

## October 2021 Happy Halloween! Issue 26

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Interested in joining The Revolt? Email gwl5@psu.edu

### NEW YEAR, SAME MASKS

In August 2021, Penn State started a new semester with the dreaded familiarity of last year. Masks are still required and COVID tests are still being sent out – with an exception this time. Fully vaccinated individuals are exempt from the required WEEKLY testing that unvaccinated student will



be subjected to. In an email from the PSU Covid Testing, it is stated that noncompliance with these requirements will result in, "...UP TO AND INCLUDING IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION FROM THE UNIVERSITY."

President Barron has made Penn State's position on the vaccinations clear, as he publicly addressed the college community in early August, stating, "…our second step was to incentivize vaccinations through weekly drawings for prizes and to encourage uploading of vaccination information so the University could better manage the pandemic."

As of April 2021, half of all US adults had received at least one dose of the COVID vaccine. Fast forward to June, the Associated Press reported that almost all of the COVID-19 related deaths in the US were among those who had not yet been vaccinated, and even further that the deaths per day (below 300 at the time of the report) could have potentially dropped to 0 if all eligible individuals got their vaccines. The number of hospitalized individuals affected by COVID-19 who were vaccinated is estimated to be about 0.1%.

According to the CDC, the Delta variant is 2x more contagious than previous variants. They worry that this variant may cause more long-term, harmful effects than previous variants as well. Unvaccinated people are of significantly greater concern than those who are vaccinated.

We very well may see the vaccine become a requirement to be on campus, just as many other vaccines have been mandated. These mandates date back as early as 1850 in Massachusetts, to prevent the transmission of smallpox. Some of the current vaccines required to be on campus at Penn State Wilkes Barre today are Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR).

If you are currently unvaccinated and would like more information, you can visit studentaffairs.psu.edu and search for the health and wellness section.

Article By: Cristina Orozco

Photo Credit: redbubble.com



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## **Meet The Revolt**

Whether you're a freshman in your first semester, a senior getting ready to graduate, or long-term staff/faculty, it can always feel intimidating getting to know new people. *The Revolt* is hoping to tackle some of that this year by learning the basics, in short "interviews" called, "The 5 W's" about our Penn State Wilkes Barre community!



Who: Lynda Goldstein, Faculty Advisor to The Revolt

**What**: Ph.D., English, Temple University; Assoc. Prof. of English; Assoc. Chief Academic Officer

When: I arrived at the campus in 1991.

Where: I'm from a small town in southern New Jersey and grew up in a house that my dad didn't finish remodeling until the week my parents sold it to move to a small farm in central New York. Since coming to Penn State Wilkes-Barre, I've lived in downtown Wilkes-Barre (in a converted private boys school), State College, and now Harrisburg (in a house built in 1896 and seemingly under constant renovation).

**Why**: It's been a while since I advised a Club (previously, 4 Seasons and Radio), but I'm enjoying the opportunity to work closely with students on a project that matters to them: The Revolt! Who: Grant Loose, President and Editor of The Revolt

What: English Major, with the intent to be a librarian (after grad school!) IST Minor

**When** (did you get here, when do you leave): I came to PSWB in Fall 2019 and graduate this Spring.

**Where** (are you from and where are you going): I'm from Kingston, PA - I hope to go to the University of Pittsburgh for graduate school.

**Why** (that major, why this campus, why The Revolt): I chose to be an English major because I enjoy reading and writing and because I enjoy sharing my love of media with others. This campus because it was close to home! The Revolt I joined last year because I thought it aligned with my interests. I became Vice President pretty quickly and enjoyed the role, so when the previous president graduated last year, I was happy to take her place as President.

**Who:** Scott Carl, Marine Corps Veteran, Co-Founder of the Veterans Support Club, Vice President of the Revolt

**What**: English Major, and currently Athletic Assistant for PSWB Athletics

**When**: Started Spring 2018, will get my degree at the end of this semester Fall 2021, then will be transitioning to Staff Member continuing to work for the Athletics Department

**Where**: Graduated from Wyoming Area in 2007. Spent 6 years in the Marine Corps at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Currently living in Luzerne, PA and will eventually move my family out to Hunlock Creek, Pa.

