The Forest Breeze

Volume 76, Issue 1 Forest Lake Area High School October 29, 2008

OME TO TH Ten new faces join FLHS staff

By Kellie O'Brien

Stephanie Ward 4 years teaching



Like most about FLHS: The staff is so energetic and fun. The students often make me laugh.

Hobbies: Running/ exercise, traveling, reading,

skiing & gardening

Favorite part about job:

Everyday is different and exciting because I'm able to work with young people.

Before FLHS: Faribault (MN) Senior High School

College/Degree: UW - Eau Claire (Secondary Eng. Ed.), SW MN State Univ. (Master's in progress) Hometown: Waverly, MN

Kelli Frericks



3 years teaching Like most about FLHS:

I love to see the relationships and respect from everybody.

Hobbies: Golf, reading, running & watching movies

Favorite part about job: Working with people, and doing something new everyday.

Before FLHS: I was split between FLHS and Century last year. I also taught in Osseo and Eden Prairie. College/Degree: UofM— Duluth.

(B.S. Physical and Life Science) Hometown: Anoka, MN

Officer Chad Worden



10 years Like most about Meeting FLHS: new people and speaking to classes. Hobbies: Fishing and Hunting **Favorite**

about job: Speaking to classes Before FLHS: Worked for FLPD 5 years. Prior to that, worked for the West St. Paul PD

College/Degree: Concordia College Moorhead, MN (B.A. Biology); Concordia Univ. St. Paul (M.A. Criminal Justice)

Hometown: Battle Lake, MN

Martha Charpentier In district since 1998



Like most about FLHS: students and staff have been very welcoming and understanding. Hobbies: Reading,

sewing, movies, and snowmobiling.

Favorite part about job: Helping students find a good book to read and seeing the new books as they arrive. **Before FLHS:** Scandia Elementary College/Degree: UW Stout for Fashion Design, finished at 916 votech for Apparel Services

Hometown: St. Croix Falls, WI

Jess Gorder 3 years in education Like most about FLHS: The students are wonderful and the teachers are fantastic!



Hobbies: Exercising, reading, traveling, and playing with my dog.

Favorite part about job: Excited to enhance the

college readiness activites that are already happening at FLHS.

FLHS: **Before** Springville Elementary (Springville, IA) College/Degree: B.S. Psychology

from the Uof ND; Masters in school counseling from NDSU; Massage Therapy, Carlson College of Massage Therapy.

Hometown: Grand Forks, ND

Sue Rogers 10 years as paraprof.;



Like most about FLHS: There are 2

great things - the students and staff. Hobbies: I like to sing, dance, collect ceramic

antique birds, read. Favorite part about job: Working with students and helping them to

grow as people - young adults. Before FLHS: St. Cloud Tech H.S. College: St. Cloud State (B.S.); St. Mary's University (M.S.) Hometown: Onamia. MN

Shane O'Reilly



4 yrs teaching Like most about FLHS: The students and staff who've been very welcoming.

Hobbies: I have none. I live at school.

Favorite part about job: The massive amounts of grading.

Before FLHS: I lived in Washington and taught in a town called Battle Ground

College/Degree: I have a B.A.A. from the U of M – Duluth. Hometown: Belle Plaine, MN

Deb Hecker Taught in FL since 1977



most FLHS: about The welcoming atmosphere; the help I've gotten from everyone Hobbies: Reading, going

up to the lake, cooking, boating, collecting salt & pepper shakers

Favorite part about your job:

Watching students gain confidence and independence in areas they had been struggling with. Before FLHS: Taught students with

Autism at SWJH, Century JH; FL, Columbus, Scandia, and LL Elem. College/Degree: St. Cloud State (B.S.)

Hometown: Bloomington, MN

Jason Gonnion 10 years in education



Like most FLHS: about Great school spirit, awesome people to work with, Ranger news weekly TV program, and Mr.

Urness

Hobbies: Blogging, wood working, fishing.

Favorite part about job: Asking students to take their hats off, and meeting new students

Before FLHS: 8 yrs @ Stillwater HS; Lakeland Elem. (Afton), Tartan

College/Degree: UW- Lacrosse (B.S. Sports Mgt.); U of M (M. Ed.) Hometown: Beaver Dam, WI

Lydia Juaire First year teaching



Like most about FLHS: I really like the staff and students

Hobbies: Gardening, traveling, biking, hiking

Favorite part about job: Working with all the students!

Before FLHS: Social worker for 3

College/Degree: St. Cloud State (B.S. Social Work, M.S. Education) Hometown: Mound, MN

Five exchange students visit

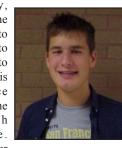
By Eric Snidarich

There are five new students from around the world here at FLHS. The students come through more than one organization, but the organizations find contacts in the Forest Lake area to help them get the best out of their trip. Kelly Wing, Spanish teacher, is one of those contacts.

"I work with students to get them used to American school life," said Wing. "I show them around to their classes, ntroduce them to the teachers, and help them if they are having trouble understanding English."

Dennis Sprute, 16, from Bremen,

Germany, said he wanted to come to America to improve his experience with the English language. His mother



went abroad and indirectly influenced Sprute to do so. Sprute plans to stay here throughout the school year.

"I always loved America from all the movies," said Sprute. "I wanted to see a typical American high school. I just wasn't expecting so much homework."

Sprute selected classes over here that he doesn't have the option of taking in Germany. Journalism, web design, political science and Spanish are on his schedule, and also played on the soccer team. Sprute misses the European cuisine back home, but he has grown fond of the abundance of fast food restaurants.

"The funny thing is, everywhere you go in America, there's food, and it's made for quantity, not quality," said Sprute.

Honza Valosek, 17, from will



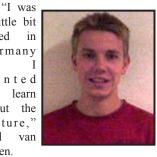
soccer team, and plans on joining the alpine ski team.

Valosek's list of classes here at the high school is US History, American Lit., Intro to Drafting and Design, Geometry and Individual Sports. Valosek has been around the state, and he's found a favorite American food, Subway. But Valosek has also visited attractions around Minnesota as well.

"When I was at the State Fair, everything there was on a stick," said Valosek.

Fabian van Essen, 16, from Cologne, Germany, also heard from previous students about their experiences abroad.

a little bit bored in Germany and wanted to learn about the culture," said van



Van Essen will be staying for one semester but he still selected classes that matched his interests, as well as ones that he couldn't have taken back home. On the list are Web Design, Team Sports, and Argumentation. Van Essen also knows a little bit of

One thing van Essen and Europe agree on is soccer, and that is why van Essen joined the FLHS team.

