



The Bridge

Making community connections

Great Things in Store for the 2015-16 School Year!

The Bridge

Volume 18, Issue 3

September 2015

Another summer of improvements for the Lowell School District is just wrapping up. If you live near the Lowell School District, you have undoubtedly seen many of the continued improvements happening at Lundy Elementary School, Lowell Jr./Sr. High and within the District. Read below for major highlights!

Building and Grounds Improvements:

The Lowell Cafeteria has a bright new look! This summer, the High School cafeteria was remodeled to make space for industrial level heating and refrigeration units. The old tile flooring was removed and replaced with new durable vinyl flooring and base boards, and the cafeteria was repainted. The remodel made it possible to expand the student space and final transformation of this area will make it convenient for the students to have a large gathering area with a "Student Union" feel. Internet access will allow students the opportunity to work on projects and in study groups after school hours.

At Lundy the cafeteria was repainted and a walk-in cooler/freezer unit was added. Last spring a new driveway was constructed on the south side of the cafeteria to accommodate delivery trucks. Finally, a cardboard compacter has been added to help reduce recycling costs. Both Lowell and Lundy parking lots were resurfaced as well as the Lundy play area which was resurfaced and relined.

When you come to a volleyball or basketball game this year, you will notice the huge "face lift" given to the Lowell gym. The wall planks have been repaired and painted and the lower bleachers were repainted. Improved lighting has also helped transform and brighten the gym. Our football field and track are undergoing major improvements as well. This spring, the football field was leveled, had irrigation installed and was reseeded. The track has been graded and new substrate added making it usable and enjoyable for the students and community. Other improvements at the high school include improving the workspace at the concessions stand and the construction of the announcer's booth.

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LOWELL SCHOOLS: We're on the *Move*...

A big thank you to all of the “100 yard line” donors who have purchased a “yard line” to help fund the booth and to the many volunteers who have worked on the announcer’s booth and the other track and football field renovation projects.

Technology Upgrades:

The District has purchased 150 additional Chromebooks and five new Chromebook carts making it possible to have three technology carts at the elementary school and five technology carts at the high school. We have now achieved a 1 to 1 ratio at the high school and a 2 to 1 ratio at the elementary school. The District has upgraded and invested in core technology infrastructure needs including expanded wireless capability and network devices.

Continuation of the CEP Program:

This year we will be continuing the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Program which allows us to serve all Lundy students breakfast and lunch at no charge to the student. Additionally this year, the CEP extends to all Jr./Sr. High school students allowing for breakfast and lunch to be served without student cost. We will also continue our after school snack program at both school sites.

Removal of “Pay to Play” Cost for Sports:

During the 2015-2016 school year, the Lowell School Board has made it possible for students in the District to participate in sports without paying a general sports fee. This has been a tremendous help to our parents and demonstrates a community commitment to helping students benefit from after school extra-curricular programs.

Spanish Classes Offered at Lowell and Other Curriculum Improvements:

We are pleased and excited to announce that this year Lowell was able to bring back a part-time Spanish teacher. The teacher, Mr. Rius, has just finished his PhD work at the University of Oregon, has been teaching at the college level for 8 years, and is currently completing a college fellowship at the U of O. At Lowell the students will be able to access two new AP classes (AP European History and AP Government) as well as a new “4th year “ probability and statistics math class. With the addition of a

3-D printer and a CNC (Computer Numerical Control) machine, our CTE program in woods and drafting will be exceptional for students. Finally, Lowell will have an improved “on-line” education program designed to help students with credit recovery options and explore special interest classes.

New Physical Education Grant Funding and Curriculum Improvement at Lundy:

This year Lundy was able to purchase a new K-6 social studies curriculum and supplementary math curriculum for grades 3-5. During the summer, the students in summer school piloted an on-line math program designed to supplement classroom instruction. The program proved to be successful and will soon be made available to all students within the District. Finally, Lundy Elementary School was the recipient of two grants that will allow the District to hire a part-time PE teacher for Lundy and receive special professional development for our building staff to improve PE instruction for all Lundy students.

