



Falcon Flyer

Fall 2022 Issue

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Fall Fun!

Fifteen Fun Fall Festivities – check out the activities to entertain in and around West Chester!

BY PHOEBE HUTNICK, JULIA LOCKLEDGE & EVA SELTZER

1. Halloween Movie Marathon!

Halloween is the perfect excuse to binge watch classics like Hocus Pocus, Hocus Pocus 2, Nightmare Before Christmas, and more! Whether you are watching a horror film or a family friendly movie, you are bound to enjoy the Halloween fun!

2. Ghouls on Gay Street

Ghouls on Gay Street is a fun event located on – you guessed it – Gay Street in West Chester. They showcase cemetery tours, haunted lantern strolls, murder mystery parties, and more! Ghouls on Gay Street is a good way to spice up the scares!

3. Pumpkin Carving Contest

Carving pumpkins is an iconic tradition that most people think of first when thinking of “Halloween”! Not only is it fun, but it’s also a good way to show off your artistic creativity! A pumpkin carving contest is definitely one spookiness!



4. Haunted Hayride & Bates Motel!

Bates Motel is a very popular attraction found on Arasapha Farm in Glen Mills. It's considered one of the best haunted houses in North America! The farms feature a haunted house, a 20 minute hayride, and a spooky corn maze! Overall, one of the best places to go to really hype you and your friends up for the scary season!

5. Longwood Gardens Halloween Attractions

At any other time of year, Longwood Gardens is a beautiful local attraction. In the fall though, it is especially breathtaking. Enjoy all 1,100 acres of changing leaves and the crisp autumn breeze.

Visit the Conservatory which is filled with fall decorations. The Pumpkin Playground is also a fun attraction that younger children will absolutely love. Overall Longwood Gardens is a delightful place to kick off the season.

6. Trick or Treating

Trick or Treating is the most popular Halloween tradition – going from house-to-house collecting candy in spooky costumes! This classic tradition occurs on the night of October 31st (Halloween), and is a fun custom for both kids and adults!



7. Bake Fresh Homemade Pies



Pies are a classic fall food, so why not make your own!? From the ooey-gooeyness of an apple pie to a dense slice of a pumpkin pie, it's hard not to enjoy snacking on a warm (or cold, if you're that kind of person!) slice of pie, made by you and your friends! Yum yum, time to enjoy!

8. Eastern State Penitentiary

Eastern State Penitentiary (ESP) was an American prison located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It's famous for its spooky look and the former cell of Al Capone. During days leading up to Halloween they have it set up like a haunted house. Overall, it's a great place to explore during the spooky season!

9. Host a Halloween Party

Who doesn't love a fun Halloween Party!? Whether you're a green goblin or a wacky witch, you gotta love a halloween party! Invite your friends and prepare fun Halloween inspired snacks. Set up Halloween themed backgrounds for pictures and have a costume contest. Halloween parties are great because you can include countless spooky activities.

10. West Chester Railroad Fall Foliage Ride

"Choo choo! Hop on to the West Chester Railroad Fall Foliage Express as you're taken on a journey back in time through Glen Mills! Choo choo!" This fun ride is a nice trip through Glen Mills on a heated train during a nice brisk fall day. Enjoy your ride, passengers!



11. BOOING!

Booing is a common Halloween tradition in many neighborhoods. Traditionally, one person starts by putting together a gift basket with fall related items and dropping it off at the doorstep of one or more of their neighbors and running away. When you are on the receiving end of a "boo" you are required to put a sign on your door saying you've already been booed and then you pass it on to your neighbors.



12. Make Candy or Caramel Apples

Candy or Caramel Apples are a staple of autumn, and also a tasty treat! Both of these snacks are often coated with a fun layer of oatmeal, M&Ms, chocolate-chips, and more! Homemade candy, caramel, or toffee apples are a great way to satisfy your sweet tooth without eating a mouthful of candy.

13. Visit a Local Farm/Orchard

If you didn't know yet, autumn is considered the harvest season, so farms and orchards are crawling with tasty fall foods and treats. It's a great time to go pumpkin picking and enjoy the crisp fall air. Some local places are Cherry Crest Farm, LinVilla Orchard, Highland Orchard, and many others!