"I like how you can play sports everyday," said van Essen. "In Germany, there is usually a designated day for sports."

As for food, among all the fast food and fancy restaurants, there are still some healthy alternatives around Forest Lake that strike his fancy. "My favorite food in America would

be Subway. I like the chicken fajitas," said van Essen. Gabriele Cecchi, 17, from Rome,

Italy, came for the culture. "I came to learn about the culture in general, as well to better my English,"

said Cecchi, "but I did hear good stories from those who had done it in the past."

What if an American tourist visited his school back in Italy?

"I see American tourists as being kind of old and they dress weird, and they usually don't know Italian," said Cecchi, "and they tend to like the pasta a lot."

While pasta is the American love in Italy, Cecchi has his own American favorites.

"My favorite food is...how are they



Brownies!" s a i d Cecchi. When

Cecchi leaves to head home at the end of the year, it won't be the food or

the culture he misses most. "The thing I would miss most

would be the friends I've made here," said Cecchi.

Celine Braun, 17, from Black Forest, Germany, heard about the experience of being an exchange student from others who had done it in the past.

"I heard other exchange students say they enjoyed it," said Braun.

Braun has selected classes and



extra-curricular activities for the year that match her interests. Braun plays flute in the school band and takes Argumentation, Pre Calculus, Russian Civ. and Merchandising Outside of school, Braun plans on continuing with the dance team in the winter competitive season.

"I really like the school spirit," said Braun, "and that the sports are coordinated through the school, not in separate

To take in more of the American life, Braun has traveled to the Mall well

clubs.'

Of America, as as gone camping

and a trip up to Lake Superior.

"We ate wild rice at Lake Superior and I really liked it," said Braun.

And so, after a brief visit with the exchange students, let's make them all feel at home and make their year here a great one.

Advisory, is it worth it?

By Daniel Lindahl

Advisory is a time every Wednesday for students to use for whatever they need to catch up on.

Dean Cindy Jones who heads up the focus on advisory said, "Advisory is meant to give additional support for students who need it, and to ready students for life after high school."

In other words, advisory is there to give you time to get your act together if you goof up or slack off with your future plans or current classes.

More important than just the class is advisory's focus. This year, reading and community service have been emphasized.

"Community service is rewarding to you because you're giving back," Cindy Jones said. "It's a win-win because colleges look at community service."

Another plus is that community service can provide you with social interaction with fellow students.

"Reading and community service has opened up opportunities, built my self esteem, and broadened my knowledge, Cindy

Jones said, it has also helped me to attain my license and masters."

If you wondered why reading has become

a focus of advisory this year, then look no further than the statistics.

It is estimated that more than \$2 billion is spent each year on students who repeat a grade because they have reading problems according to the U.S Department of Health and Human Services.

Also more than 20 percent of adults read at or below a fifthgrade level according to the National Institute for Literacy. By age 17, only about 1 in 17 seventeen year olds can read and gain information from specialized text like newspapers.

These statistics show that literacy in American schools is a problem that needs to be addressed.

FLHS has prizes for students

who turn in reading and community logs such as; Target gift cards, free parking for a month, or

> a Ranger Nation T-shirt. Cindy Jones only has a few logs that have been turned in.

As of now, those people are winning something no matter what.

This means if you turn in a reading or community service log you will more than likely walk away with a prize.

Advisory may seem like a small block of time used for listening to your new music, or catching up on last nights homework. However, the purpose for advisory was much bigger than that.

"The purpose of advisory is to form lasting and meaningful relationships, and to prepare students for life after high school," Cindy Jones said.

Advisory is not necessarily the only place you can make these relationships or plan for your future, but it is one place that you have the opportunity to.

New murals to brighten school

When you walk through the school halls, it may feel like something is missing. It may seem like the walls are dull and lifeless. Last year, our school decided to take down the old murals and have the students create new ones. One of the art teachers at FLHS, Nancy Pechmann, is in charge of getting materials for the students. Students got ideas from the social studies or science teachers, and the murals will be put up near those departments.

"It's a cooperative effort between staff and students," said Pechmann. "The teachers give the students ideas, and the students create them. The murals go beyond words to represent certain areas of learning."

The old murals were taken down last year by the authority of the principal.

"The old murals look bad and are outdated to our generation," savs Pechmann.

Dr. Massey didn't like some of

the paintings and had certain ones taken down.

"The new murals should create a welcoming feeling to students," said Pechmann. "The paintings should bring up an inward response bringing up a memory to the observer."

The new paintings will be placed generally in the North and South entrances

"The worst place to put a mural is in the narrow hallways," said Pechmann. "You should be able to analyze the mural from a distance and then move closer to examine it. In the narrow hallways, you can't observe the murals from a distance and it becomes claustrophobic."

If you would like to be on the team to create new murals for the school, there is still time. You don't need to be a good artist to be in art club, you just need to have a desire and be willing to give time. It's not too late to join, talk to Mrs. Pechmann about joining art club.

Economy is on Lombard Street

By Elizabeth Brown

Presidential elections. The war in Iraq. The economic bailout. These stories have been getting most of the news coverage these days. The elections and the war are things that most people understand and have an opinion on, but do we really understand the country's economic issues? We may think of the economy as a complicated system that only concerns adults, while in reality it affects every one of us. "In terms of this recession, we don't know if we've hit rock bottom yet, because we don't know where the bottom is," said FLHS Economics Teacher Sara Cameron.

To begin with, the economy is in trouble mostly because of lack of confidence in the economy. People do not trust the market, so they are not investing in stock, or putting money towards big items, like cars and homes. This mistrust

leads to economic failures, which translate to a plunging stock market and home foreclosures. According to Cameron, "Hard working people are losing their

homes and their retirement funds, and that's terrifying and devastating."

The question on everyone's mind is, 'what exactly will the bailout do?'

The bailout \$700 is a billion plan revitalize to the economy, by giving the

money to banks in trouble. The plan will send out the 700 billion in three installments.

"The big idea is to get credit flowing," said Cameron.

No one knows exactly how long it will take for the bailout to work.

"The best case scenario now would be a market and

> unemployment reversal in three months," said Cameron, "but given the current circumstances, that is pretty unlikely."