We are pleased to announce that our before school care, after school enrichment, and “power hour” for students will still be available and in full swing for our Lundy students. The tutoring programs at the High School will also be continuing during the school year with some added “Saturday School” opportunities. If you need any information about these programs, please contact the Lundy office at 541-937-2105.

The summer has really been busy and we look forward to reaping the benefits of all of the things provided to our students through grant funding, general funds, and our wonderful parent and community volunteers. Together we are truly...”*On the Move*”!

School Facilities Master Planning to Begin

In the near future, the school board will begin looking at long term educational facility planning. Input will be sought from community members, staff and students. Watch for more information in next month’s edition of this newsletter.



Lowell Football has big turnout and expectations! Come on out and root the team on to return to the State Championships. Team members are: Seniors Samuel Thurman, Lane Gilliland, Mitch Riberal, Cameron Slaven, Tyler Morse, Pierce Gossler, Christopher Chapman and Evan Nolan; Juniors Tommy Harvey, Ryan Sinnott, Kenny Lane, Zach Kintzley, Brayden Long, Brennen Gillmore, Justyn Barton, Colton Riggs, Hayden Trimble, Michael Thorton, Mahsen Asher, Noah Stewart and Eddy Jenks; Sophomores Chance Hickey, Brad Stevenson, Zach Smith, Justin Marsh, Dillon Dove and Devin Maughan; and Freshmen Devin Karbowski, Kasey Erwin, Symon Thurman, Clay Rooks, Gabe Carroll, Kody Jenks and Thomas Talamante-Ward. Head coach Pat Todd is assisted by Dan Goss, Ryan Maher, Dennis Capel and Jess Funez.

Check out the Volleyball and Football schedules on page 8.

Back to School Night Tuesday, Sept. 8th!

Parents, students and community members are invited to see the improvements to the high school gym and cafeteria and hear about the upcoming school year. A \$5.00 picnic dinner and dessert will be available at the High School Cafeteria, 65 S. Pioneer Street. The schedule is as follows:

5:30-6:45—Community dinner, HS Cafeteria

6:15—High School Gym:

Presentation by Supt. Walt Hanline

Introduction of new staff members

7:00—Volleyball game vs. McKenzie

8:00—Football scrimmage

Dinner proceeds support a newly re-energized Parent Teacher Organization—extra donations are appreciated!

Mountain View Academy Charter School

After our first successful year in the Lowell School District, Mountain View Academy Charter School is ready to begin the 2015-16 school year. With the addition of a new modular building, we now have the space needed for our growing program. We are also excited to announce the latest addition to our staff, Marcy Heegeman. Marcy will add incredible enthusiasm to our program as she takes her 6th grade class to new heights.

Our "Back to School Orientation" will be held on Wednesday, September 2, at 7:00 pm. This will be a time for students and parents to meet the teachers, network with families in our program, and gather information about the upcoming school year. Come join us for an ice-cream social and an informational evening with friends.

Executive Director, Laurie Cardwell

FROM THE LOWELL FIRE DISTRICT

By Chief Keith Hoehn

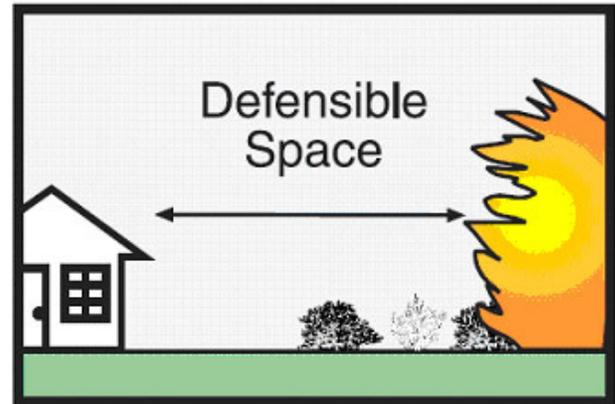
High and Extreme Fire Danger Persists

Unfortunately it does not look like we are going to have much relief from the potential for wildland fire any time soon. Although we may have a short sprinkle of rain in our area, so far it has not been enough to make a huge dent in the overall dryness of our wildlands. It is very important that we all remain vigilant in reducing the likelihood of creating a source for wildfire and keeping our homes and property wildfire safe until this dry spell ends for good.

