

BHS 50th Anniversary set for September 25 & 26

By Jackie Giroux
Reporter

Plans have been underway in recent months to recognize Bedford High School's 50th Anniversary and are now in the finalizing stages.

The "new" Bedford High School on Jackman Rd. opened its doors in September 1965 with the class of 1966 being the first class to graduate from the new high school. Previously, high school students attended the high school on Douglas Rd., which has since been torn down.

A two-day event that will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Bedford High School will be held on Friday and Saturday, September 25 and 26 – Homecoming weekend.

Friday night's activities begin with a Mingle from 4 to 6:30 p.m. followed by the football game. Alumni are invited to participate with the band program at half time. "After the marching band program alumni from 1947 to 1965 will be introduced and will be able to come out onto the field at one of the end zones. Alumni from 1966 to 2015 will be introduced and go to the other end zone. They will then walk across the field and meet each other in the center," said Evelyn Powers, 1966 BHS grad and chair of the 50th Anniversary celebration.

"We are including anyone

who attended Bedford Agricultural School and everyone who attended the old high school and graduates from the new high school 1966-2015," she said.

On Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. there will be an Open House and tours of the high school with memorabilia being provided by alumni from 1966 to 2015, sports team videos through the years, and refreshments.

At 2:30 p.m. the celebration will continue in the gymnasium at Bedford Jr. High School with a special program. Shuttle buses will be provided for alumni who have difficulty walking the distance between the two schools.

"After the presentation of the colors and the National Anthem we will be honoring two women who have done so much for the schools," Powers said.

Plaques will be given to Margery (Margie) Shinkle and Pauline Tolly. Mrs. Shinkle taught first grade at Temperance Rd. Elementary for many years and third grade at Douglas Rd. Elementary for two years. Additionally, she served as principal at Jackman Rd. Elementary. "She was the very first woman principal in Bedford," Powers said. "Mrs. Tolly was the secretary at both the old and new Bedford high schools. She

was the go-to person; everybody loved her," Powers said. "We want to honor these two women."

The Alumni Choir will be performing several songs during this special program. Anyone attending will be given commemorative programs.

If you have memorabilia from 1966 to 2015 that you would like displayed during the Open House, items should be dropped off by Thursday, September 10 to Sandy Kraine at the high school. If you are coming from out of town for the event, memorabilia can still be accepted if Kraine knows about it in advance of your arrival. Contact Kraine at sandy.kraine@mybedford.us or (734) 850-6030. All memorabilia will be returned upon request or it can be donated to the Bedford Historical Society.

Comments or suggestions can be emailed to Evelyn Powers at ep@bloomington.in.us.

Updates, organizational meeting dates and more information can be found on the event's new website www.bedford50th.com.

Plan on being a part of this special Bedford High School 50th Anniversary celebration – a time for some reminiscing and reconnecting with former classmates!

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