

# Musical 'Oliver' nearly ready to open

by Rob Cotton  
The News

Tension and excitement can be felt throughout Lake Superior High School these days as students continue their rehearsals for the musical Oliver, opening May 3.

Student choreographers are putting dancers through their paces in the foyer of the Terrace Bay campus while Kim Alexander, director and producer, and Howard Alexander, music director, work with student actors and singers in the auditorium.

Stage, sound and lighting crews are learning their cues, costumes and make-up are being prepared and everyone is being encouraged to get out there and sell tickets.

Oliver is an ambitious production and the students, including elementary students, have been getting amazing support from the community.

## Communities have been very supportive

"People in the communities have been incredibly supportive of the show by helping us in one way or another," said Kim Alexander.

They have donated both money and materials for the show, she said. Some wanted their donation to go towards specific items, such as the rental of two costumes while others made donations to general expenses.

There are 25 cast members, 18 high school students and 7 elementary students, who have collectively put in about 200

hours of rehearsal time but there has also been a big contribution by other students.

The art class painted the large street scene that serves as the backdrop for the play. The shop class built the sets and the stage extension.

A logo has been designed, props collected and posters made.

Costumes have been made, some have been borrowed and two, one for Mr. Bumble and one for Fagan, have been rented.

"We're borrowing a lot of costumes used during Schreiber's Centennial. The women involved have been really generous," Kim said.

She and two students have been experimenting with make-up for several months to find the effects that will be just right.

Student choreographers Suzanne Thibeault and Keli Turpin have been working with the actors on the dance numbers that are an integral part of this production.

They received help from Jennifer Mahmoodi, a semi-professional choreographer from Brockville who came to the school for two days of intensive rehearsal.

## Student choreographers work from videotapes

The students have been working from videotapes of the work done in these two days.

"Jennifer is marvellous at working with this particular age group," said Howard Alexander.

"She has a wonderful ability to give them things [in the way of choreography] that make them look good."

Howard, the musical director for the production, described the music as fairly simple but he said the pieces are long.

## Lots of musical material in the show

The songs account for about 80 per cent of the show.

"It is demanding on the students to learn it and to sing it the whole way through," he said.

The students will be accompanied by the core members of the Northshore Community Band.

One person who has been watching all of this very closely is Stage Manager, Leah Miflin. In the true tradition of theatre she will take over production of the show on opening night.

"If her sewing kit and her roll of masking tape can't fix it then she really has to do some thinking," Kim said.

Oliver will open on Friday May 3 and run May 4 and May 5. Tickets for the show are available from the students.

A Green Room, a reception, after the opening night performance to give the company the opportunity to personally thank those who helped produce the show.



**Will Mr. Bumble and Widow Corney get together?** Derek Sitco and Jodi Saarinen rehearse their roles as Mr. Bumble and Widow Corney for Lake Superior High School's production of the musical Oliver. The play will May 3, 4 & 5. The production involves the work of many students and the cast includes elementary and high school students from both Schreiber and Terrace Bay.

## OPENS APRIL 27TH

ONCE UPON A TIME...there was a quaint little Gift Shop in Rossport, happy and fulfilled in the knowledge that the finest treasures were to be found within its cheery doors.

BUT THEN ONE DAY a dark cloud appeared. Alas, something was amiss! It seems the analysts proclaimed a recession throughout the land. Now customers would need even more quality and quantity for their hard-earned currency. So the shop called its Fairy-Godmother and Father and said: "Judi and Olav, would you mind flying of on several buying trips to find perfect and unusual gifts as well as excellent value?"

What could they do? Of course, they went and when they returned they had the

latest in jewelry, shells from the sea incircled with 14K gold, delicate orchid pendants, rain drops of handblown glass, hand-painted porcelain dolls, Victorian flowers, chimes that sound like far away places, windmills to catch the breeze, armloads of handblown, hand-crafted, especially selected gifts for everyone!

Now all our lucky customers will not only have the pleasure of giving truly unique gifts to their even happier friends and relatives - they can afford to treat themselves as well!

"This worked out so well, let's do it every month," the store cheerfully explained. Judi and Olav thought of the blisters on their feet and sighed....

## Proclamation

**WHEREAS:** Every year, more than 1,000 Canadian workers are killed on the job

**AND WHEREAS:** Thousands more are permanently disabled.

**AND WHEREAS:** Hundreds of thousands are injured

**AND WHEREAS:** Thousands of others die from cancer, lung disease, and other ailments caused by exposure to toxic substances at their workplaces.

**AND WHEREAS:** April 28 of each year has been chosen by the Canadian Labour congress as:

- a Day of Mourning for these victims of workplace accidents and disease;
- a day to remember the supreme sacrifice they have been forced to make in order to earn a living;
- a day to renew approaches to governments for tougher occupational health and safety standards, and more effective Compensation;
- a day to rededicate ourselves to the goal of making Canada's workplaces safer.

I, Jim Ziegler, of The Township of Terrace Bay do hereby proclaim April 28 as an annual Day of Mourning in recognition of workers killed, injured or disabled on the job.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*Jim Ziegler*

*Forget-Me-Not*  
**Gift Shop**

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