> Because of the hurting economy, it is very difficult for teenagers to find jobs. Teens are not only competing with each other for jobs; they are now competing

adults too. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, the September unemployment rate was 6.1 percent.

Maybe you are one of these

teens, struggling to find a job. Unfortunately, there is not much good news. People, on average, are spending less at typical places of teen employment such as fast food restaurants and retail stores. Most stores are not looking to hire seasonal employees this year. So, while we wait for the economic bailout to work, what can we do about it?

One way teens can find jobs is by being creative with their options. Teens need to seek out jobs more than ever. You can propose jobs to people, such as lawn care, babysitting, or running errands. Always, even if you are unemployed, keep track of what you spend, and not only make, but follow a budget.

If you spend your money wisely, follow the news, and educate yourself about the economy, you can survive in this jungle of economic change.



The Forest Breeze

The student newspaper of Forest Lake High School

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The Forest Breeze is a monthly publication created by students in the journalism class at FLHS. The Forest Breeze welcomes letters to the editor, provided they are not obscene and do not exceed 200 words. The staff reserves the right to edit for length. Unsigned letters will not be printed; however, names may be withheld upon request.

Views of the The Forest Breeze writers are not necessarily the views of the students, staff or administration of ISD 831.

Enviromental club greens up school

By Krysta Nelson

Many students at FLHS have probably realized that it is very common for classmates to drink pop, energy drinks, juice, or bottled water during the school day. After drinking these beverages, most students throw them away without any extra thought. Not the students in the Environmental Club.

"If we don't recycle at school, we are unable to reuse all the bottles and cans that get thrown away," said Andrew Morrison, one of the senior leaders in the Environmental Club.

This club is a student-led group that learns about improving the environment while working to help FLHS "go green." They organized a recycling program for FLHS last year, and although the club currently has a company the program proved successful, it to pick up the recycling for them. was a lot of hard work.

"Last year, student had to bring a bag of recycling back with them to recycle from home," said Morrison, "We didn't have any other way of disposing of it."

Despite the tough job of collecting the

recycling and removing any nonrecyclable items by hand, the club decided to take on the task again this year. Also, with the approval from Principal Dr. Steve Massey, Along with the changes in the

recycling program, the Environmental Club is experiencing some major improvements from past years.

"This year we are much more organized, have more projects arranged for us to do, and more students are involved," said Morrison.

Besides recycling at school, the club is planning to pick up trash, build

rain gardens, start composting uneaten lunch food, and even sample water from the parking lot to see if cars are dripping hazardous liquids.

The Environmental Club is an active group that is open to more

"Any student who is concerned about improving our school and its environment, or the world in general, would enjoy the club," said Morrison, "We are always looking for new members."

The club meets in Mr. Bruce Leventhal's room, Room119, on most Tuesdays after school. Leventhal has a calendar with exact meeting dates on a bulletin board inside of his room. If you have any questions about recycling or the Environmental Club please contact seniors Andrew Morrison, Bailey Kimbel, or Allison Sawyer.

Exercise your right to vote Political unity a must

Eligible voters need to speak for those who can't

By Megan Daly



Six days. After year nutty politics n d historical campaign

trails for both the Republican and Democratic parties, there are six days left before Election Day. And although the number of citizens registered to vote is higher than ever, it is still not 100%, like it should be.

As American citizens we all have a responsibility and a basic right to speak our minds about how our government works. One of the many beautiful things about living under a non-totalitarian governmental system is citizens are allowed to have a voice; this voice speaking out can change the path of history, and this voice

should be used when choosing the next leader of our country.

It is unacceptable to ignore the fact that a new person is coming to power in the United States, and by not voting, citizens are ignoring that fact. Men and women have given life and limb throughout the centuries so that everyone can participate in our most basic of rights; one of those rights is giving ALL Americans the chance to vote.

The solution to this problem? Become informed! Don't shut out the important changes happening in this country; educate yourself on the candidates and the issues they stand behind. Think about who you can trust with our government.

Many people believe that their vote doesn't matter and won't make a difference, but every ballot counts. Countless important decisions have been decided by a single vote, in fact, states such as California, Texas and Washington became states by just one vote.

Some have made the excuse that they are too busy, that their schedule won't allow the few minutes it takes to step into the booth and make a choice. However, there are precautions that can be taken so excuses won't need to be used. For those who feel there are better things to do at home, you can mail in your vote, and if you are about to travel or leave the country you are in certain cases, allowed to pre-vote. I, along with many others am too young to have an actual vote counted on my behalf, but just because you are underage doesn't mean you can't research and have an opinion.

Don't take for granted what past generations have worked hard to make possible. Vote. It is your duty and privilege to take place in the selection process of our countries next leader.

By Daniel Nils Lindahl



In the world of politics it's common pick sides. That is not what the ancestors of this great country had in

mind. They fought for our freedom so each of our votes could count, and so that what we care about can be put into consideration. Now we live in an era where political beliefs are often fused with what party we're supporting. There is a big difference between what you believe and what your party believes. It makes me wonder how our government can function as a cohesive unit when it is so separated on the inside.

One sign of this separation is negative ad campaigns. We all learned at a young age that name calling doesn't help anything, but political leaders on both sides use this tactic without any hesitation. It would be a more pure government if each candidate advertised why he or she is worthy to be elected. When it comes down to it, if we vote for someone based on these ads, we're just voting against the other person running. What does that accomplish? I want to vote for someone whose policies I believe in.

I also believe in respecting political leaders. The truth is that most politicians are running because they want to help our country grow and become a stronger nation. This notion that certain candidates are out for themselves seems ridiculous to me. These people could be out on a beach somewhere doing

nothing, but they are choosing to try and represent people that believe in the same things as them that don't get a strong voice.

I don't believe there is a perfect politician because there is no perfect person. There isn't one candidate that can represent everything you want, so keeping an open mind for every candidate is something that we must do. Regardless of what we believe in, we need to support the leaders we have right now. When this nation wrote the words "One nation, under God, indivisible for liberty and justice for all," it became a defining phrase in American history. "One nation," meaning that we don't always see eye to eye, but we are going to respect our fellow Americans. "Indivisible" meaning that no matter what, we will not let this nation be cut into different sections of beliefs. Also notice it doesn't say liberty and justice for those that believe what America wants them to, it says liberty and justice for all. This nation needs to be unified to be successful, and being unified starts with each person accepting that we can't all agree all the time. This isn't an article saying that the republicans are the only problem, or the democrats. They are both the problem.

