



## Horror Flicks Filmed here

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# SHOWCASE

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TV WEEK

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## ON THE COVER



### Filming Fury

Two different filmmakers have been shooting horror movies in the county. An ax-wielding Cooper Huckabee plays Burgh in G. Cameron Romero's "Staunton Hill," which was filming in Harmony Wednesday. Art Institute of Pittsburgh students Katie Ferraro, left, and Allison Davis work on getting a camera ready for filming "All Saints Eve" at a farm in Forward Township Saturday.

PHOTO BY KROGEL/SPECIAL TO THE EAGLE

# Crew films in Forward Twp.

## Brownsdale Road farm serves as setting for 'All Saints Eve'

By **ED BILLER**  
Eagle Staff Writer

**FORWARD TWP** — Forget Fright Night. The new name in evening terror is "All Saints Eve."

The independent horror film, scheduled for release around Halloween next year, is being shot at a farm on Brownsdale Road.

Dennair Isaac, 20, is an Art Institute of Pittsburgh student working on his first feature film. The Mars High School alumnus is studying for a bachelor of science degree in digital media produc-

tion, hoping to graduate in spring 2009.

"I'm really excited," said Isaac. "We're going to come out with a good picture."

"All Saints Eve" begins in the 1700s, when a sinister preacher leads a mob to murder a farmer and his family. The farmer utters a curse with his dying breath. Fast-forward to present day, and a group of friends must discover the cause of the evil that is unleashed on the night when restless souls rise to find peace — or die trying.

The film was written by 1000

North Allegheny graduate Elizabeth Rossi, who also serves as executive producer. She has previously written six feature-length screenplays and been involved in two television shows, in addition to ghost authoring novels and working as a spokesmodel and musical composer.

"It's so exciting to see it coming to life," said Rossi. "I can't even describe the feeling."

Although more than 15 production companies expressed interest in the script, Rossi ultimately decided to launch her own com-

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A farm in Forward Township is the setting for a scene in "All Saints Eve," a horror film being directed by John Kelly of Cranberry Township.

## Film

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pany for the project, All Saints Films Productions.

"It's a lot more work than I anticipated," said Rossi. She said the toughest part is coordinating the schedules of everyone involved.

Rossi has kept "All Saints Eve" a local affair — director John Kelly is from Cranberry Township, most of the crew are students at Art Institute of Pittsburgh, and equipment supplier The Gaff House is in Cranberry, in the same building as another local film company, Batpack Studios.

The young crew consulted with Andrew McLean, a cinematographer at Batpack Studios, on equipment use and

the finer points of horror filmmaking.

G. Cameron Romero, son of screen scream king George A. Romero, is president/director of the studios, which may assist in post-production, such as editing and the addition of special effects.

The younger Romero is currently shooting "Staunton Hill," a prequel to "The Texas Chainsaw Massacre," in Lancaster Township.

"Those guys know horror flicks," Kelly said.

Expect to see some big names in the film, too. Pittsburgh Steeler Max Starks and Poverty Neck Hillbillies fiddle-player Chris Higbee are set to make cameo appearances.

There will be no shortage of local faces, though. A call for extras in Butler brought more than 50 people to the set Saturday night and at least 20 more on Sunday.

"We had an outstanding turnout," Kelly said.

The Patrick family owns the three-story, 1870s-era farmhouse, barn and surrounding property on Brownsdale Road where the film is set. When Kelly knocked on their door last month asking to use it in

a horror flick, they quickly agreed, said Jon Patrick.

"These are the best people in the world," said Kelly of the Patrick family, looking like an orchestral conductor as he motioned to grips with corn stalks and hay bales.

"It's awesome being outside the city," said grip Gillian McLane, 21, an Art Institute student from Columbus, Ohio.

Fellow students Allison Davis, also from Columbus, and Katie Ferraro, of Geneva, N.Y., are shooting a behind-the-scenes documentary on set. Their work will double as a school project and an extra on the DVD when it is released.

"As long as I can keep out of their way and get all the footage, I'll be happy," Davis said.

Karen Catanzaro, production coordinator, said she is very optimistic both about the movie and the crew.

"It's almost like magic," said the Allison Park resident. "Everyone just gelled together."

Rossi said she hopes to finish filming by January.

For information, visit [www.allsaintsfilms.com](http://www.allsaintsfilms.com) on the Web.