

Ghosthunters Tour Old School Building

A ghosthunting trip through the Old New Haven School on Maupin, now the Preservation Society building, was the main attraction Thursday night during the "Paranormal Investigation: New Haven Style" program sponsored by the local branch of the Scenic Regional Library.

New Haven Police Chief Dan Terry, who conducts ghost hunts in his spare time as "Spookstalker" Dan Terry, led the tour for two groups, who also hunted at the old high school building next door.

"We've never actually ghosthunted the old elementary school before," he said. "We've done the old high school a couple times. So we decided to go somewhere new and see what we find."

Terry also encouraged people to download ghost-hunting phone apps, most of which are free or cost 99 cents. "They actually do work," he said. "I'm amazed by some. I show them how to use those as well as other ghost hunting equipment."

Two people from St. Louis Paranormal Research Society, which does tours and investigations in the Lemp Mansion, the Fox Theater, the Peabody Theater, and the Old Courthouse in downtown St. Louis sent people to help out at the event. Two current NHPD officers, one retired NHPD officer, and two investigators from Hermann also came to assist.

Terry says the old high school has several spirits in it. "We've encountered them multiple times," he said, recalling a late night incident where three youths ran in front of his patrol car, claiming they were outside the school with their Ouija board and it started moving.

In another incident, two young girls and their father attending a family celebration swore they saw a girl in the upper windows looking down at them, he said.

Terry does lectures and tours all over the area, almost always for charity. "I did a lecture in Marthasville, the first library-sponsored lecture in Marthasville, and we got 28 people, which is pretty good," he said.

"We filled a trolley last (Thursday) night for the Hermann tour, and the one for Sunday is sold out. The ones in Washington and at the Fox Theater are also sold out. The ghost stuff is still hot. I don't get paid for any of it. I do it for charity but, you know, it's fun." The trolley tours in Hermann have been going on five or six years and he's been helping out with the one in Washington probably longer than that, he said.

"It's getting more popular. I kind of thought it was on the decline for a while when the shows started going off TV but it's still pretty good."

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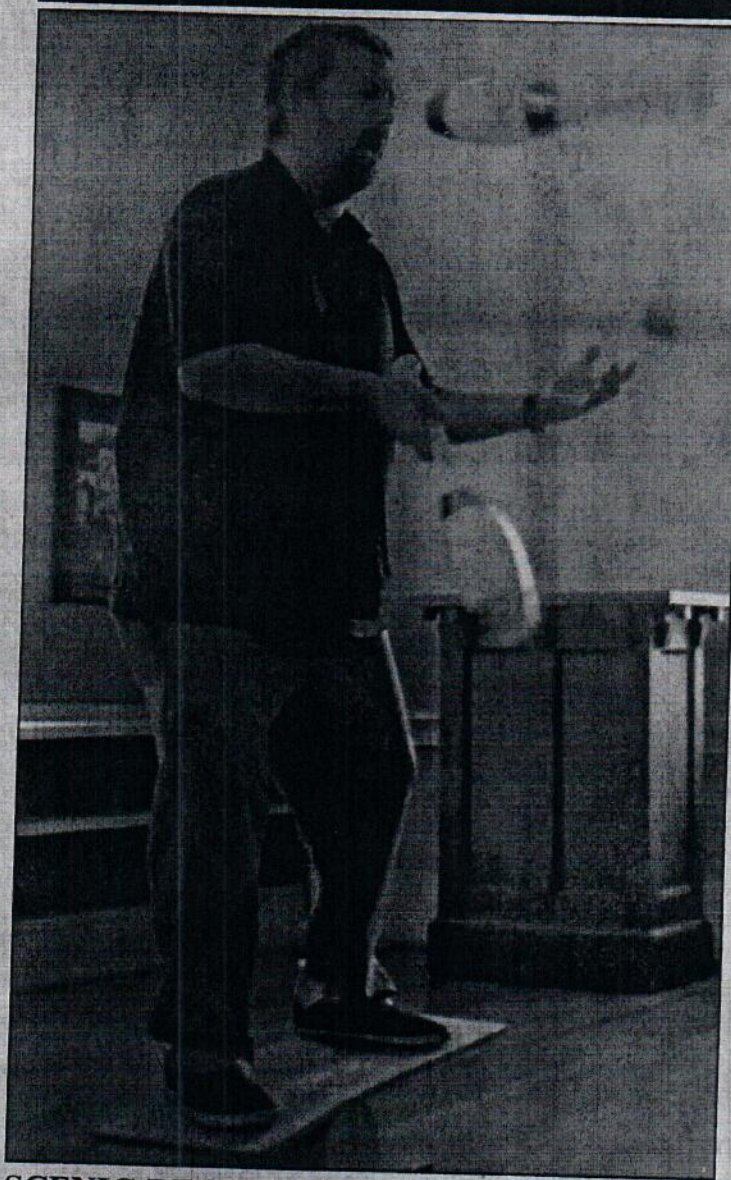
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PARANORMAL ENTHUSIASTS attending a presentation at the old New Haven School test their ghost-hunting phone apps Thursday night. The event was sponsored by the Scenic Regional Library.

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SCENIC REGIONAL Library hosted A Juggling Magic Show October 14, sponsoring Troy Roark's, "Loud and Outrages" performance. Attendees enjoyed his juggling tricks and antics. He finished the show juggling bowling pins while balancing on a board rolling on a PVC pipe.

Library Photo