Freedom is something we take for granted in so many ways. Never take for granted the fact that your vote counts, please vote on Nov. 4 if you are able. Also after the election is decided respect your government leaders no matter who they are because while your vote does count, everyone else has a vote too.

Homecoming Dance should be night after the football game



By Johanna McDowell

This year was the first year SADD took over the responsibility

of sponsoring the Homecoming Dance. They did this for two reasons; first, to take some load off the student council because of everything they had to do that week. Second to provide an internal, fun opportunity versus being out at a bonfire. This dance was to provide fun activities after the actual football game and to help keep kids safe. But it would be more fun if it was the night after the homecoming game.

First students would be more willing to come to the dance if it was the night after the game.

Having two big events on the same night creates too much stress for organizers to get all the students into the dance after the game, and have them settle into the mood.

Scheduling the dance for Saturday night instead, would help celebrate the end of homecoming week, just like how we started it with the powder puff game. It's been said the dance is kept on Friday because the students can have fun in a safe environment. But if the dance was on Saturday, it would extend the safety of the homecoming week into the weekend.

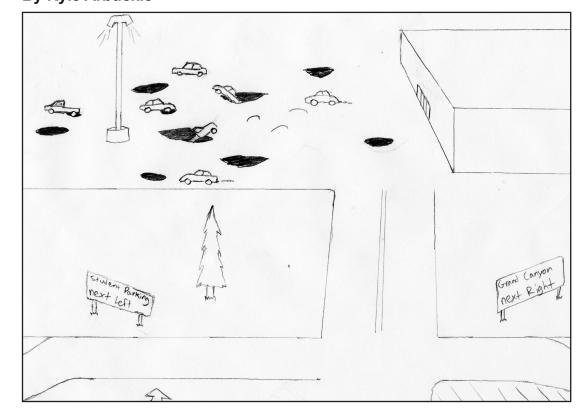
Finally, after the game not many students want to stick around the school. With all the excitement through out the day and after the win, there is not much interest to

go dance. A Saturday night dance could be semi-formal or formal, and students could spend the afternoon getting ready for the dance- without paint on there face and maroon and gold everywhere. Having it being Saturday gives students a chance to relax and celebrate a football victory.

According to Judy Hill, SADD advisor, the students who attended this year enjoyed it. However in the future scheduling the dance the night after could be more successful, and being a senior it's my last year, but in the future other students could enjoy the end of homecoming week that way.

Statements

By Kyle Arbuckle





With elections coming up in November, everyone has been affected by politics. These pages will give you an idea of what is going on with the politics in Forest Lake and the rest of the nation. So, read on, and...

Be smart! Do yo EDUCAT

Where presidential candidates stand on key issues

Sharp divide exists between Senators Obama and McCain

By Charlie Nelson

With elections right around the corner, it is time for many FLHS students to vote for the first time. Many are considering this one of the biggest elections in America's history and experts say the youth of America could decide the outcome. But what are the key issues facing the students in the school today and what are each of the party's view on these issues?

FLHS senior Joe Spanjers' most important issue was energy. So what are the major parties' opinions on this issue?

We will start from the left and move to the right. The Democratic Party's plan for energy is to start out short with term relief families enacting

a Windfall Profits Tax to provide a \$1,000 Emergency Energy Rebate to American Families. This tax would be placed on the oil companies excessive profits and the money would be given to American Families. To help energy in the future, Democrats plan to increase fuel efficiency standards, require oil companies

to drill on the 68 million acres, 40 million of which are offshore they already have already leased, and take many more actions to make the country more green.

Moving to the right of the issue, Republicans believe we need to free our country from foreign sources of energy. They believe the federal government has to lift the moratorium on drilling in the Outer Continental shelf. They also believe we should draw into America's natural gas and oil preserves. They

> believe we should promote Flex Fuel Vehicles using second generation Alcohol-Based Fuels like cellulosic ethanol,

which won't compete with food crops like corn does. Republicans promises we will become a leader in a world wide Green economy. Another big issue in this upcoming election that concerns senior Alexandra King is the economy. With stocks fluctuating at a high rate, the economy seems to be in shambles. Believe it or not, this



can affect teenagers. (See article on page 2) Each politician seems to have the right answer for how to solve the economic crisis, but which is right? That is for you to decide.

In economics there seems to be two schools of thought. There is the thought that the more spending money the people have, the more they will spend and the economy will stay strong. Some call this the "Trickle Down Theory." The people with more money spend it and prosperity will reach all Americans. This is the way Republicans generally go about their economic policies. In the other school of thought, the wealthier a person becomes, the more they are taxed. The money



taxed from the rich would be put into programs to help out the less fortunate. But in these programs, more people would be comfortable and the economy would prosper. This is the side of the issue on which the Democrats mostly fall.

These two issues are just a small sampling of what affects FLHS students today. Some other issues are the environment, war, terrorism, and gas prices. But what affects you? What Party backs up your beliefs more? These are things you should consider when choosing a candidate. For more information you can visit each party's website or call a campaign headquarters.

For More Information:

Democratic (DFL)

MINNESOTA 255 East Plato Blvd St. Paul, MN 55107 P#: (651) 251-6312 www.dfl.org

NATIONAL www.democrats.org Democratic **National Committee** 430 S. Capitol St. SE Washington, DC 20003 P#: 202-863-8000

Republican (GOP)

MINNESOTA 525 Park St., Suite 250 Saint Paul, MN 55103 P#: 651-222-0022 www.mngop.com

NATIONAL www.rnc.org Republican National Committee 310 First Street Washington, DC 20003 P#: 202-863-8500

How the symbolic donkey and elephant came to be

Information Gathered By Cassie Olson

DONKEY

According to infoplease.com, Civil War cartoon. Since 1870 the Democratic Party's symbol

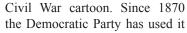
started with an Back 1828, when presidential candidate John Quincy A d a m s c a l l e d opponent Andrew

insult. in

Jackson a "jackass", Jackson started using the donkey as his campaign's

symbol. Forty-four years later, the cartoonist Thomas Nast, from Harper's Weekly, used the donkey in an Anti

So the question is: Does Sen. Barack Obama and/or Sen. John McCain represent the root of their respective party's symbol?



as its symbol. According to factmonster.com. the donkey stands for the smart and brave.

ELEPHANT

Thomas Nast drew another cartoon four years later with a donkey dressed up as a lion, scaring away all other animals at the zoo. One of the animals was an elephant

with the words 'The Republican Vote' written



factmonster.com, the Republican symbol stands for strong and dignified.

