

Halloween screamers get waiver

O-o-o-o-o-h October!

The first day and already, Wednesday, the discussion was of ghosts and goblins and howling and screaming.

Actually, screaming and howling were the main topics of discussion during the Board of Health meeting Wednesday at Mercy Hospital.

The Pottawattamie County Historical Society and Beta Sigma Phi Sorority were granted a noise ordinance variance by the Health Board to conduct their annual Haunted House in the Squirrel Cage Jail.

Proceeds from the Haunted House go to assist in the preservation of the city's historical buildings and artifacts.

A similar request by the Council Bluffs Jaycees for a haunted house at 1304 Avenue D was denied when several neighbors protested.

Those present expressed concern about the noise and crowds attracted by the haunted house.

Jaycees President Gerald Goebel said his organization will have its haunted house, only that the witches and warlocks there will be kept under control, as the law stipulates.

Money from that project goes into the Jaycees general fund, which supports such things as the Special Olympics, July 4 fireworks and the annual Muscular Dystrophy telethon, Goebel said.