Here is a reminder of what you can do to help keep your home and out buildings wildfire safe:

- Is your address clearly visible from the road? If you need an address marker, the District can provide one. Contact the District office.
- Is your driveway/roadway clear of obstructions, can a fire engine or other emergency vehicles get to your home? Driveways/roadway surfaces need to be at least 12 feet wide and have at least 13 ½ feet height clearance so the emergency vehicles can get to your home. Curves must be of adequate dimension to allow for emergency vehicle clearance, and there must be room for vehicles to turn around.
- Remove limbs and branches that overhang your roof. Prune lower limbs to a height of 15 feet and thin trees or remove them from within 30 feet of your home.
- Keep your roof and gutters free of debris, leaves, needles, small branches and moss.
- Keep woodpiles, firewood and other combustibles at least 30 feet from your home and out buildings.
- Block off openings under your home and decks with solid sheeting or fine-mesh wire, 1/8th inch metal screen works best. Screen attic vents and louvers also.
- Use only fire resistive roofing on all buildings, Class A asphalt shingles, metal or tile.
- Develop an escape plan and an emergency action plan. If a wildfire occurs near your home, you should have a plan for evacuation that includes important personal items and escape routes. Build an emergency evacuation kit that you can easily take with you if you are asked to evacuate your property in an emergency.

Remember during EXTREME FIRE DANGER times, no power equipment operation is allowed in regulated areas, no mowing of dry grass and vegetation and no fires of any kind are allowed. For more information, call the District Office at 541-937-3393 or check out the District web page at www.lowellfiredistrict.org.



Volunteer Firefighters Do More Than Just Fight Fires

What does it mean to be a Volunteer for the Lowell Rural Fire Protection District? The District supports a number of programs that not only meet the needs of the District for emergency response, but it also provides members with an opportunity for personal growth and interesting ways to contribute to our community.

Firefighting may not be appealing to some for any number of reasons. Not least of all is the hard work and substantial dedication to training that is required to become a firefighter and to maintain the skills necessary to stay proficient at fighting fires. Some of our members are just not able to devote the necessary time or don't have the physical attributes to perform all the skills necessary of a firefighter. It's very hard work.

The District has developed several programs that allow members to contribute to the organization and community in a significant and positive way, while learning new and interesting skills. For example, those interested in the medical field are encouraged to learn emergency medical skills, and are then eligible to respond to District medical calls, which account for over 75% of the District's incidents.

Emergency Medical training available either through the District or Lane Community College includes First Responder, EMT-Basic (EMT Responder), EMT-Advanced, EMT-Intermediate, and the Paramedic Associate Degree Program. Several of the programs provide National Certification and enable members to use these medical skills in other states as well. These programs can also provide some employment opportunities locally and nationally.

Special Service members have the opportunity to support the District in such areas as public education, fire prevention, fire operation support, disaster preparedness, firefighter health and safety, or wildland fire suppression and support. Programs can be developed for any number of special skills that relate to emergency services and the delivery of these services to District patrons.

The National Fire Protection Association has identified at least 206 technical professions and skilled labor fields that firefighters must be trained in to adequately perform their duties. This includes building construction, fire behavior, vehicle mechanic, hydrologist, plumber, carpenter, truck driver, chemist, building maintenance, janitor, public speaker, emergency medicine, traffic control and many, many more.

Unlike some services, the Fire District can help find your niche and put your skills and knowledge to good use serving the community. We can even help develop a training program that will provide an opportunity for you to give back to your community. For more information go to the District website at www.lowellfiredistrict.org or contact the District office at 541-937-3393.

September is National Preparedness Month

This September You Can Be the Hero. September is National Preparedness Month. It is a time to prepare yourself and those in your care for emergencies and disasters. If you've seen the news recently, you know that emergencies can happen unexpectedly in communities just like ours, to people just like you. We've seen tornado outbreaks, river floods, historic earthquakes, tsunamis, and even water main breaks and power outages affecting millions of people for days at a time.

**DON'T WAIT. COMMUNICATE.
MAKE YOUR EMERGENCY PLAN TODAY.**



SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH!



AMERICA'S
PrepareAthon!