**Why**: English because I like to write and wanted to help further my skills to help become a published author... PSWB because it is close to home and can do all 4 years here. The revolt because it helps with building a portfolio of articles for my sports writing career.

**Who**: My name is Hana Fall, Nerd Herd VP, Revolt Secretary

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**What**: My major is Psychology and I'm branching off into Neuroscience.

**When**: Last year was my first year on Wilkes-Barre Campus and this year is my last. After next semester, I'll be going to Main Campus.

**Where**: I'm from Maryland and moved here to Pennsylvania this summer. I plan to go into my career in this state so I'll be staying here for a while. In the future, I do want to travel to a few countries in each of the continents.

**Why**: Honestly, I chose this campus by chance and my intuition hasn't let me down yet because I love it here! As for my major, it's something I can see myself doing in the long-run without losing that spark of curiosity, which I believe everyone should keep alive. I'm most involved in the Nerd Herd as I'm the Vice President right now. I'm also in United Stance Society and The Revolt.

**Who**: Cristina Orozco, USS (United Stance Society) President, Revolt Treasurer, Assistant Editor

**What**: Secondary English Education Major & Sustainability Minor, Mom, Wife, Business Owner

**When**: I'm in my second year at Penn State Wilkes Barre! I'm in a 2+2 program, though so I move onto Penn State Harrisburg next year. I graduate with my bachelor's in 2024, but plan to go back to grad school as soon as possible.

**Where**: I've always lived around the area – grew up in Sugarloaf. As far as where I'm going, my company is in Hazleton so I don't want to leave that and my kids are just about school-aged so I'd like to keep them in one area for those years.

**Why**: I chose Penn State because it's a well renowned school and has a good education program. My major – I'm so passionate about education, and more so about equitable education. I've wanted to be a teacher as far back as I can remember. Then, The Revolt because it's a place to work on my writing skills while bringing awareness to happenings around campus!

**Who**: Andy Traver, Revolt Member (trying my best at college!)

What: Information Sciences and Technology major.

**When**: I am 20 years old. I'm in my 3rd year at Penn State Wilkes Barre (started Fall 2019). My plan is to finish my degree here and graduate in 2023.

**Where**: I live 30 minutes away with family. I graduated from Hanover Area HS. Though I'm of Chinese descent, I was born in Germany. I'm not sure where I would like to move, but I'd like to be close to family.

**Why**: I like computers and helping others if I can, so I chose IST imagining that I will help others solve computer problems like the IT team on campus. I chose PSWB because it's close to home and has good education. I joined the Revolt because I want to get involved on campus and I had previously worked in my high school yearbook club which was a fun experience and felt cool to be a part of an effort to finish a project.

**Who**: Emma Sands, Secretary of SGA (Student Government Association)

What: Accounting Major

**When**: I am a sophomore at Penn State Wilkes-Barre and plan on doing 2+2 program. I will spend the rest of my sophomore year here and go to University Park for my junior and senior year. I came to Penn State Wilkes-Barre in the Fall of 2020 and I plan on graduating in the Spring of 2024 with a bachelor's degree.

**Where**: I have lived in West Wyoming, Pennsylvania since I was born which is about 20 minutes from campus. I plan on moving to the city once I am out of college and have a stable income.

**Why**: I choose Penn State Wilkes-Barre because of the campus size, 2+2 program, and affordability. I also love the feeling of community that this campus has. I chose to major in Accounting because I love organizing information and working with numbers. Finally, I chose The Revolt so I can improve my writing skills and meet new people.



#### **PSWB Volleyball**

With only one game left in the season, our Lady Lions have had a pretty rough go this year. The team went 0-11 in conference play and 0-13 overall. The upside is that they all gained more experience, and during each match have improved more and more. They were led by 1st time Head Coach Huy Nguyen, who has inspired the team to keep their heads up, and has been able to coach them to improve. The young team, with 1st time volleyball players, will be looking to end the season with high spirits and high hopes for next year's season!