14. Friendsgiving

Friendsgiving is not a very common tradition, but it is tons of fun. It is essentially a Potluck Thanksgiving. Of course you invite your friends (hence the name Friendsgiving), and everyone brings in a Thanksgiving dish. Prepare some fall/Thanksgiving themed activities for your guests and decorate your home with an elaborate display of fall decorations. It's also another day to enjoy all the delicious food.

15. Macy's Thanksgiving Parade

Macy's Thanksgiving Parade is an iconic tradition that features a fun parade residing in New York City. It is most known for the large balloons representing different characters from popular cartoons, shows, and movies!



Trick or Treat

By Maiya Wilhelmson & Ilarlar Deng

Trick or treaters flounce around on Halloween Night,
Not even the ghouls can see a piece of candy in sight.
Oh, where did it go?
Oh, nobody knows.
Except the raccoons on Halloween Night.



4GIFs.com

Halloween Decorations

By: Samantha McNichol

Halloween is a holiday where, even more than Christmas, everyone loves to decorate. Inside and out, houses are covered head to toe in creepy memorabilia, (hopefully) fake skulls, and tombstones made out of styrofoam. More people usually end up decorating the inside of their house than the outside, but more often than not, people end up decorating the inside and outside, even if it's only minorly, and I hope that this year, you're one of them! In this article, I'm going to share which decorations are popular this year, a few that I think should be, but aren't, and some good places to get decorations. Let's get started!

Outdoor Decor

Outdoor decorations are a key part of Halloween, to scare hapless trick or treaters, or to simply impress your neighbors with your spooky style! Outdoor decorations are everywhere, but good ones can sometimes be hard to find. A great place to go is Home Depot, which may be surprising, but they have everything from skeletons, to inflatables, to the perfect creepy yard flamingo! Yes, they have those. The online shop can be a great option to browse through some, and you can get them delivered straight to your house, which is a big bonus. The biggest find from Home



Depot in my opinion is the 12-foot skeleton, which was insanely popular last year, and will be again this year. You can find the link [here](#)! Just a note: they are expensive, so you may want to think about how much you want to spend before purchasing this 12ft tall, lifelike skeleton! Another thing that Home Depot is really good for on the Halloween decoration front is inflatables, which can be great decorations, and are popular for their ability to make a statement in your yard, and the ease with which they're stored after the season switches. One other good place to check out is Lowe's, which has a lot of outdoor decorations, and a wealth of inflatables. That's it for outdoor decor this Halloween!

Indoor Atmosphere

As important as things outside can be, all Halloween fanatics know that it's the inside that matters! There are so many good decorations for interiors, and I could go on and on about all of the decorations that I love! This year, the most popular style is more tame spooks, resulting

in a more subtle scare throughout your home. Changing picture frames, fashionable decorations with skulls or ghosts on them, and the most popular by far, pumpkin arches! As adorable as they are spooky, these fresh new additions to the decoration scene this year are wanted by all! Unsurprisingly, these are hard to get, as most people are DIY-ing them, but there are some versions scattered around the internet. [This](#) was the best one that I was able to find on the internet, but I think that DIY could be a better option if you're looking for a perfect replication of the trend! In fact, DIY is ultra popular this year, including skeleton hand sconces,



Halloween mason jars, and even floating candles. However, some decorations don't require extra hours. One of my personal favorites this year has to be [these](#)! Mini cauldrons are perfect for a Halloween party, and they don't take up too much table space. You can never go wrong with witchy decorations! I also found [this](#) neon red bat, which can fit in with so many Halloween themes! My last two decorations are [this](#) hanging crow decoration and [these](#) changing candles, which both work with simplistic themes, and for the second decoration, could be the perfect party spook, specifically to scare everyone by suddenly turning off or shifting the color of all of the candles. As a quick note, I want to tell you all that Target is a great resource for indoor

decor, and the Hyde and EEK! Boutique has amazingly spooky stuff! These were my indoor favorites for this year, and I hope you've enjoyed this and found it helpful! See you next year!

Raccoons

By [Maiya Wilhelmson & Ilarlar Deng](#)

The dark streets grow dull
As the sun sets beside the wilting trees
The leaves blow in anguish
And in the remains
Are **the** raccoons.
Expect **the** raccoons on Halloween night.