Fire, Police, EMS and other rescue services may not always be able to reach you quickly in an emergency or disaster. The most important step you can take in helping your local responders is being able to take care of yourself and those in your care for at least three days. When people are prepared for emergencies or disasters, the community can recover much quicker.

This September, please prepare a plan in the event you must go for up to three days without electricity, water service, access to a supermarket, or other local services. Just follow these four simple steps:

- **Stay Informed:** Information is available from federal, state, and local resources.
- **Access Ready.gov** to learn what to do before, during, and after an emergency.
- **Make a Plan:** Discuss, agree on, and document an emergency plan with those in your care. For sample plans, see Ready.gov. Work together with neighbors, colleagues, and others to build community resilience.
- **Build a Kit:** Keep enough emergency supplies - water, nonperishable food, first aid supplies, prescription medications, flashlights, and a battery-powered radio on hand - for you and those in your care.

Another thing you can do is get involved. There are many ways to get involved, especially before a disaster occurs. The whole community can participate in programs and activities to make their families, homes and places of worship safer from risks and threats. Community leaders agree that the formula for ensuring a safer homeland consists of volunteers, a trained and informed public, and increased support of emergency response agencies during disasters.

The following websites are just a few of the resources that can help you and your family become more prepared for emergencies. Check them out!

Ready.gov/be-informed Ready.gov/make-a-plan
Ready.gov/build-a-kit Ready.gov/get-involved

Email: ready@fema.gov or citizencorps@dhs.gov
Text: PREPARE to 43362 (4FEMA) to receive monthly preparedness tips. (*msg/data rates apply*)
Order publications: call 1-800-BE-READY, 1-888-SE-LISTO, and TTY 1-800-462-7585

The Public is invited to a Community Forum to be held at the Pleasant Hill Community Center, October 27th 2015 at 7:00 p.m. to receive information on local emergency response and preparedness topics. Watch for flyers and posters announcing the event.

As a result of a retirement, promotion, resignation and the addition of a student-teaching position, four new faces will be working in the Lowell School District this coming year. All teachers will be present at the Back-to-School event on September 8th so come out to welcome back our returning teachers and meet the new ones.



Heidi Sawitzke (at left) will begin teaching social studies at the high school. Born and raised in Salt Lake City, she graduated from University of Utah with a bachelor's in History, then received her Master's in Education from U of O this summer. While studying abroad in England, she became fond of rainy weather and chose Oregon to begin her career. She enjoys reading, hiking and sewing.

Greg Erickson (at right) is the new 6th grade teacher at Lundy. Greg was born and raised in Eugene and played four years of soccer at Northwest Christian University as he earned his undergrad and Master's degrees in Education. He likes to golf, root for the Ducks and travel. Like Heidi, family members are teachers which inspired them to become teachers themselves.



Krystle Rodriguez-Little grew up in Creswell and Eugene and graduated from U of O with undergrad and Master's degrees in Education. She will be teaching 4th grade at Lundy and is looking forward to getting to know her students and sharing her love of writing and science with them.

She caught the travel bug from her husband, Donovan and has visited many countries with him.



Ramiro Quero grew up in Tecate, Mexico where he met people from Laurelwood Academy in Jasper. At 15 he moved to Fall Creek and graduated from Laurelwood. Ramiro earned a degree in Natural Science in 2014 and is now attending NCU. He will be assisting in high school math and science classes as a student teacher.

A new Spanish teacher will be highlighted in the next issue of The Bridge. Please help make these new teachers feel welcome in our District!



City Beat

New City Administrator to Begin October 1st

Jared Cobb, currently assistant city administrator for the city of Lovington, New Mexico will be on the job in Lowell beginning on October 1st. Watch for more information in the October edition of The Bridge.

Lowell City Council Actions

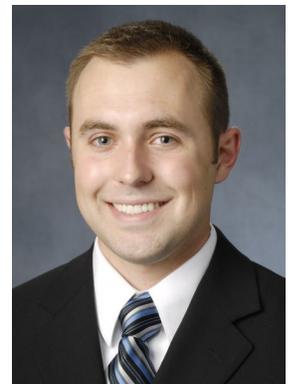
This report of actions taken by the Lowell City Council is a regular feature of this newsletter and is provided to inform citizens of recent decisions made by the council.

