



THE BEAR

Student Newspaper

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Grease Cast Members. *Front Row:* Nolan Staker (Danny), Nina Torkelson (Sandy) *Middle Row:* Robby Boaz (Doody), Eli Farmer (Sonny), Josh Kroemer (Roger), Nate Hills (Kenickie), Olivia Naber (Rizzo), Miley Shields (Jan), Kaylee Kettler (Frenchy), Maddie Reed (Marty), Peyton Braddock (Patty), Jenie Gomez (Cha Cha). *Back Row:* Lynden MacGillivray (Eugene), Diego Carillo (Vince Fontaine), Lincoln Naber (Johnny Casino), Terri Zumbahlen - standing in for Ellie Walsh (Mrs. Lynch). *Photo By Brooklyn Nash.*

ADMIT ONE ALL: GREASE TAKES CENTER STAGE OCT. 28 & 29

Miley Shields
Staff Writer

For the first time since 2014 with the show *Tarzan*, WBHS has restarted the musical theater program under the direction of Chris Reed and Mary Denmead. Many students are excited for this year's musical, *Grease*.

Grease tickets are now on sale in the HS office. The dates of the musical are Sat., Oct. 28 at 7:00 p.m. and Sun., Oct. 29 at 2:00 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center. The price to attend is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 per student.

Students in grades 3-8 will get a free performance of *Grease* on Thurs., Oct. 26 at 9:00 a.m. This also serves as the the musical dress rehearsal.

While there is a class for it (choir), musical participants have also had to meet in the evenings from 6:30-9:30 to put together the big show.

There are several leaders in

charge of different parts of the show.

Reed takes care of vocal direction for ensemble and solo work.

Denmead works with blocking the stage and the acting portion of the musical.

Arlen Ottmar, the accompanist for the choir in previous years, works with the onstage orchestra.

Reed also mentioned that a large part of what goes into having a good show is prop work and stage setup, and parents of the cast have been helping out with the set.

The orchestra will be directed onstage by Ottmar; he will be conducting while playing keyboard.

Since the orchestra will actually be on stage, it will be small and will consist only of a piano, electric guitar, drums, bass guitar, and two tenor saxophones.

Band Director Samuel Ogilvie will also help out alongside Lou Pine with the individuals in the orchestra,

which includes junior Eli Hansen on bass guitar, juniors Nora Ziehr and Keaton Norfleet on tenor saxophone, sophomore Ewan Arlen on drums, and alumni Baylee Piegors playing electric guitar.

Senior cast member Maddie Reed said, "I am looking forward to all

of it! I am happy for the challenge of playing Marty, and I am excited to sing her solo. I think it will be a new experience and a lot of fun! I especially think the bigger dance routines will be really cool once they are all put together."



Director Mary Denmead (right) helps *Grease* hopefuls Jordan Waters and Diego Carillo enhance their characters during musical theater auditions. *Photo By Olivia Naber.*

MAIN STREET WEST BRANCH DEBUTS NEW GRADUATION HONOR CORD

Katey Noble
Co-Editor-in-Chief

Jessi Simon, executive director of Main Street West Branch, has worked alongside the development group's organizational committee to create a new graduation cord for students to earn within their four years at WBHS.

Simon said, "Eligible 'colorful cord' hours can be earned by assisting Main Street West Branch with downtown projects and events."

According to Simon, this consists of "volunteer shifts at events, including Hoover's Hometown Days, Summer Kickoff, Fall Fest, Sweets for Success, and Christmas Past; and volunteer work assisting the Main Street director with office tasks [based on skills, interests, and current office needs]."

Office tasks could be hanging posters or delivering brochures to promote an upcoming event, assembling 'Welcome Kits' for new residents, decorating Christmas trees in preparation for the Festival of Trees, creating social media content, assembling gift baskets for a silent auction, or cleaning out a closet.



Students could also help out with seasonal downtown beautification projects, like street sweeps, watering flowers, and holiday decorating.

Serving on a Main Street Committee of your choice (meet monthly via Zoom) is a great way to get your voice heard and help shape events and activities in the community. Check out each of

the committees and what they focus on at:

[mainstreetwestbranch.org/support](https://www.mainstreetwestbranch.org/support)

To earn a "Colorful Cord," students will need to devote 50 hours of volunteer time at these Main Street events during their four years of high school.

The 50-hour policy does not apply to the class of 2024 or the class of 2025. As for the class of 2026 and beyond, they must complete the required 50 hours.

The class of 2024 is required to volunteer for 20 hours, and the class of 2025 is required to so 35 hours.

Similar to the Silver Cord, once a student volunteers for the required amount of hours, they will receive the cord to wear at graduation.

Simon added, "The best way to learn about upcoming opportunities to earn Colorful Cord hours is to join our E-Mail List by visiting <https://www.mainstreetwestbranch.org/cords> and then also follow us on social media for announcements about upcoming events and projects. Main Street West Branch is active on Instagram and Facebook."



Main Street West Branch's new "Colorful Cord" can be earned by dedicating service hours on behalf of Main Street West Branch. *Photo provided by Jessi Simon.*

Trick or Treating for St. Jude

WBHS National Honor Society members will be coming around and collecting donations to send to the St. Jude Childrens Research Hospital during the hours of trick or treating. Students will have more info. at this time. **Thank you for supporting this cause.**



NHS PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST

BEST OVERALL
MOST CREATIVE
MOST DIFFICULT



All submissions due October 24th

Voting: October 25-27

Winners announced October 27th



WBHS National Honor Society Fundraiser

\$8

Show your school spirit with a new Pura Vida Bracelet! Your purchase will fuel our organization and all the awesome events we host.

Some of these products including: Bracelets for Halloween Day, Service Day & 4th Week