon, yet people have been skeptical about it from the start. Many believe that the landing was done at a movie studio based on looking at the images and video from that day. Others look at the pictures that were taken and question why there were no stars and only blackness in the images.

Even the Flat Earth Society has explanations as to why it was faked, and more evidence that the Earth is flat. Some of those are "During the Cold War we faked the moon landing. Shortly after they realized the reason they could not reach the moon was due to the flatness of the Earth. They were stuck in a lie, and had to continue it or lose legitimacy of our governments. Even today we would still hold onto this lie due to the role science plays in our ruling government."

Needless to say, the moon landing leaves us with many questions, and who knows if they will ever be answered.

### UFOS

There has always been that question of if we are really alone in this universe, and with sightings of UFOs of people seeing lights in the sky appear and then disappear with no explanation. In a Washington Post article "The lonely journey of a UFO conspiracy theorist" talks to Douglas Wilson about his experience with looking for the truth with UFOs. Wilson said "the U.S. government discovered it decades ago and kept it

hidden from the public." Wilson has been digging into UFO cases in his free time to find the truth.

Wilson brings up that in 1953 there was a program through the CIA that "recommended a 'broad educational program' to reduce public interest in UFOs, including through mass media." This brings the question as to why the government would want people to stop talking about UFOs, is it because they don't want us to know the truth?

### CELEBRITY DEATHS

The death of a beloved celebrity hits the world hard, but when the death has unanswered questions around it, people will start to question what really happened. The death of Kurt Cobain, the lead singer of Seattle based band Nirvana hit fans hard, but they also found it hard to believe that it was a suicide. Many believe that his wife had him assassinated due to the fact that Cobain was talking about leaving her and taking their child, leaving her alone and with no money.

The death of a beloved president

JFK also is surrounded by conspiracies. "The Grassy Knoll" being one where there was a second gunman in the grassy hill that overlooked the area where JFK would be. Another being that the government themselves did it, according to biographer Philip Shenon, that "Apparently Bobby Kennedy's first suspicion was that it was some rogue element in the CIA," stated in a Town and Country article by Caroline Hallemann. The article also included that "CIA leader's were notably angry with Kennedy over the Bay of Pigs Invasion" which could have been some motive.

What do you think about these conspiracies? Are you going to dig deeper into the deaths of some of the biggest celebrities? Or are you going to look into the moon landing and if the world really is flat?



# Watching these zombie movies is a no-brainer

The 2000's brought about a golden age of zombie delights, producing unparalleled works in the genre. Here are four of the best zombie flicks.

By **ELL HOBBS**  
FILM CRITIC

#4

"28 DAYS LATER"

3/5

The film that became the catalyst for the modern resurgence of the undead in movies, "28 Days Later" takes us to the last bastions of civilization following a sudden, zombie-inducing contagion. In this despairing landscape, a rag-tag group of survivors search for hope, encountering ne'er-do-wells, resource obstacles and of course zombies along the way.

With an all-star cast featuring Cillian Murphy, Naomie Harris, and Brendan Gleeson, the film is almost indiscernible as an indie. The editing is very 2002 and at times the decisions of the characters are slightly unbelievable, but there are many admirable qualities as well, namely the fact that it feels like a serious film. Too often, the genre (especially pre-"28 Days") is all flash and gore with no artistic meat to the writing. "28 Days Later" subverts that trend, partly influenced by budget limitations but is mostly down to the masterful direction of Danny Boyle ("Trainspotting," "Slumdog Millionaire"). The film also knows how to be introspective and chillingly silent when it needs to be, and that makes all the difference when it comes to intensifying the action.

It's a slow burn but a quality film, and an important one in the resurrection of zombie movies.

[Available at time of writing to stream on: HBO Max, DIRECTV]

#3

"WORLD WAR Z"

3.5/5

Based on the novel of the same name by Max Brooks, "World War Z" is a "realistic" take on the sociopolitical side of the zombie genre.

It may be action-filled and clever in its interpretations of international relations in a zombie apocalypse, but what truly makes "World War Z" successful is that it has a solid plot. In many zombie flicks, "28 Days Later" included, rote survival is the name of the game, with no big emphasis on the cause of zombification nor is there a major goal or interest of the characters besides not dying. "Z" on the other hand is set up with clear intent — to find a cure.

Overall, "World War Z" does a really good job at creating a believable and exciting alternative — but not totally unfeasible — reality where



ILLUSTRATION BY JAIDA NOBLE

Simon Pegg fights off the undead with a cricket bat.

the undead pose a serious threat to international security. Some of the logic in the film may not be totally fool-proof, but we're talking about a zombie movie here.

[Available at time of writing to stream on: Paramount+, DIRECTV]

#2

"TRAIN TO BUSAN"

4/5

This Korean, action-packed rollercoaster of a zombie film centers around a father fighting to rescue his daughter in far-away Busan from hordes of disease-ridden mutants, as uncertainty about the contagion and its effects persist.

The sense of doom is palpable, but so is the intense drive for survival. "Train to Busan" is a struggle between the living and the undead, coupled with (like all the best zombie flicks) that of the living among

themselves.

