

Beware Of Hallowe'en Spirits



Hallowe'en Is Exciting To Those Taking Part In The Holiday Parties

Not really a celebrated holiday as we know today, but a special "fun" day for many, Hallowe'en brings happy excitement and suspense to those who take part in its gay festivities and enchantment.

Many superstitions arise in connection with this day of celebration. Witches on broomsticks usually patrol the sky. And, of course, there are almost always a few black cats scattered here and there. Jack-o-lanterns, made from pumpkins, hang in windows—casting strange shadows and frightening glares.

Hallowe'en, the evening of October 31, originated in Great Britain. It has several names, including Nutcrack Night and the Vigil of All Hallows. It was regarded as a highly superstitious day and was celebrated with unusual ceremonies.

Those born on Hallowe'en have special connections with supernatural beings, so the belief goes. These people can communicate with the beings, as well as receive certain supernatural powers from them. On this day, the object of looking into the future was to see who the partner for life would be.

Imagination plays the most vivid role in the celebration of this day. For Hallowe'en, with its supernatural influences could not exist without this.

School, Important To All

Study, involved with school work, both in class and at home, is vital to any student who is interested in making good grades or winning honors.

If the school benefits its students, what can they give in return? Patriotism should be placed near the top of the list. School spirit should follow, as this helps to develop a school in which to be proud.

Taking part in as many activities as time permits, and doing a good job, is an asset to any school. But, just participation in various activities is not enough—classwork and homework must be considered.

Doing each day's work as it is assigned keeps it from piling up. It also gives enough time for a student to do a thorough job. When homework is known in advance, students can plan their time and allow for extra study. Putting off today's work until tomorrow is no way to master any subject. Time often runs out for those who do this.

Concentration is an important factor. A good job cannot be expected, unless the work is understood. Trying to do other things while homework is being done, often results in loss of time, wrong answers, and the lack of knowledge that is needed on tomorrow's pop quiz.

Taking part in class is vital. Doing this helps students to gain a better understanding of the subject. Teachers often recognize the need of the individual student when they take part in class discussion. Students will have the advantage if they participate willingly and do that work which needs to be done.

Staff And Friends Bid Good-by to Pal

Herb Allred, page four editor of *The Blackbird*, left RMSHS on October 17, moving to Chattanooga, Tennessee, and taking with him pleasant memories and good wishes from the students who knew him.

Herb, known throughout the school for a few "beatnick" jokes, gets along well with everyone. Always with a joke in mind, Herb did much cheering-up of those who were having a bad day.

French must have been a favorite subject, for he was always writing an article about it. Another one of his likes is *Mad* magazine, of which he is an avid fan. Because of originality found in many ideas, Herb was often asked to write assembly programs that *The Blackbird* staff presented.

There is also a serious side to this loveable character. He is interested in grade, school activities, and church. Here is an all-around good-fellow that any student would be proud to have for a friend.

To you Herb, the members of *The Blackbird* staff and Mrs. Z. L. Williams, advisor, wish luck and good cheer in your new home. Here's hoping that your new classmates appreciate you as RMSHS students have in the past and will continue to do so in the future.

Emphasis Is Made In Fire Prevention

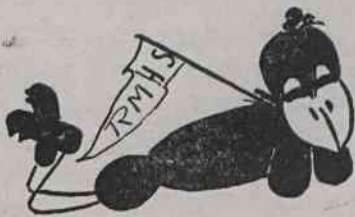
As long as fuel, oxygen, and heat have the opportunity to get together in one place at one time, fire prevention will continue to remain a very real and necessary part of everyone's lives.

Every intelligent person realizes that prevention is the safest, surest method of eliminating injury from fire. Nevertheless, many people allow themselves to be placated by the many recent advances in firefighting equipment, such as fog nozzles and light weight firearmor, in spite of the fact that these are, or should be, used only as a last resort.

Most fires are small and isolated to such a degree that firefighting equipment requires at least five minutes, and probably much longer, to reach the scene. A fog nozzle may be able to knock down that fire confined to one room in one or two seconds, but it surely would not be sufficient for a large fire.

Deaths from fire cannot be completely eliminated, of course. No matter how much effort is expended, the laws of chance will always keep perfection beyond grasp. However, a degree of effectiveness can be reached so that not even the most critical observer would truthfully say "These people died because you didn't care."

Ben Blackbird Sez



A pat on the back sometimes helps in the developing of character, if it is done young enough, often enough, and low enough.

Lavish color makes

Autumn, The Beautiful Season for nature walks

During the autumn season color is everywhere, especially in the leaves, flashing their brilliant reds, golds, and browns in the sunlight, while they fall from the trees, springling the earth with color and life.

Lover's of nature and also those who enjoy the beauty that this time of year brings, often find themselves wanting to get out into the fresh, crisp air. Everyone is sure to feel the innerglow that this beauty brings.

Walking through the parks, draped in their autumn splendor, people surely realize that there is a supreme being who created this beautiful world. No matter where they turn, they can find some sort of loveliness.

Even when the rains come, they bring beauty. For after they are gone, the drops of moisture sparkle and twinkle in the sunlight. The wind causes the leaves to dance from their force, thus creating more beautiful effects.

Falling leaves always present the task of raking them together. Contests, held among the workers, to see who can rake the most, often turn this job into enjoyment. Children find it fun to play and frolic in the neatly gathered leaves.

On a free afternoon a couple might want to drive or walk through the colorful out-of-doors as peace and contentment seem to cover the world during this season. Occasionally the song of a bird or chatter of a squirrel breaks the silence. Everyone will enjoy life more if they can discover this season before it is gone.

Columbus Day Slips By Quietly Without Any Special Notice

Columbus Day, just another day for many, living in a land of peace, freedom and contentment, a land for which men have fought, worked and died; Mr. and Mrs. Average American watched October 12 slip quietly by.

Americans have ancestors of which to be proud. A small group of pilgrims tore themselves from their homes, their friends and country, to come to a new world, searching for freedom, finding wilderness and Indians. These first Americans were a strange group of people. Living in a world of tyranny, they dared to speak their beliefs that every individual was born with certain rights; rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

These people bravely withstood all the forces bent on destroying them. Fighting wars, diseases, cold and hunger, they built a strong nation out of a savage wilderness and became heirs to a continent. The nation became a refuge for the oppressed, a shining example of democracy, and a symbol on which the principles of world peace are founded.

America is a fabric, made up of many threads, each a symbol of the American way of living, threads of ambition, hope, loyalty, respect, charity, love of God and man, peace and freedom. United, these threads form one of the greatest nations in the world. Divided, they are only an uncertain mass of people, quarreling blindly among themselves.

THE BLACKBIRD

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