Photo credit: Scott Schival

### **PSWB Soccer**

Playing with just enough players to form a team, our soccer team has put a lot of hard work and dedication into their season. With a season record of 0-7 with one game postponed, in which our Mountain Lions are ahead 2-0 against PS Hazleton; the record does not show how great their effort is. Leading the team is Goalkeeper JJ Farbes who, on October 11, 2021, against PS York, reached 100 saves on the season. Minus the postponed game, Farbes currently is standing with 115 saves on the season. With 2 games left, Farbes will be looking to break the school record of single season saves, 119!

#### **Remaining Matches:**

Friday, October 22, 2021 at 2pm @ PS Greater Allegheny

Photo credit: Scott Schival

#### **PSWB Basketball**

Both our Women's and Men's Basketball teams will start their season on the road November 2, 2021 at SUNY Broome! First home games will be November 4, 2021 women's @ 6pm / men's @ 8pm against Bucks County Community College!



# Halloween Costume Ideas

Halloween is right around the corner! Can you believe it snuck up on us like that? I know you've been preoccupied with schoolwork, people, and the daily trials of life so I'll help you out. Here are some Halloween costume ideas, whether you want to dress alone, with someone else, or even with a group of friends:





eodysseyonline.com







#### Group

- Military Squad/SWAT Team, CIA Agents
  - Greek Gods/Goddesses
  - Ninjas
- Zombie Mob

#### Couple

- Chucky & Tiffany
- Rick & Morty
- Colleen Wing & Misty Knight
- Joker & Harley Quinn

#### Solo

- Favorite Anime Character
- Squid Game Player, Guard, VIP
- Favorite Mortal Kombat Fighter
- Classic Scary Movie Villains

#### (Online) Stores to Buy Costumes

- Amazon
- Sunbabystore
- Miccostumes
- LightInTheBox
- Etsy
- Purecostumes



bloody-disgusting.com





kimetsu-no-yaiba.fandom.com



deadbydaylight.com



samurai-ninja-airport.jp





### NIGHT

It's all fun and games at Virtual Game Night!

GAME

What is the biggest, highest stakes event EVER in Penn State's history? It is more high stakes than a difficult exam, or trying to avoid evil deer and turkeys who want to destroy your car. Every Tuesday night, people from our campus come together on Zoom to play games. Why is this so high stakes? If they lose the video game, they'll lose their LIVES - I mean high FIVES from the other players! How terrible, how lamentable! Okay - in reality, everybody's nice, so they'll give you a high five even if you lose the game. Plus, there's a big variety of games, not just competitive games, and it's lighthearted, fun competition.

Does fun and games with others sound delightful to you? Come to Virtual Game Night hosted by Nerd Herd! It happens every Tuesday 6-8pm on Zoom, open to all folks on campus. All you need is a computer with Zoom to join in and a phone for some games. It's great fun to play games like Jackbox, Pictionary, Gartic Phone, Among Us, Skribbl. io, and many others. Playing these games is free for everybody. Hana Fall, 2nd year student, says "you won't regret giving it a try, and you are guaranteed to have fun."

What does a Virtual Game Night look like? A popular game choice is Jackbox, where players participate in silly game modes. In one game mode, players try to escape a murderer by answering the correct trivia questions. Only one survives! I remember playing this fun game where we had to identify an alien imposter on our spaceship. I felt like Sherlock Holmes, man. The situation became so serious that we were deliberating if a player who likes Hannah Montana-themed birthday parties was secretly an alien. There's plenty of other game modes, like the one where players draw funny designs for t-shirts to be judged. T-shirts with those designs can even be ordered. I am intrigued by the description of Fiasco, a game where players work together to write bad movies that they star in.

There's plenty of games and you'll find one you like for sure.