Do parents know best

Views affect teenagers' choice in electi

By Jake Hipp

If young people, primarily 18-24 year olds, started voting Presidential candidates would tour High Schools around the country. Another reason Presidential candidates don't tour High Schools is the fact that so many young people are influenced by their

This Presidential election seems to be the most significant election since the election of 1932. In 1932 the US was in depths of the Great Depression. Franklin Roosevelt beat Herbert Hoover in a landslide and is arguably the greatest President in the history of the US. The US is in a similar situation in 2008. The economy is in turmoil and there is a Presidential Election around the corner. Both candidates promise to change the US for the better. People believe whoever is elected could change the US significantly for the better or for

the worse.

Young people seem to realize their future depends on the economy and well-being of America. It seems that more and more young people are involved than ever before. They are volunteering for campaigns, more are expected to vote, and many are attending political rallies. Many young people form their beliefs from their parents. And parents play a significant role in formulating their kid's

Young people's beliefs are heavily influenced by their parents. They are brought up to have certain values. Most of the time kid's values are the same as their parents.

FLHS Senior Brett Howe has divorced parents. His dad is a Democrat and his mom is a Republican. Brett says his dad is



into politics more than his mom so his dad beliefs and values are more ingrained in him than his mom's beliefs and values. He says he has the beliefs he has because of his dad. When Brett was asked if there are any issues that he and his dad differ from he said,

our part, and E yourself before you vote

Local elections also matter

Race for County Commissioner, Mayor, and US Congress

By Charlie Nelson

In the 2008 elections, many voters are focusing on the Presidential elections. A lot of analysts on news

channels are calling this most important election ever, so it is obvious why it is getting much attention, but don't let that block from the other races



Dennis Hegberg

Voters who live in the school district have many different seats up for vote this year. These seats range from city council all the way to the US Senate. Some have more prestige than others but all of these people will be representing you, so don't overlook them.

One of the biggest races in the City of Forest Lake is the Mayoral race. The two major candidates running are Stev Stegner and Ray Daninger. Both of the candidates have experience being the mayor. Stegner is the incumbent looking for another term in office. Daninger,

> on the other hand, was mayor of the city of Forest Lake for 10 years. Both candidates grew up in Forest Lake and have many ideas to improve the City of Forest Lake.

In the race for County Commissioner there is a bit more controversy.

Incumbent Dennis Hegberg lost his endorsement from the Republican Party over controversial vote,

but he is still running for re-election. The man taking his place as the Endorsed Republican is current school board member Eric Langness.

During a visit a Political Science held Class, Eric Langness states he believes the democrats haven't enodorsed a candidate of their own because the democrat will take votes away from Hegberg. He said, "Democrats believe he is the lesser of two evils."

These two elections aren't the only things on the ballot. Judges, State Legislators and City Council members are also on the ballot. The candidates for each position will vary from town to town in the district. One election we all have in common is in the US Senate. This race is being targeted by Republicans nationwide as a seat

> they need to win. It seems they have a much stronger candidate than SNL Al Franken. Franken endorsed the Democrats

hopefully you will look closer and

see what candidates you want in

by

and is fighting to take back a seat once Paul Wellstone. Now that you have heard a little bit about some of the races besides the Presidential race on the ballot,

feel

former

writer

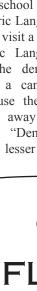
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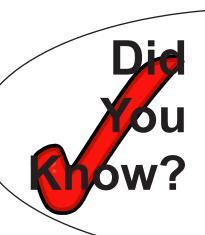
Gathered By Katlin Johnson

- Under the second bold heading, "Registering before Election Day", there are three different forms of the Voter Registration Application that can be printed out on any computer.
- Make sure you read over the requirements you must meet to vote.
- After filling out the application send, or personally deliver it to your local polling office (the same place where you register to vote).

WHERE:

- http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us Type in your zip code, and
- select the county you live in. Select your city/township from the ones listed.
- Enter the house number and select the street you live on.
- After you have completed filling out the information, the next page will list your nearest polling place and the next election that is coming up for your city/township.





OVER 150 FLHS SENIORS ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE.



"There is not any specific issue, but would say I'm not as defined to one arty as my dad."

It is expected in this election that more 8 year olds will vote than usual. Many eople believe whoever is elected will letermine the future of the US.

Around college campuses it is obvious

that more young people are getting involved. Many colleges have political groups of the two major parties. The University if Minnesota has a blog on their website dedicated to college students to blog about their political beliefs. Much of this dedication to politics can be attributed to the parents of these students.

In 1972, when the voting age was dropped from 21, 50% of 18-24 year olds voted. In 2004 it had declined to 47%, which is up from recent elections. In this upcoming election it is said that young people could be the deciding factor on who is the next President of the United States. If young people started voting you would probably see presidential hopefuls campaigning at high schools.

Election is Tuesday, **November 4**

Be part of history!

FLHS speaks out on their opinions toward voting

"It's your basic fundemental right in America, and it's the key to citizenship. We pride ourselves on being the 'Leaders of democracy' and it's sad how few are registered to vote."

- English Teacher Joe Mueller

"It's a right that we have been given and we should exercise it. And if you're completely uneducated to who's running, you should educate yourself prior to voting and not just vote for who everyone else is voting for."

Agricultural Teacher Veronica Ward

"Everyone should do it."

- Sophomore Angie Klebe

"It's important to vote, but you need to make sure you know why you are choosing a person to vote for."

- Senior Dan Lindahl

"Not voting is like not eating."

- Sophomore Jake Shields

Musical makes you think

Urinetown 'has all the ingredients'

By Cassie Olson

What is the first thing you think of when you hear Urinetown? Gross and disgusting are probably

close to your answer. But don't be grossed out, it's the name of this year's musical.

"Don't let the title be a deterrent," Director said Waldron. Andy "The musical is like nothing the students at the high school have seen here before."

Urinetown, written Greg Kotis and composer Mark Hollmann. about a small

town that has been in a drought for awhile and they are having problems keeping their water supply. Due to the scarcity of water, the town has one bathroom, and they have to pay to use the bathroom.

"It is both fun and serious, dramatic and comedic," said Waldron, "plus, students get to learn while having a good time."