From the August 4th regular meeting:

- Approved Resolution 634, a resolution substituting the new title of City Clerk for Utility Billing Clerk and creating a permanent, part-time position of Accounting Clerk in lieu of Finance Clerk and amending salary schedules and job descriptions. In support: Bennett, Burford, Osgood; Opposed: Paulson, Rennert.

From the August 18th regular meeting:

- Approved a motion that the negotiating team enter into negotiations with Jared Cobb for the City Administrator position. In support: Bennett, Burford, Osgood, Paulson and Rennert; Opposed: none.



In and Around Our Community

6th Annual Block Party September 5th

Join your friends and neighbors for a fun day at this old-fashioned block party from Noon to 4:00 p.m. on East 2nd Street between Moss and Pioneer Streets. This event is co-sponsored by East Valley Church and the Lowell Grange. Come enjoy free hamburgers, hot dogs, salads, cotton candy, ice cream and more. Meet our local Fire Department members, stay cool in the dunk tank or on the slip and slide. Make this a family day and come join us — FUN for all !

Clothes Closet is Overstocked

Due to the generosity of our community, we aren't accepting any donations for awhile. Now is the time to stop by and benefit from this wonderful giving. Stop by 4 Lakeview on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 11 am—2 pm or call Brandy at 541-53-0123.

Breakfast at the Lowell Grange continues

A hearty breakfast awaits you at the Lowell Grange! Come and enjoy home cooked eggs, hashbrowns, waffles, pancakes, sausage, bacon, fruit and beverages.

Breakfast at the Grange is served regularly on the first Sunday of each month from 8:00-11:00 a.m. Donations are gratefully accepted. Proceeds go to the Building Restoration Fund used to make building improvements to the Grange Hall.

Other Grange Events in September

Texas Hold 'em Poker on the 4th and 19th
Bingo! on the 16th

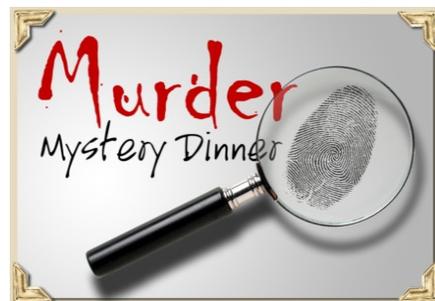
Your support of these events help restore the historic Grange Hall Building. Thank you very much!

Mystery Dinner Play Planned by Lowell Grange

The Grange will be serving a chicken dinner with desert while you enjoy the Mystery Dinner Play, "Café Murderer".

The Grange will be having two showings:
September 26th at 6:00 p.m. at the Lowell Grange and
September 27th at 4:00 p.m. at the Lowell Grange

To buy tickets for \$15 dollars each, contact Gerry at 541-937-2190.
Tickets will not be available at the door.



Construction to Close Fall Creek North Shore Boat Ramp

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department alert Fall Creek Reservoir boaters that the North Shore Park and Boat Ramp will be closed from September 2015 through as late as June 2016 due to construction.

North Shore Park and Boat Ramp is part of the Fall Creek State Recreation Area about 25 miles southeast of Eugene, Oregon, and is usually open April 1 through September 30. This closure will impact one month at the end of the 2015 recreation season and as much as three months at the start of the 2016 recreation season.

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department operates six other recreation facilities, including two other boat ramps, at Fall Creek Reservoir. Visit http://www.oregonstateparks.org/index.cfm?do=parkPage.dsp_parkPage&parkId=176 for information.

Crews will use the North Shore entrance road, boat trailer parking lot and viewpoint parking lot as staging areas to build an improved water supply system for the new Fall Creek Adult Fish Facility. The facility, which will start construction below the dam in late 2016, will enable the safe trapping and transport of wild adult spring Chinook salmon and other fish upstream of Fall Creek Dam, where they will be released to spawn naturally.

The existing facility does not meet current fish handling standards. Fish have to be physically handled, contributing to injuries, stress and high levels of pre-spawning mortality. Replacement of the existing facility is required by the National Marine Fisheries and U.S. Fish and Wildlife services' 2008 Willamette Project Biological Opinions, and is part of the Corps' ongoing efforts to improve conditions for Upper Willamette River spring Chinook salmon and winter steelhead listed under the Endangered Species Act. For more information about the Corps' Willamette BiOp Implementation Program, visit <http://www.nwp.usace.army.mil/Missions/Environment/Fish/WVPBiOP.aspx>.

