

# Alumni to go back to school for Sandburg 50th celebration

By Erika Enlck, The Star

Five decades worth of Carl Sandburg High School alumni are gearing up for the school's 50th anniversary celebration next week.

Events will be held beginning Oct. 12 at the school in Orland Park to commemorate its anniversary and honor its 26,000 graduates since 1954. The celebration will coincide with homecoming events.

On Oct. 12, the movie

"Grease" will be shown at 8 p.m. on the football field. Associate principal Glenn Wood, who led the anniversary committee, said "Grease" was chosen because it takes place in the 1950s. Students and alumni are invited to bring blankets and watch the movie on a 50 foot screen.

The outdoor movie is a homecoming tradition, he said, but this year includes an added twist.

"As part of the 50th

anniversary, they're going to dress up in 50s costumes and we're going to have a contest," Wood said.

The annual powderpuff football game will be held Oct. 13. Beginning at 6:15 p.m. freshman girls will play against sophomore girls, and then junior and senior girls will play against each other. Fireworks and a pep rally will be held at the end of the evening.

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Students and alumni will get a glimpse into the life of Carl Sandburg himself on Oct. 14, when actress Caroline Stine-Stillman will perform a one-woman show based on the poetry and life of Sandburg, one of America's great poets. In the show, she will portray Sandburg's daughter, Helga.

Stine-Stillman, who was personally acquainted with Helga Sandburg, will perform twice during the school day, he said.

The celebration culminates

Oct. 15 with the homecoming football game against Bloom High School.

The sophomore game begins at 6 p.m., and the varsity game begins at 7:30.

All alumni will be recognized between games, Wood said.

An antique car show will be held and a hospitality tent for alumni will be provided during the game, and tours of the school will be conducted for alumni before and after the game, Wood said.

The 50th anniversary has inspired projects outside of homecoming events as well, Wood said.

The school's audio-visual department will be filming a

documentary about the school, he said.

"They're going to interview people from throughout the ages," he said. "They're going to weave in some history of the school as well."

Alumni wishing to appear in the video may sign up at the football game, he said.

In addition, two memorabilia rooms are being put together — one of Sandburg High School mementos and one dedicated to Carl Sandburg himself, Wood said.

Some events require reservations. More information about anniversary events is available at [www.d230.org/sandburg](http://www.d230.org/sandburg).