



May 18, 2023

The Bear

## NHS President Karley Staker recaps the year

**Karley Staker**  
**NHS President**

We completed a variety of projects this year as an NHS chapter. Most of those projects had the goal of giving back to our community or other organizations.

Throughout the year, members of NHS volunteered to help with events in our community. Some of these events were the can drive, fundraising dinners, Christmas Past, and concession stands.

Each member of the NHS

also spent some time with the elementary-age kids. Members of NHS are a part of a program called Elementary Buddies. In this program, teachers from Hoover Elementary are matched with a few NHS members. The NHS member will visit the classroom to work with students on certain skills, hang out at recess, or help the teacher with other tasks.

The first big event NHS did this year was the trick or treating fundraiser. Members walked around during West Branch's trick

or treating hours asking for donations to give to the St. Jude's Children's Hospital. I believe the total amount raised this year was \$1850.73.

Around Christmas time, members of the NHS made holiday cards for the troops. During Valentine's Day, we sold and delivered flowers to students and staff. The profit from that fundraiser went to a local cause.

The biggest project NHS tackled this year was Service Day, which happened on April 26th. On top of this, NHS members par-

ticipate in a wide variety of volunteer activities.

Something new we are hoping to do this year is plan a lock-in with the WBHS Student Government. We're hoping it can be a way to get to know people better and have a little fun.

Reflecting on my time as this year's NHS President, I have to say that I feel blessed to get to be a part of such an awesome group of students. I hope that next year's NHS chapter will accomplish even more than what this year's group accomplished.

## New NHS members inducted

**Nora Ziehr**  
**Staff Writer**

As the school year comes to an end, National Honor Society held its annual induction ceremony. "The induction ceremony is a time where new members are welcomed into the current chapter of NHS. During the ceremony, current members will describe the four pillars of NHS (scholarship, character, leadership, and service), the new members pledge to uphold the pillars, and then we invite each new member up to the stage to receive their pin, card, and sign the scroll," explained NHS Sponsor Kristen Westpheling.

The qualities looked at during the application process include the following: applying Juniors must have a cumulative GPA of 3.75 or higher and applying

sophomores must have a cumulative GPA of 3.9 or higher. A student will be taken into consideration based on their scholarship (what their grades look like), their character (how they are known to act and behave), their leadership (what they have done to prove they have leadership skills), and finally their service (how they give back to their community).

"I am excited for this ceremony and to see what NHS will bring to my experiences here," said sophomore inductee, Jordan Waters. "I am excited to be involved in the student community more."

"I am kind of nervous for this ceremony because it is unlike anything I have ever experienced and I don't know what to expect," said sophomore inductee Josh

Kroemer. "I am looking forward to being in NHS because it is another opportunity to lead at the school."

There were 21 total applicants this year, 11 of which will be inducted. This year's induction ceremony took place on Monday, May 15th at 6:30pm in the Performing Arts Center. It was a short ceremony, before the senior awards ceremony.

This year's list of inductees include:

- Juniors-**  
Shae Farmer  
Alyse Klinkkammer  
Maryam Martin  
Bradyn Sexton  
Madelyn Stout  
Jake Swisher

- Sophomores-**  
Cole Crosthwaite  
Nathan Hills  
Joshua Kroemer  
Layla Samuelson  
Jordan Waters  
Amber Wolf  
Nora Ziehr



New NHS Inductees. *Back Row:* Josh Kroemer, Jordan Waters, Nora Ziehr, Maryam Martin, Shae Farmer, Nate Hills, Cole Crosthwaite. *Front Row:* Layla Samuelson, Amber Wolf, Alyse Klinkkammer, Madelyn Stout, Jake Swisher, Bradyn Sexton. *Photo by Brooklyn Nash.*

## NHS hosts another successful Service Day

**Anna Waterman**  
**Staff Writer**

On May 26, students had the opportunity to give back to the community through various service projects.

The freshman could have participated in three different projects that consisted of Harvest Preserve, District Mulching Cleanup, and Iowa City Parks and Rec. Harvest Preserve was tasked with pulling weeds and painting. District Mulching was in charge of laying mulch and picking up the district grounds.

Senior Evan Striegel said "As students, it felt good to give back to the community that supports us." Iowa City Parks and Rec planted trees and pulled weeds as well.

Sophomores then had the

option between three projects that were the Cedar County Fairgrounds, Bed Mats Ministry, and West Branch Parks and Rec. The group that went to the Cedar County Fairgrounds had to clean livestock barns and pick up trash from the fairgrounds.

"Being able to give back to the community made me feel really good because our community provides us with so much, so it felt nice to give back," senior Sadie Smith said. The Bed Mat Ministry group got to learn how to cut and weave plastic bags into blankets. West Branch Parks and Rec went around town pulling weeds and mulching.

The two projects the Juniors could have participated in were Highway Cleanup and Herbert Hoover National Park. High-

way Cleanup walked down Herbert Hoover Highway picking up trash. Junior Claire Jarrett said

"I feel like I did something for the environment and it feels good that I helped make a difference." The group that was sent to Herbert Hoover National Park got to clean and paint throughout the park.

There were five projects for the Seniors to choose from. These projects were Card Making, Tie Blankets, Survival Bracelets, Food Drive, and Backyard Abundance. Card Making, Tie Blankets, and Survival Bracelets were all located at the high school. The cards went to the military, and the blankets were given to the Ronald McDonald House.

Senior Bailey Walker, who made the Survival Bracelets,

said, "My favorite part of the day was making something I know would help someone."

FFA and the Boy Scouts also had projects going on. FFA went downtown West Branch to clean Main Street and hang flowers. Senior Hannah Schiele, was asked why she enjoyed doing the FFA project.

She said, "Knowing that simple, easy tasks can benefit the community in a large way."

The Boy Scouts went and planted trees by the dog park and nearby trails.

"The best part was having fun with my friends and planting the different types of trees," said Josh Kroemer.



Jordan Waters makes a bed mat. *Photo contributed by Jodee Culver.*



Sabree Deporter paints at the Harvest Preserve. *Photo by Brooklyn Nash.*



Brandon Pedersen and Cooper Gates plant a tree at City Park. *Photo by Brooklyn Nash.*



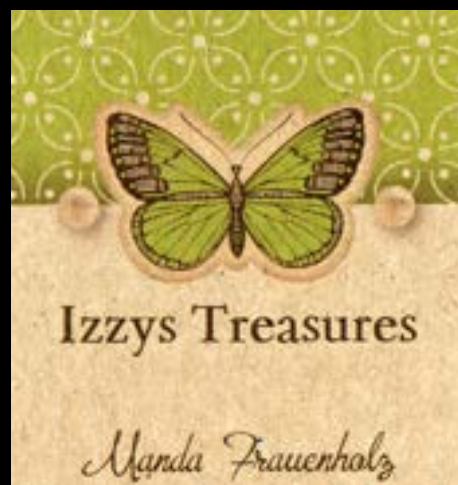
Ava Finley gets her hands dirty at James Alan Park. *Photo by Brooklyn Nash.*



Herbert Hoover Hwy.  
Turn North on Johnson Cedar Rd.  
Turn right 1/3 Mile

Jerry & Tammy Sexton,  
Owners

319.643.EDGE (3343)  
19 Greenview Lane  
West Branch, IA 52355



105 S. Downey St  
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