Playing, relaxing, laughing, and connecting with others are all part of the unique experience that Virtual Game Night provides from the comfort of your computer. Take a break from the world and have fun with others in silly and adventurous games! Hana Fall says that she likes how "I can hang out and have fun with other people and take a mental break from my busy schedule." Everybody's invited – consider bringing your friends too! Join when you feel like it.

Visit Nerd Herd's Virtual Game Night anytime from 6-8pm every Tuesday! Go to https://psu.zoom.us/s/91994195078 on your computer to join. (Or scan the QR code on the top of the page for the direct zoom link!)

Other activities of Nerd Herd include Anime Movie Nights on Thursdays and Dungeons and Dragons. Dungeons and Dragons is a tabletop adventure game where you fight monsters and explore lands with fellow players. The library also has a board game day/night twice every month, and Chris in the library runs a beginner Dungeons and Dragons game.

Any questions about Nerd Herd or Virtual Game Night? Email Paul Gestl, Nerd Herd president, at pwg5142@psu.

edu



Article By: Andy Traver



The weather is getting cooler! The leaves are changing color! And, most importantly, pumpkin spice lattes are back! Autumn is in full swing in Northeastern Pennsylvania and here's a list of five activities to do with your friends to get excited for the new season:

#### Warm Apple Cedar and Hayrides

If you are looking for a relaxing way to celebrate fall, consider going to one of our local apple orchards. My favorite in the area is Brace's which is only a twenty-minute drive from campus! Once you are there, you can purchase a ticket for the hayride that goes up a small hill to the Gala apple trees! Brace's also has many other delicious items for sale including apple cedar, pies, and donuts!

#### Spooky Haunted Houses

If you are someone who likes being scared, there are plenty of haunted houses in the area! Horror Hall and Reaper's Revenge are two of the more well-known ones. Horror Hall is located in Nanticoke and is an indoor twenty- minute walk-through with scare actors while Reaper's Revenge is located in Scranton with multiple spooky attractions totaling up to ninety minutes. They are both open on weekends throughout October.

#### Halloween Movie Night

One inexpensive way to get into the Halloween spirit is to rent or stream a spooky movie with your friends! There are so many to choose from and they do not necessarily have to be scary. Some popular Halloween movies include Hocus Pocus (Disney+), It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown (Apple TV), and A Nightmare on Elm Street (HBO Max). Make sure to buy some candy or other snacks to munch on during the film!

#### Amusement Park Fun Rollercoasters and candy:

I cannot think of a better combination! Many amusement parks in the area including Knoebels and Dorney Park have special events throughout October to celebrate Halloween! "Hallo-Fun" at Knoebels is a family- friendly event that offers limited-time snacks and trick-or-treat stands to their guests. "Halloween Haunt" at Dorney Park is aimed at a more mature audience and features scare zones and live entertainment.

#### **Pumpkin Patches**

Last, but certainly not least, you can visit a local pumpkin patch! My favorite is Whistle Pig in Noxen which is a short drive from campus. They have a huge corn maze with four different areas to navigate and puzzling trivia questions. They also have a hayride around the property and you get to choose your own pumpkin at the end! If you plan on going with a larger group, there are campfires to rent where you can roast marshmallows and tell spooky stories.





By: Hana Fall (A fictional story based on an urban legend of PA)

When you've reached rock bottom, filled with utter despair, you're prompted to take a trip on the bus to nowhere. I blinked. My eyes didn't burn, but it felt like they've been peeled open for hours. Where am I? My fingers brushed against the soft, wool moquette fabric of the seats. The vibrations from the engine and bumpy road shot up my legs as I regained my senses. Through the large windows, I could see the empty streets and resting buildings we drive by. I was on a bus.

A man in a suit. A woman with a car seat. An old man with a piece of paper. An old woman coddled with a bed sheet. And... a girl my age. There were five other people here. I ran my hand through my hair, trying to rack out the memories of the last few seconds. The last few minutes. The last few hours- I couldn't remember when I boarded the bus, or why.

I quickly patted my pockets in search for my phone. My relief was immediately replaced by anxiety when my phone refused to turn on. I had no idea what time it is nor where I was heading. Why can't I remember anything? I shook my head and took a deep breath. Surely, I fell asleep and I'm still feeling disoriented. Soon enough, my memories will return.