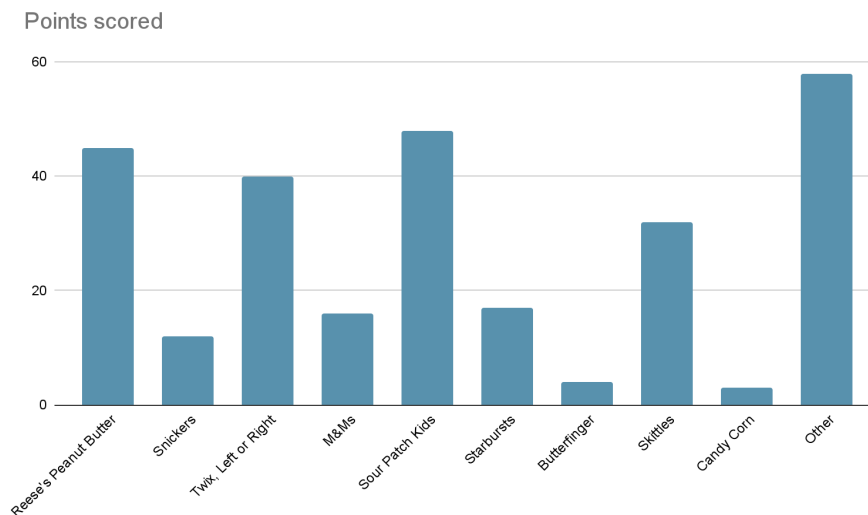


What are your favorite Halloween candies?

By Cooper Boreman



From chocolate candies to sugar candies, the votes are in. We are happy to say that **Sour Patch Kids** are Stetson's most loved Halloween candy! Thanks to everyone who voted!



Do you agree with the choices? It was definitely a close vote between Sour Patch Kids and Reese's Peanut Butter Cups! Whatever your choice ~ enjoy the flavors of the season!



Here's the tally:

- ★ Reese's Peanut Butter Cups: 45
- ★ Snickers: 12
- ★ Twix: 40
- ★ M&Ms: 16
- ★ Sour Patch Kids: 48
- ★ Starbursts: 17
- ★ Butterfinger: 4
- ★ Skittles: 32
- ★ Candy Corn: 3
- ★ Other: 58



Boo! Spooky stories ~ not for the faint of heart!

SUMMER HILLS AND THE CHILD-GRABBER

By JUGAD SINGH

In the dark, cloudy neighborhood of Summer Hills, evil was lurking. The damp air was clogging the pipes, and there was no sign of life anywhere. At precisely midnight, as it happened every Halloween, a black cloud swirled out of the gutter, rattling the rooftop panels and shaking the windows. Nobody woke up, for the presence of this being was invisible and intangible to human perception. The being moved down the block, slowly making its way to the

last house on the block, where one of the town's prestigious surgeons resided. It crept inside the upstairs window, bringing an air of fear into the household. It slithered into their young son's room and used its ethereal power to pick up the boy and convert him into darkness. The monster repeated the process until every child in the neighborhood was gone. Then, it moved to the next settlement. This was the story of the child-grabber, and you'd be best watching your back, for this otherworldly horror is done with New Jersey; and coming for Pennsylvania.



BOOTIFUL BAKING

By Zoe Case

This Halloween season you can get spooky with some spooky treats. Here are some of the best Halloween treats you can make from easiest to hardest.

The easiest thing you can make for Halloween season are Reese's bats! All you have to do is split apart the oreos and cut the tops and bottoms in half. Once you have them

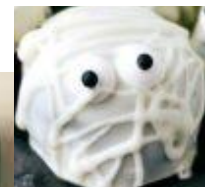


in half, you take a Reese's cup and put peanut butter on the top of the Reese. I know, more peanut butter! You then stick the halves of the oreos on the peanut butter. This sticks it to the Reese's cup like glue. It should turn out something like the picture. These cute treats are always loved and eaten in no time! Be aware: those with peanut allergies!



Another good recipe to try is ghost strawberries. Everyone likes a good chocolate strawberry - just make it a little creepy. All you have to do is melt the white chocolate and dip the strawberries in it. When you are done with the white chocolate you can add black frosting to make faces or dark chocolate. These ghosts will make your friends ooh and boo at them. You can use mini chocolate chips for the eyes if you aren't the type of person to frost things.

