



STERLING



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HALLOWEEN MYSTERY

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Sterling officials believe Mr. Picklebottom has fled the state in order to avoid facing prosecution for various criminal charges stemming from his operation of the Lost Souls Cemetery. When trick-or-treaters arrived last night for the Cemetery's annual Halloween event they found a treasure chest of candy, but no Mr. Picklebottom. Authorities were called to the scene and discovered evidence of a bloody struggle, but no body.

"The scoundrel has skipped town instead of facing judgment for his actions," said Sterling prosecutor J. Tiberius Kirk during the press conference announcing the disappearance of Mr. Picklebottom. Mr. Kirk further elaborated that he does not believe a struggle took place, but rather the evidence was staged to lead investigators away from Mr. Picklebottom. He ended the press conference by stating "although the Cemetery grounds are filled with evidence that Mr. Picklebottom's disappearance was due to a zombie attack, obviously such evidence is incredulous and will not shake us from bringing Mr. Picklebottom to justice."

Not all authorities are convinced Mr. Picklebottom fled. In fact some believe local residents may be responsible. When asked who he thought was responsible for Mr. Picklebottom's disappearance, Sheriff Buford T. Justice tersely stated, "damn hippies."

The future of the Cemetery is in doubt. The Cemetery is under contract with various prisons, sanitariums and other government operated institutions to dispose of their unclaimed corpses. However, the Cemetery has ceased operating since Mr. Picklebottom's disappearance, and the corpses are piling up. Residents are starting to complain about the odor. The Cemetery is likely to be closed soon by the health department unless a buyer is quickly found.

