

# Halloween & Fall Special

## The Haunting History of Everyone's Favorite Day to Scare People

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Halloween's history goes back two thousand years ago to the Celtic holiday of Samhain. The Celts, who come from present day Ireland, United Kingdom, and northern France, had the festival to mark the end of summer's harvest and beginning of cold, dark winter. They celebrated their New Year on Nov. 1.

Winter was often associated with death. They believed that on the night before on Oct. 31, the line between the worlds of the living and the dead faded. Thus allowing the

ghosts of the dead to return.

In order to celebrate the event and the Celts gathered to burn crops and animals as sacrifices. As the event occurred often Celts would wear costumes, usually of animal heads and skins.


The Romans, who conquered the area by 43 A.D., had combined two festivals with the Celtic one. One was Fesalia, a time in late October when Romans remembered the passing of the day. The other was a day of homage to Pomona, the Roman goddess of fruit and trees. Her symbol was that of an apple, and probably shows where "bobbing" for apples originated.

In the 800's, Christian influence played a role into the

holiday tradition. By the seventh century, Pope Beniface IV had declared Nov. 1 as All Saint's Day. This was a way for the pope to replace the Celtic festival with a more church backed holiday.

It would become known as All-hallows, and the night before it would become All-hallows Eve, eventually called Halloween. The celebration was similar to the Celtic festival with bonfires, parades, and dressing up as saints, devils, and angels.


All of this passed down through the generations would become what is the modern day Halloween.



### Still Wondering What to be for Halloween?

*The THON Halloween Dance* is only days away....The Lion's Eye Staff comes to the rescue with some quick and-well inventive ideas to party like the best!

- walrus
- pumpkin
- the traditional witch
- with a white blanket, go ghost for the night!
- doctor and bring your sexy nurse
- plug and outlet
- Jesus
- Penn State Delco security guard
- duck-billed platypus
- jail bait
- your favorite professor



### Not Just Trick or Treating Anymore

By **BRITTANY NEIMETH**  
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**Hello Skeptics!**

If you're out there thinking "Oh gosh! There is nothing to do in fall if you're not 12..." Think again! Trick or Treating is not the only fall activity. You can rake leaves and then play in them! You can go to a Haunted House, an activity that should make you

glad you aren't 12 any more.

Locally, Delaware County offers The Bates Motel on Arasapha Farm. Just turn left out of school and you can't miss it. The area also has Linvilla Orchards for all those who don't enjoy being terrified, but do prefer a slower, calmer evening. A nice hayride might be a better option.

Linvilla also sells the staple of any autumn diet, apple cider! For other fall favorites, go browse through their assortment of fruits, vegetables and candies. If you are bringing any little cousins or you just want to feel like a kid again, the animals such as goats, chickens, cows, sheep and more are there to watch. Either way it's a great way to spend an afternoon. And if none of that tempts you, try going to Ridley Creek State Park, just past the Bates Motel, and simply enjoy watching the leaves fall. I know I did.

The convenient thing about all of these places is that they are minutes away from campus! So go wander out of your home and explore all the wonders of the great outdoors. Now's the prime time before winter coats become a necessity and the snow begins to fall.

## What's Haunting Delaware County?

By **BRYAN DRISSEL**  
 Special to the Lion's Eye

As the witching hour nears on October 31, many people enjoy the thrills and rush that comes with being afraid. The area around Delaware County provides different events that appeal to thrill-seekers. There are hayrides, ghost walks, haunted tours, and decorations that those interested in the supernatural can visit and enjoy.

The most well known of these is the "Terror Behind the Walls" haunted house tour of Eastern State Penitentiary (ESP) in Philadelphia. "Terror Behind the Walls" has been called perfect for Halloween by The New York Times, and it has received other rave reviews by other well-known magazines and newspapers. ESP is located at 22nd Street and Fairmount Avenue in Philadelphia. Ghost tours take place from 7 to 10 p.m. for \$20 per person, 7 to 11 p.m. for \$25 dollars per person, and 7 p.m. to midnight for \$30 per person. There are no ghost tours during the day. Visit [www.easternstate.org/halloween](http://www.easternstate.org/halloween) for more information or to purchase tickets.

Another attraction for thrill seekers is the Bates Motel and Arasapha Farm haunted tours. This includes a 20-minute hayride through a forest with more scary scenes, monsters and special effects than previous years, a tour of a haunted motel, and a cornfield maze with monsters and other scary creatures jumping out. It's located at 1835 North Middletown Road in

Glen Mills, PA. Adult prices are \$15 per person for the haunted hayride, \$10 for the Bates Motel tour, \$10 for the corn maze, or \$30 per person for a combination of all the haunted tours.

For those not looking to be scared out of their wits, there is the Linvilla Orchards' annual Halloween display. Linvilla's "Pumpkinland" is on display through November 5. Visitors can view decorations and pick out pumpkins of many different shapes and sizes. Also, visitors can buy decorations and seasonal delicious foods such as pies. Linvilla Orchards is located on West Knowlton Road in Media, PA. Linvilla is open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sunday through Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

The Media Halloween Parade and a hayride in Haverford Township are additional events taking place in the area. The Media Halloween Parade and party take place on October 28. It begins with a party from 11a.m. to 1 p.m. at the community center followed by a parade on State Street at 2 p.m.

Haverford Township's hayride tours the former Haverford State Hospital grounds, and is followed by a bonfire and a ghost walk through the woods at night. The date is October 29 from 3 to 6 p.m. The cost is \$3 per person.

These are just some of the many events taking place this Halloween season. Whether or not you like being scared, there is an event for you.

*Have a Happy Halloween!*

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To see Brittany Niemeth's travels around Delaware County in fall's brilliant colors, look on Pg. 12 of this edition!