Another delicious find are these cute little monster truffles! They are pretty spectacular for the amount of effort you put into making them. All you need is oreo and cream cheese mashed together for the filling, plus some candies of your choice, and white chocolate to coat them in. You can decorate them however you like with sprinkles or edible things you would put on top. These are a fun dessert because they are really easy to make and look extremely impressive to others! You can decorate them to look like bats, pumpkins, mummies, monsters, and more.



If you want something a bit more challenging, but special and fun, you can try this cool looking spiderweb cake! What you need to do is make the chocolate cake and then add butter, sugar, marshmallows, vanilla extract, salt, heavy cream, vanilla icing, and chocolate chips. It makes quite a lot of servings; just think of cutting it the same way you would cut pizza. It should take about an hour to make and more to decorate. When you finish baking the cake, you will use a toothpick to spread out the vanilla frosting over the chocolate ganache to make a cobweb looking shape. It's a definite crowd pleaser!

These are all fun desserts to help you get into the spirit and ghosts of baking. If you find any desserts that you think you want to make, you can find the full recipes with detailed recipes on delish.com. Remember to ask your parents or guardians before you use an oven.

Have a Happy Halloween!

HOCUS POCUS 2 - SHOULD YOU WATCH IT OR NOT?

By: Liv and Maggie

Have you watched **HOCUS POCUS 2** yet?

Check out these reviews from fellow classmates, teachers, and others to see whether you want to add it to your list of "must views" this season!

After collecting the data, **6** people said they "loved it"! While **1** person said they were in the middle, we were surprised to find **1** person who said they disliked it strongly. The bigger shock was the **2** people who haven't seen it yet! (Mrs. Gomez was one of them!)

There were some strong opinions about the movie ranging from "it ruined the first movie for me" to "I thought it was cute and loved it!" There were even a few "it was intriguing" comments, which we guess means they didn't really ❤️ it.

Overall we (Maggie + Liv) found this movie to be happy, funny, and for the most part, it was well acted. So yes, we think that it is worth the watch. Enjoy! 🍷👍



-Spooky Stories-
With Dr. Markiewicz -featuring Dewey
(the skeleton)

By: Maggie Perritt and Olivia Ward

Have you ever listened to Dr. Markiewicz read her spooky stories? They are our highlight of the season. We enjoyed getting to know Dr. M and her love of spooky literature. Keep reading for the Halloween Fun!

Questions-

Q: What's your favorite spooky story?

A: Things that read nice outloud and I like Mad Anthony, Ghost.

Q: Why is Halloween your favorite holiday?

A: I love costumes and getting dressed up.

Q: What is your favorite grade to read to?

A: 6th grade. They like the stories the most and are more engaged.

Q: Favorite costume as a kid?

A: My darth vader costume that I made.

Q: Any stories that weren't the best to read?

A: Long stories, because I love them but they can't fit into one class!

Q: What is your favorite Halloween candy?

A: Reeses!



Q: When you went trick or treating when did you end/ have to be home?

A: We had a nice neighborhood - home by about 9pm.

Q: What is your costume going to be this year?

A: Hufflepuff. I also liked dressing up the skeleton, Dewey who is now in Mrs. Miller's classroom.

Q: What's a story that you like reading?

A: Halloween Party. It was actually published by an 8th grader.

Q: What would your wawa order be?

A: I've been there once and I got fruit. I have food allergies so something off the shelf is what I would get.

Q: What costumes has Duwy worn in the past?

A: Well, the year I graduated I had him wear my cap & gown because I could not wear it as a costume.

**Questions about the best spooky stories to read this season?
Questions about other great books to "check out"? Reach out to
Dr. Markiewicz via email or stop in the Library!**

#StetsonStrong

Falcon Flyer Staff

Sixth Grade

Cooper Boreman
Phoebe Hutnick
Julia Lockledge
Eva Stelzer

Seventh Grade

Ilarlar Deng
Addie Hurford
Nora Laasri
Mira Luedtke
Samantha McNichol
Maggie Perritt
Olivia Ward
Maiya Wilhelmson

Eighth Grade

Alexander Abramov
Jugad Singh
Zoe Case

Advisor Mrs. Gomez:
tgomez@wcasd.net



Have a wonderful fall!