The acting is surprisingly good, an area where horror films and the zombie genre tend to slip, and the filmography creates a brilliantly energetic uneasiness. The best of the film, however, is in the action, which features creative and enjoyably stress-inducing sequences that keep the viewer on their toes in anticipation of the proceeding "waves". In many ways, the action writing and plot are nothing new (see: George Romero's "Night of the Living Dead", "Aliens", and the previous two films on this list) but are executed in such a perfect way, combined with bursts of originality in scenario, that the film works exceptionally well.

"Train to Busan" learns from the classics of the past to create what could be considered the "fully actualized" zombie-action-thriller.

[Available at time of writing to

stream on: Hoopla (FREE), Prime, AMC Plus, Shudder]

#1

"SHAUN OF THE DEAD"

4.5/5

Shaun is fed up — with life, his job, his relationships, with the mundanity of it all. One day, the best day he could have hoped for arrives — zombies invade his quiet English hamlet and he finally gets the chance to be the hero. Simon Pegg and Nick Frost tear up the screen as the leads Shaun and Ed, galavanting across the town — cricket bat in-tow — they beat back swarms of their undead neighbors.

Edgar Wright's gore-heavy comedy, the first of his unofficial trilogy starring Pegg and Frost, is a cult favorite for a reason. Every frame is packed with brilliant humor, witty lines, bursts of rom-com and lots

and lots of blood. The editing is also a strange highlight, utilizing "smash" shots and quick cuts to great comedic effect.

"Shaun of the Dead" is the rare kind of movie you can watch over and over and love it just as much every time, and the best zombie movie ever made. I'll stand by that claim.

[Available at time of writing to stream on: DIRECTV, TNT, TBS]





PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TACOMA LITTLE THEATER, DENNIS K PHOTOGRAPHY  
Miss Scarlet (Robin Mae Becar), Mrs. White (Deya Ozburn), Cook (Janice Williams), Mr. Green (Frank Roberts), Wadsworth (Mauro Bozzo), Yvette (Hana Hahn), Mrs. Peacock (Dana Galagan), Professor Plum (Jason Sharp), and Colonel Mustard (Mark Peterson)

## Can you put the Clues together at TLT?

Clue is more than a game and movie, it's also a play to add to your spooky season list!

**By MADELINE HILLER & MADI WILLIAMS**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF & MANAGING EDITOR

The Tacoma Little Theater opening night of "CLUE Onstage" was a full house of laughs and suspense throughout the show. Chris Serface started the show with a land acknowledgment that the theater is on Puyallup tribal land. Inside the theater itself the new chairs were exciting to see, since the chairs before were very rundown where now they have chairs like the movie theaters.

Throughout the play there were moments here and there that gave off "And Then There Were None" vibes, a book by Agatha Christie where strangers are brought to a mystery island and dead bodies start dropping just like within the play.

The theater has a revolving stage which made it so that they were able to show rooms like; the hall, the lounge, the dining room, the study, the kitchen, the library, the conservatory which had a secret passage to the lounge, and the billiard room. This allowed the stage to be able to showcase almost every room that is also included in the game. Additionally, the Hall of the house was beautifully designed to resemble an old mansion

and gave off some creepy vibes. Not only does the play bring in connections from the game but it also pulls lines from the 1985 Clue movie like "flames, on the side of my face".

Taking place in 1954, not far from Washington D.C., our well known characters, Miss. Scarlet, Mrs. Peacock, Mrs. White, Colonel Mustard, Mr. Green and Professor Plum, all receive letters to come to The Boddy Manor as it is "in their best interest" to do so. Once there, we learn that each of them is being blackmailed by their host and paying him to keep quiet about each of their individual crimes they have committed. Once their host shows up to the "party," things start taking a turn.

Throughout the evening, the core six are visited by several additional characters and each start dropping like flies, "even three murders in three minutes!" But the million dollar question is who is killing all of these people?

Filled with several twists, this show will definitely keep you on your toes. Even people in the audience were whispering throughout trying to figure out who done it. The characters were brilliantly cast and everyone did their part to bring the magic of the board game to life.

There are bits of the show that had

heavy choreography including one of everyone running in and out of doors, timing it to be a frantic search for clues. There were even scenes that had a "rewind" effect where the cast had to do what they previously were doing but backwards to demonstrate retracing their steps. The choreography and blocking was done beautifully and executed flawlessly.

The show has a 1 hour and 29 minute runtime plus a 15 minute intermission. Tacoma Little Theatre also put out an Audience Warning for content including sexual suggestiveness, adult language, strobe light effects, gunshots, and fake smoking and alcohol usage.

The theater is offering concessions as long as audience members place their mask back on when they are between

sips and snacks. When entering the theater be ready with your vaccination card or proof of negative test and I.D to make entering quick and easy. "Clue Onstage" runs from Oct. 22 until Nov. 7 with a pay what you can performance on Nov. 4 at 7:30 p.m. This gives you seven days for you to be in the game of Clue with this killer cast and see if you can figure out who done it.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TACOMA LITTLE THEATER, DENNIS K PHOTOGRAPHY