Main characters Bobby Strong (Senior Ben Tolzmann) and Caldwell B. Cladwell (Senior Joe Spanjers), are fighting for bathroom rights. They argue over if they should continue to make people pay to go to the bathroom or they should have the right to pee freely. Other main characters

"The characters are really believable, relatable, fun, and the most original characters I've

> ever seen in a musical," said Agnes.

The musical also has a variety of different songs, such as "Urinetown", "Look in the Sky", "I see River", "What Urinetown?".

"The song 'What Urinetown?' really people into each character's

style of thinking," Jensen said.

The show opens Nov. 6 at 7:30 p.m.. and continues Nov. 7-8 and 13-15. The show runs just a little over two hours, including intermission. The student matinee will be Wed., Nov. 12 at 8 a.m. and will cost \$5 to attend.

"Urinetown will be a success because it has all the ingredients to make a musical," said senior stage manager Sara Palmer. "It has a fun and unexpected plot, with catchy, jazzy music to back it up."



Director Andy Waldron shows the cast of Urinetown where to go on stage. Urinetown is set to open Nov. 6. Photo by Katlin Johnson

are Hope Cladwell (Senior Jessica Pimpo), Officer Lockstock (Senior Lucas Kaeding) and Penelope Pennywise (Junior Kristine Shields).

The FLHS theater department has been practicing everyday after school to perform this story. Sophomores Vanessa Agnes and Nick Jensen are also cast members in the musical. Agnes plays Bobbie the Stockfish who is a town gangster and Jensen plays Old Man Strong, Bobby Strong's dad. They play alongside 25

Little known music worth listening to

By Elizabeth Brown

Jonathan Jones, Bradley Hathaway, Sarah Brendel. What do all of them have in common? They are independent musicians.

I have never someone who doesn't like music. Music is a common interest for most people. From rap, to country, to screamo,

there are many kinds of music.

I encourage you to listen to something different, broaden your musical horizons. Turn off the American Top 40, and turn on some independent music. Independent music has a quality that no other music possesses. Independent musicians give a sincerity and originality to their art that mainstream music rarely captures. This is not to say that bands that have made it big are not sincere and passionate about their craft, but independent musicians have a love for their music that allows them to keep going, even if they never have a hit song or a major record deal.

The radio station in the Twin Cities I recommend is 89.3 The Current. The Current is a Minnesota Public Radio supported station. The Current plays a great variety of music, from local hiphop, to alternative artists like Bat



Bat for Lashes is one independent music group.

for Lashes, Laura Marling, and the White Stripes.

While mainstream music produces many similar sounding pop and rock songs, independent musicians are free to do whatever they please with their music.

Take Natasha Khan of Bat for Lashes, for example. Her music sounds like a fairy tale. It reminds the listener of a more simple time. The use of unusual instruments such as the phonofiddle, and the marxiphone add to the dreamlike, unique quality of the music. Khan's songs all rely on background beats. Her songs "What's a Girl to Do," and "Trophy," are excellent examples of the dramatic drum sound that has almost become her trademark.

So, I encourage you to turn on The Current or look in the independent music section of i-Tunes. You'll be able to find interesting new music that you might have never thought to listen to.

Nick and Nora movie good, despite differences

By Katlin Johnson

Recently a new movie, Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist, came to area theatres. The movie is based off of a book written by Rachel Cohn and David Levithan, published in 2007. There are many differences between

the book and the movie, some good and some bad.

The order of event have been changed in the movie. Nick sees ex-girlfriend and asks Norah to be his "girlfriend" for five minutes to upset his ex (Tris). In the movie, it was Norah who asked Nick to be "boyfriend" for five minutes be-

cause she wanted to prove to Tris that she had not come to the club

Another difference was the added sex scene that seemed very unnecessary and quite awkward. This could have been left out, without detail to book was alot less descriptive. Tris is portrayed in the movie to be jealous and very conniving towards Norah and Nick but in the book, Tris was glad to get rid of Nick and wanted him to move on and get

Some of the rather interesting changes, was the connection Nick and Norah had to Nick's friends throughout the movie. In the book. Nick's friends had paid Norah \$50 to take Nick out for

> the night, and to take his mind off of Tris. They had spent the whole night alone. Here is where they got to know each other more in depth, this was rather important and shouldn't have been left out either.

Overall, the movie and the

book separately were great, but if you have read the book I would suggest not seeing the movie. If you enjoy movies, I would say to see the movie first and then read the book so you can enjoy the movie before you know the differences.

Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist is showing at White Bear Township Theatre, East Bethel 10 Theatre, and Andover Cinema. It is rate PG-13 and is 90 minutes long.

Twilight worth the read

By Cassady Zebro

"About three things I was absolutely positive: first, Edward was a vampire. Second, there was a part of him... that thirsted for my blood. And third, I was unconditionally and irrevocably in love with him," Says the back of the first Enchanted book, Twilight by Stephenie Meyer. For fantasy readers, if that doesn't spark a little interest, I'm not sure what else would.

For those of you who don't know of the series, but have seen the advertisements on Facebook or Photobucket about Edward Cullen, aren't you curious? Or have you ever wondered what pictures of him and Bella are all about?

For the readers who like the world of magic and myth, Meyer's Twilight and its series is a must read. The other books that follow are: New Moon, Eclipse, and the newly released Breaking Dawn. Meyer makes her books spring to life. In a different way she relates them to the young adult life - of high school and problems with parents - all while twisting in questions of mortality and immortality. I never would have guessed so much could come from a book that has a cover with pale hands holding an apple.

Meyer does a great job of bringing the reader into the story;

her details make it easier to create a sort of movie inside your head. It captures the imagination in the first chapter, and you never really known how her situations are going to play out, which makes it all the more suspenseful.

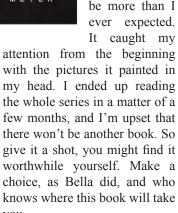
The series travels through the multiple events surprises of Bella Swan and Edward Cullen; two "people" who are different in every way possible. For one, Edward described having beautiful beyond perfect features, w h i c h

contrasts with Bella's average, ivory skinned human structure.

Twilight was released in 2003, and made it onto New York's Best Seller's List in 2005. This first book tells of the meeting of these two seniors at Forks High School in Washington, where Bella grew up. She ends up mixed into a world of unreality and things she couldn't have even begun to imagine start to unfold. It all started with one choice - Bella's choice of moving back with her divorced father to Forks; and one look - Bella and Edward's fateful glance. Bella should have been frightened, but she wasn't,

which turned her whole world upside down.

