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Burlington County Times

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Drivers from the dead



A haunted school bus delivers the chills at a Halloween display at T and L Transportation on Lakeview Drive in Gibbsboro. PHOTOS BY JIM WALSH/COURIER-POST

South Jersey bus company puts a skeleton behind the driver’s wheel

Jim Walsh
Cherry Hill Courier-Post | USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

A Gibbsboro transportation company might have South Jersey’s scariest school bus driver.

It’s a skeleton with glowing red eyes, commanding a pirate ship’s steering wheel atop a yellow-and-black bus outside T&L Transportation on Lakeview Drive.

Two massive sails rise above the full-sized bus, which is parked on a grassy field across from the Lucas Boulevard sports complex.

And four menacing cannons are positioned beneath passenger windows along the driver’s side, a feature most kids would likely love in real life.

The bus version of a brigantine is the creation of Les Bredell, who operates T&L.

“We have done smaller Halloween displays the past few years but they were in the little wooded area on the other end of the frontage,” said Bredell.

“Since the bus was still out there [from an earlier display], I decided to decorate it,” he explained.

The display also includes a smaller pirate ship, also manned by a skeleton. A third skeleton sits on a vintage tractor tucked into a wooded area.

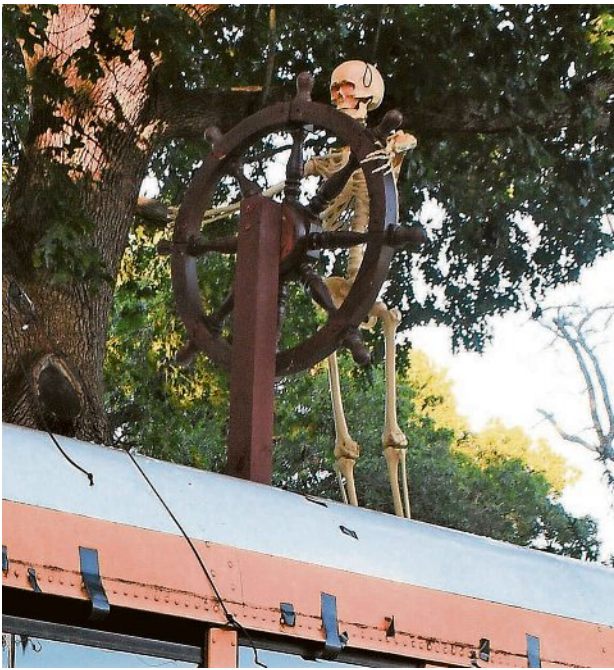
“I have a few things to add to the display out front, but I just need some time to do it,” said Bredell said. “I run the school bus company full time, so finding time isn’t easy.”

The firm, founded 39 years ago, runs about 100 buses for Cherry Hill, Voorhees and other districts.

But don’t expect to see a pirate bus bringing kids to your local school.

“{Our} drivers have some leeway for decorating, but strict school bus safety inspections limit what they can do,” Bredell said.

Jim Walsh is a senior reporter with the Courier-Post, Burlington County Times and The Daily Journal. Email: jwalsh@cpsj.com.



A spooky display outside T&L Transportation in Gibbsboro includes a school bus with a skeletal navigator

Hercules agrees to \$4.5M settlement in N.J. chemical site lawsuit

Jim Walsh
Cherry Hill Courier-Post | USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

New Jersey officials have announced a \$4.5 million settlement of a lawsuit over environmental damage at a former chemical waste site in Gloucester County.

Hercules LLC is to make the payment to settle a dispute over an approximately 350-acre site in Gibbstown section of Greenwich Township, as well as at three sites in Morris and Middlesex counties, the state Attorney General’s Office said.

Hercules will also preserve more than 110 acres of land at the Gibbsboro site for watershed protection and aquifer recharge. Approximately 535 acres will get similar protection at two of the North Jersey sites.

According to the Attorney General’s Office, the settlement is intended to compensate New Jersey for environmental harm allegedly caused by hazardous-substance and contaminant discharges at the sites.

But the consent order, announced Oct. 5, also says Hercules does not admit fault or liability for any of the state’s allegations.

The settlement resolves a lawsuit filed by the state in 2007 on behalf of the Department of Environmental Protection.

Hercules in 2020 agreed to pay more than \$11.3 million for environmental cleanup costs at the Gibbsboro site.

According to a court filing, Hercules acquired the site in 1952 from DuPont, which previously used it as a dump site for lead fragments and tar.

Hercules used the site along the Delaware River near North Market Street in Greenwich Township to dispose of chemical waste from the production of chemicals and munitions, authorities said.

The site included an 80-acre former process area and a four-acre disposal area. Structures on the

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Clementon Park & Splash World to go up for auction later this month

Risha Inaganti
Cherry Hill Courier-Post | USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

An auction date has been set for the recently shuttered Clementon Park & Splash World.

News of the closure came just days after the park finished the 2026 season on Sept. 7.

The amusement park is now set to go on sale Oct. 19 at noon, with bidding starting at \$1.5 million.

The official auction website noted that investors could keep the park running, turn it into an event space or develop the area for housing, hotels, dining or retail space.

This is the second time Clementon Park & Splash World has closed in recent years, with the first closure in 2019. The park later reopened in 2021 under new ownership.

Bidding for the space is set to close Oct. 21 at noon.

Risha Inaganti writes about trending topics across South Jersey for the Courier-Post, Burlington County Times and Daily Journal. If you have a story she should tell, email her at rinaganti@usatoday-co.com. Subscribe to stay up to date on the news you need.

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