The Bridge

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Lowell, OR 97452

Phone 541 937-8405 Fax 541 937-8709
On the web: www.lowell.k12.or.us

Making community connections

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*The Bridge is a cooperative effort of Lowell School District #71,
City of Lowell and Lowell Rural Fire Protection District.*

Upcoming Meetings and Events: September 2015

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1—Varsity Volleyball v. Triangle Lake, 6:00 p.m.
City Council Budget Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall</p> <p>2—Mt. View Academy “Back to School Orientation”, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>3—Varsity Volleyball/Football @ Dufur, 5:30/7:00 p.m.
Parks Advisory Committee Meeting — cancelled</p> <p>4—Texas Hold ‘em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>5—6th Annual Block Party, East 2nd Street, Noon to 4:00 p.m.
Varsity Volleyball @ Oakridge, 9:00 a.m.
Refundable container drop to benefit PTO, 10-noon, HS lot</p> <p>6—Breakfast at the Lowell Grange, 8:00-11:00 a.m.
Dexter Lake Farmers’ Market, Noon-3:00 p.m., Dexter Rec. Area</p> <p>7—Labor Day — City Hall closed</p> <p>8—Lowell Community Preschool Open House at Lundy Elementary
Back to School Night, 5:30 p.m., High School Cafeteria
Varsity Volleyball v. McKenzie, 7:00 p.m.
Fire District Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Lowell Station
Blackberry Jam Committee Meeting — cancelled</p> <p>9—First day of school! Lundy: 7:50 a.m.; High School: 8:00 a.m.</p> <p>10—Varsity Volleyball @ Eddyville Charter, 6:00 pm.</p> <p>11—Varsity Volleyball @ Perrydale/Crow, 3:00/4:30 p.m.</p> <p>12—Varsity Football @ Camas Valley, Noon</p> <p>13—Dexter Lake Farmers’ Market, Noon-3:00 pm, Dexter Rec. Area</p> <p>14—JH Volleyball v. McKenzie, 4:30 p.m.
Varsity Volleyball @ Yoncalla, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>15—Vision and Dental Screen for grades K-6 at Lundy Elementary
First day of Lowell Community Preschool
Varsity Volleyball v. Alsea, 6:00 p.m.
City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., City Hall</p> <p>16—BINGO! at the Lowell Grange, 7:00 p.m.</p> | <p>17—JH Football/Volleyball v. Crow, 4:30/5:00 p.m.
Varsity Volleyball @ Siletz Valley, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>18—Varsity Football @ McKenzie, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>19—Texas Hold ‘em Poker, Lowell Grange, 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>20—Dexter Lake Farmers’ Market, Noon-3:00 pm, Dexter Rec. Area</p> <p>21—JH Volleyball v. Falls City, 4:30 p.m.</p> <p>22—Varsity Volleyball v. Mapleton, 6:00 p.m.
Lowell Planning Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m. City Hall</p> <p>23—JH Volleyball @ Oakhill, 4:30 p.m.</p> <p>25—Lundy Elementary Jog-a-thon Fundraiser
Varsity Football v. Triangle Lake, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>26—Varsity Volleyball @ McKenzie Tourney, 9:00 p.m.
Mystery Dinner Play, Lowell Grange 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>27—Dexter Lake Farmers’ Market, Noon-3:00 pm, Dexter Rec. Area
Mystery Dinner Play, Lowell Grange, 4:00 p.m.</p> <p>28—JH Volleyball @ Mohawk, 4:30 p.m.
Varsity Volleyball @ Oakridge, 6:00 p.m.
Lowell School Board Meeting, 7:00 pm, PDC, 45 S. Moss
(through Gym)</p> <p>30—JH Football/Volleyball v. Mapleton, 4:00/4:30 p.m.</p> |
|---|---|
- Coming in October: the Haunted Grange is back!
October 29, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
October 30 and 31, 6:00-10:00 p.m.
Ages 17 and under, \$3; Over 17, \$5