For those who have questioned the book, I know I did when I first heard of it. The cover had me second guessing, and the back didn't catch my attention too much; but once I picked it up and gave it a chance. it turned out to be more than I ever expected.





Fun, dedication lead to court success

By Cassady Zebro

Not all tennis seasons are made to stand out, but the FLHS' Varsity Girls Tennis Team dominated the courts this season. After winning their conference, they went on to the section semi-finals to win two of three matches. The girls have shown their hard work throughout the season.

"Our team is successful because of its great depth; good players from top to bottom," said Coach Greg Patchin.

The season turned out to be a success for the Varsity. There were over 20 wins in individual matches for Junior Brianna Odegaard, Junior Charise Sophomore Blair Kendrick, Patchin, and Junior Samantha

The team had a record of 16-1 for dual matches and 18-3 overall. The team faced some tough challenges along the way. The team won the Suburban East Conference with an 8-0 record. Their toughest challenge was facing the Mounds View team who had only lost two matches. The varsity team pulled through and won 4-3.

"Mounds View was a tight game and definitely our most successful," said Junior Tisa Phinney.

"It was the game that won our conference for us," said senior Lauren Gravelle, team captain.

On Oct. 13, in St. Cloud, their team season ended with a 2nd place finish in the Section Semi-

"It was kind of bittersweet, we were really hoping to go to state, but we accomplished more than any other team," said Gravelle.

Even though the team didn't qualify for the State Tournament, Odegaard and Senior Patchin earned a trip as individuals. Results were not available at press time.

"Now that the season is over, the girls will remember that they were part of the best girls tennis team ever," said Coach Patchin.

Ending with records that will be hard to forget, 16-1 for dual matches and 18-3 overall, the girls know they can keep their heads held high with the accomplishments they've earned.



Charise Kendrick taking a swing to save a point at a home match. Photo by

Swimmers start sections

By Elizabeth Brown

The Ranger girls swimming and diving teams season isn't over yet. With sections coming, and state competitions only a few weeks away, the girls have a lot to look forward to.

The swim team went through some changes this year, with a new head coach, Kim Smith.

"I was surprised at the girls' competitive drive, how much they wanted to win and are willing to work for that win," said Smith.

The team did well this year, winning the Blaine Invite, a highlight of the season for Coach Smith, and stroking to victory at True Team Sections, where they took first place.

"We know how to race when it comes down to it," said Smith.

The team would love to win the varsity sections meet at Northdale Middle School, Nov. 13 and 15, but if not, they would be happy to send a few swimmers to state.

The FLHS divers had an equally successful season.

"I figured we'd come back

strong," said Coach Deb Welch. "We had a good showing of summer divers."

A highlight of the season was the Maroon and Gold meet at the Univ. of Minn., with divers taking first, third and fifth. These wins have built confidence in the team's ability to place at sections coming up in Nov.

This year, Stillwater and Mounds View added their names to the growing list of diving teams that will not compete at the Southwest pool. Overcoming the challenge of a pool that some teams refuse to dive in, the team had to find new places to compete. This was a challenge the team successfully persevered through. They found a solution by having their meets at the competitor's schools, or found a central location where they could compete.

After the section meet, the Swimming and Diving teams hope to send Rangers to the state meet, November 20-22, at the Univ. of Minn.

Rangers football improve record

By Megan Daly Any Forest Lake fan who has

attended a varsity football game has witnessed the maroon and madness gold associated with pride, Ranger and the team's hard work and dedication this has season certainly gotten people talking.

The Rangers placed 5th

East Conference with a standing of 4-5-0. The team has won against Bloomington, Hastings, Stillwater, and Roseville. This is



in the Suburban Rangers and Huskies at the line. Photo by Megan Daly

However, people are looking at the higher number of wins and thinking that this has happened all in one season. Matt Cleary, fourth year FLHS teacher and an improvement over the 2007 head coach of the varsity football season when the Rangers placed 8th with an overall standing of team believes the team's game

improved throughout years to get to this point.

"We've improved every year on both sides of the ball, and we just have more good players," Cleary.

The number players hurt was also lower this season than others.

"Last year we lost a lot of good kids because of

injuries," said Cleary.

Regardless of people's theories on why the Rangers had an impressive and improved season, everyone can agree the team worked hard and had the results to show for it.

FLDT burns up dance floor

By Cassady Zebro

The FL Dance Team has shown their dedication to the sport in every practice and performance this season. The team stretched themselves to their limits, literally.

"The girls work really hard all the time," said Coach Angela Butler.

"This was the best fall season we've ever had," said captain, Kathleen Dunsmore.

Many may be surprised by the hard work, dedication and team bonding dancing reflects. The practices consisted of hard work and concentration.

"It's not as easy as it looks," said sophomore Alex Murdock."There's a lot of repetitiveness,

and tough. It takes a lot of time to get all bendy."

"There's always something that needs to be done," added

Team work, cooperation and dedication were key to their performance success.



and practices are long FLDT dancing at Pep Fest. Provided by Cassady Zebro

big sisters depending on what grade you're in," said Murdock. "We always have each other's backs."

Through all of the work, the girls still let their personalities and strengths shine through.

"The team is awesome, there's a "We're all like family, little and lot of diverse talent," said Butler. "It's been extraordinary."

> Butler also commented that the girls had a blow out Homecoming half-time performance, a highlight of the season.

> "Seeing all of the girls work so hard at practice and then perform with perfection brought tears of happiness to my eyes," said Butler.

> "When I stepped out onto the field there was just a huge adrenaline rush," said Dunsmore. "We worked our hardest on the Homecoming dance, and it turned out really good."

The team is hoping the competitive winter season will be just as great. As the girls grow stronger, their hard work, dedication, and team alliance will lead to a great end.

Boys soccer goes 'overtime'

By Dennis Sprute

500 average 6-6-6. It was a successful season for the FLHS boys' soccer team and the best since the state tournament run of 1996. "Overtime" is probably the most significant word to describe the season. Eight times the team found themselves in overtime; one time they left the field as winners, one time with a loss and six times they tied.

But still, Head Coach Aaron Tilsen is content.

"It was a great one in the overall development of the program and the guys on the varsity and JV team learned that they can be as good as all of the other teams in the conference," said Tilsen.

The varsity team proved that against Anoka, where they tied the defending state champion, and a 3-0 victory against the 2008 SEC Champions Hastings. When the Rangers played Hastings, they proved that they had nerves of steel. After getting behind 25 minutes before the game ended,

they tied the score literally in the last second before they clinched the win with a 3-2 score.