"Excuse me?" I called out to the woman who was sitting in the row diagonal to me. I cleared my throat. "Uh, excuse me?" I said louder, assuming she wasn't sure I was seeking her out. "E-excuse me?" My voice cracked. I leaned back into my seat and composed myself, not wanting to let my nerves get the best of me. She's

ignoring me. My eyes wandered to the car seat she held in her lap. I would have thought she'd be kind. I willed myself to stand up, pushing through the anxious cloud that hung around me. As I walked towards the front of the bus, I could recognize the scenery. The bike shop, Joe's, the vet clinic, Flora's Flowery. I wasn't more than ten minutes from my home. Everything's going to be fine. After what felt a lifetime, I reached the front of the bus where the bus driver sat.

"Excuse me, sir," I leaned down to speak to him, my hand resting on the cold pole nearby. "what's the next stop after this?" I took my eyes off the road ahead and looked at him. My breath hitched in my throat and my mouth fell agape. His head slowly turned to face me. Tight, flat skin replaced the area where his eyes, nose, mouth, and eyebrows should be.

I struggled to gulp and my body shook in terror. Shortly after, his head turned back to face the road. I backed away, stumbling my way to my seat before tripping over the old man's foot. My eyes shot towards him and I earned mild relief seeing that he had a face. I looked down towards his hand that held the piece of paper. It was crumbled and his fingers poked holes through in result of a tight grip. He stared ahead, like he didn't even know I was there.





Even if I wanted to, my throat closed shut and I couldn't apologize. The visual of the faceless bus driver flashed in my mind.

I stood up and resumed my pathing, nearly tripping once again. This time, the woman's car seat was my obstacle. Guilt overwhelmed me as my muscle memory kicked in, reminding me that my arm hit something as I flailed a moment ago. I got on my knees in a hurry to pick up the car seat. It was empty. I piled the blankets and toys back inside and my eyes darted around the floor of the bus. I couldn't see the baby anywhere. I looked up at the woman and, similar to the old man, she stared ahead. Was this always empty? Is that why she didn't react? Did the old man know it was an accident? Is that why he didn't react? Did the bus driver actually have a face? What's going on with me? I checked the other passengers as I rushed towards my seat. They all had faces.

They're all just staring ahead like dazed zombies. Should I do the same? I shook the thought away. Whatever the next stop is, I'll get off and find my way home. So, I waited. Everyone continued to stare ahead. If it weren't for the bumpy bus movement, they would have been as still as stone. Minute by minute, I felt like I was going crazy. I found myself standing up and moving into the seat behind the old man. Slowly I reached for the paper. It slipped out of his grip with ease.

Dear Mr. Tiller, We still need to meet with you about the burial process. Please contact us as soon as possible. Your children are waiting for their proper goodbye.

Sincerely, Liam Hail



Chills ran up my spine. I couldn't manage to put the paper back into his hand and didn't want to touch him either. I left it on the seat next to him. I then looked back at the woman and a thought appeared in my head. Did she lose her child as well? I looked at the old woman who has herself wrapped in a bed sheet. Her hair was disheveled, and there was a bruising ring around her neck. I wasn't sure what her story was, neither did I want to think about it too hard. The man in the suit had no telling signs. I would guess it had to deal with work. A theory began to form in my mind. No, no, that doesn't make sense. I discouraged the illogical train of thought. Ding.

The bus gradually came to a stop. I swiftly departed, making sure to keep my gaze away from the bus driver. I'd rather not confirm if what I saw was a delusion or not. A wave of relief washed over me, and I felt relaxed. It was as if my body rejuvenated itself, and any tension or stress I felt had been recycled into motivation. Mm... how come the stop is right in front of my house? I looked up to the second floor and saw him in the window, right where I left him. The memories returned to my conscious as well as the heavy, overwhelming feeling that made me wander off in the first place. It was then that I boarded the bus; The bus that took me nowhere but back to here.

