

## Are you ready to be **Scared?**

**Abby Stuber**  
Reporter

As visitors move through The Asylum House, not only will they be absolutely terrified, but also they will notice the unmatched detail put into each room.

Mr. Pat Greathouse, owner of The Asylum house, has been working in the spooky season business for 25 years. He created his first haunted house as a fundraiser.

"My older brother was the head of culinary arts at Ivy Tech State College 25 years ago. Three years after that, he caught a lung disease and died. So the alumni association and I sat there and said, 'let's do a fundraiser.' I suggested a haunted house. 25 years later, it's a full blown business," he said.

Many of the props and decorations are handmade carefully by the crew.

"I'm an artist and have fun doing it. I also used to be in the parade float industry here in Indianapolis. I got to build props and stuff, and there's not a lot of difference between that and what I do for the house," Mr. Greathouse said.

The Asylum House has been in a few locations over the years. Currently, Mr. Greathouse has taken over a former rollerskating rink at 6611 Bluff Rd.

One of the most unique parts of the asylum is the many references to classic scary movies in cinematic culture. One room features famous dolls, like Annabelle from The Conjuring franchise and Chucky from the Chucky franchise. A handcrafted Jigsaw doll lurks in the corner of the room, un-failingly scaring everyone entering. Another room is based around IT and includes multiple nods to the classic film. At one point, a scene from Texas Chainsaw Massacre is recreated in great detail. The idea is to make the customers feel like they have been put in the movie and are a part of an experience

"Movies are always good inspiration. We try to keep up-to-date with movies and keeping with some of the classics, so the haunted house is more geared towards a little bit of everything for everybody. Anybody who visits will recognize at least one room," Mr. Greathouse said. "We were voted

last year Number One in the state by the state fire marshal. The Children's Museum came in second. We're pretty proud of that."

The actors are one of the most distinct features in the house. The interactive portions create a more immersive environment, one that inspires genuine terror. At different points, visitors will be chased by famous horror characters and historical figures. This makes it hard to remember that what is happening is not real; the atmosphere is filled with true fear.

Asylum offers a perfect blend of props and actors. Many involve an element of surprise. Each prop is different than the last, and every decoration is there with purpose.

Overall, the experience is unique to other haunted houses and will definitely be a memorable experience. The Asylum House opens at 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturdays and is a 45-minute experience. One ticket is \$24, and the Fast Pass ticket is \$30.



The Asylum House is a haunted house located on Bluff Road. It was ranked No. 1 by the state fire marshal for best haunted house. **Grace Jackson photos**



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