"As a varsity, we never were outclassed on the field and all games we played were very competitive," said Tilsen.

After four losses in a row, the Rangers picked up courage with two wins before they left the field with an unlucky 2-1 loss in the first section game against Blaine Oct. 9. That's where Tilsen sees room for improvement.

"The players' fitness level and seriousness needs to be raised to a whole new level." Tilsen said.

About half of the starters are seniors; among them the three captains and top athletes Jeremy Stiner, Austin Perrin and Brian Conley. For Tilsen this isn't a reason to worry.

"We will have our starting defense and goal keeper back and most players will be three year varsity starters and should have a chance to play with a lot of confidence," said Tilsen.

Johanna McDowell

Halloween unmasked

Holiday rooted in ancient Celtic traditions

By Krysta Nelson

When asked where she thought the Halloween Holiday came from, Junior Jessica Rivard replied, "I'm not sure—our Greek ancestors?'

Halloween is observed around the world including various European countries, Australia, Canada, and of course the United States. Although this holiday is quite widespread, it involves some not-so-ordinary traditions. Most students are familiar with Halloween and how Americans celebrate it, but, like Rivard, don't really understand why we do what we do on Oct. 31.

According to wordbookonline. com, the concept of Halloween is thought to have been introduced by the Celtic people 2,000 years ago. They held a religious festival in the fall called Samhain, where the Celts believed the spirits of the dead came back to earth. The Christian Church later modified this festival and renamed it All Hallows' Eve. Now the holiday is a fun. light-hearted way to spend time with family and community members. Most of today's

traditions can be traced back the ancient Celtic festival including the practice of trick-ortreating, dressing up, and carving pumpkins.

Trick-or-treating is thought to have started in England, where people went house to house asking for small breads called soul cakes in exchange for prayers. This tradition was called *souling*.

As the years went by, Oct. 31 evolved into a mischievous night for children. Homeowners would offer treats to children to bribe them into not causing mischief. As a result, the phrase "trick-

> or-treat" came about. Today this is the main Halloween activity for children.

Years ago, the Celtic peoplewould disguise themselves

as ghosts and witches to scare off the evil spirits while celebrating Samhain. This is where the idea of Halloween costumes originated and today it is tradition to dress up in a costume while trick-ortreating or attending parties.

Jack-o'-lanterns are also a custom beginning with the Celts to protect them from evil spirits. These were hollowed out pumpkins or squash with a candle inside lighting up a scarv face that the owner carved into it. The Celts would put these on their doorsteps to guard themselves and their home. In modern times, Americans not only carve out intimidating faces but also carve happy pumpkins or Halloween images.

The customs we practice during Halloween may be unique, but this holiday is an important one. Oct. 31 encourages family time, bonds community, and is a lot of fun for all involved. These reasons are why Halloween continues throughout the world today.

Things to do for Halloween

By Katlin Johnson Valley Scare

Located: Valleyfair County Road 101 Shakopee, MN 55379 Valley Scare offers indoor and outdoor mazes/haunted houses, "scare" zones and 6 different indoor Halloween

Valley Scare is open 7 p.m.midnight on Fridays, 1 p.m.-midnight on Saturdays. and 1-7 p.m. Sundays. Goes through Friday, Oct. 31.

Lendts Pumpkin Patch

Located:

6903 Wyoming Trail Wyoming, MN 55092 At Lendts' Pumpkin Patch you can reserve hour-long hay rides for \$6 per person, on which you can pick your own pumpkin and Indian corn. You can also get your face painted or pick as many of your own pumpkins as you

They are open 9 a.m.- dusk everyday through Friday, Oct. 31st.

Pinehaven Farm

Located:

28186 Kettle River Blvd. Wyoming, MN 55092 Pinehaven Farm provides fortune telling, haunted hay rides and a haunted house, bonfire every night (and reserved bonfires for groups), live music near the hay rides, novelties and face painting. They are open Sunday-Thursday 7- 9 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays 7 p.m. - 11 p.m. through Oct. 31. They are also open Nov.1 from 7-9.

"Autumn,
the year's
last, loveliest
smile."

- Author William Cullen Bryant



It's the Annual **National Honor Society's**

Trick or Canning Event!

NHS members will be going door to door throughout the community from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Oct. 31

Do your part!

Donate canned goods and non-perishable goods for the local food shelf

Spread the word!



No costumes allowed (Not at school, anyway)

By Johanna McDowell

year Halloween is on a Friday. What a perfect day for Halloween to be celebrated. When Halloween is on a Friday, you can have a Halloween party and can stay out later to go trickor-treating or do other fun activities that are going on around town. You

can do anything you want outside of school, but when it comes to dressing up in school, it's another story.

Homecoming week was a big success this year. Wacky Wednesday had many wacky outfits and students dressed up in a lot of different costumes with wild clothes, hair and makeup.

Many people know that this But when it comes to dressing

up for Halloween. FLHS draws the line. If school staff allowed costumes Halloween, students would need to follow the dress codes that are already enforced, such as not too much skin can show and the length of an outfit can only be so short. Also there is

no use of obscene face painting or scary masks.

"We are here to focus and learn to become better students. A teacher's job is not to make sure everyone in school is dressed appropriately," said Principal Steve Massey. "School is school, after school go nuts."

Top 10 Worst Costumes

By Dan Lindahl

- 1. A ski mask and black clothing.
- 2. A sheet with two holes in it. Be original.
- 3. Anyone in the cast of High School Musical.
- 4. A high school student. (DRESS UP!)
- 5. Dressing as the opposite sex. We definitely get it, but it's not that funny.
- 6. Britney Spears. She's just too much of a handful, even for the bravest of the brave.
- 7. Any of our wonderful staff at FLHS. (maybe this is worth bonus points?)
- 8. A British person. While the accent is good, it's just too difficult to keep up all day.
- 9. An American citizen at least 18 years old. (You should be busy registering to vote!)
- 10. Barack Obama or John McCain. You wouldn't want that kind of attention.

Word Search:

Find the words listed below, in this month's issue of The Forest Breeze. Race your friends, and see you can find them the fastest! If you've read this far, great! We'll have a contest up and running next issue, set to be distributed November 26, during Advisory.

Fashion Design Murals Recycling Caldwell B. Cladwell Dedication

Black Forest Sara Cameron **Army Strong** Overtime Jungle

