

Forest High School News

BANK OF AMERICA - PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

NOVEMBER 2009

<http://users.mfi.net/forest>

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Forest Parents,

October was a busy month for students and faculty as we conducted PSAT and FCAT testing for 10th – 12th graders along with celebrating Homecoming last week. The students had a great week of fun and activities culminating with the Homecoming Dance on Saturday night. Thanks to all who donated their time and efforts to make this a very successful week.

The first quarter grading period ended October 27th. Report cards should be distributed on November 5th. I hope your child was successful and will continue to have a great academic year. If you have questions or concerns please contact the Guidance Department so they may schedule a teacher conference for you.

Forest High School will be one of the regional sites dispensing the H1N1 vaccine. The Health Department has designated October 31st (9 am – 2 pm), November 17th (5 -8 pm), December 10th (5-8 pm), January 7th (5-8 pm) and January 30th (9 am – 2 pm) as distribution dates. For further information you should call the Health Department at 629-0137.

Key dates for the month include November 4th, which is an early release day. Thanksgiving break occurs November 25-27. During this month we also have fall sports drawing to an end and winter sports teams beginning their seasons. Our band will be performing November 3rd at Booster Stadium as a warm-up for their district competition on November 7th at Leesburg High School.

I would like to thank all the parents for their participation in the many activities FHS hosts each day and night. Your efforts truly make the difference as it relates to the number and quality of activities FHS is able to provide. Please fill out the volunteer forms so that your efforts are noticed and accounted for through the respective school sponsor. I encourage you to continue monitoring the newsletter for important information as it relates to FHS events. As always, thank you for your support of FHS.

Go Wildcats!

Chester Gregory, Principal

JCL HAS HIGHEST ENROLLMENT EVER

The Junior Classical League is beginning the year with the highest enrollment in its history. JCL (the Latin Club) will induct 113 members into the organization on November 10th with an Italian dinner at the home of Morgan Reed. Also in November, the first year classes (plebeians) will elect their tribunes to represent them in the senate (board of officers). Students are beginning to get projects ready for the creative event at the regional competition (at Oak Hall in Gainesville on January 30th). In December students will celebrate Saturnalia with a dinner and gift-giving.

JUNIOR CLASS FUNDRAISER

The Junior Class is sponsoring a spaghetti dinner before the FHS vs. VHS varsity football game on November 13th! Come and enjoy a delicious meal including spaghetti and sauce, salad, breadstick, cookie and drink from 5-7 in the FHS cafeteria. Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$6 at the door. You can purchase tickets from Mrs. Fletcher, Mrs. Albright in guidance, Miss Lipscomb, or any junior class officer. Also, we are in need of donations. Paper products including plates, cups, napkins, and plastic ware (forks and knives) are needed. Please bring any donations to Miss Lipscomb in Building 11 Room 3. All proceeds benefit the prom!

EMIT PREPARES FOR F.I.R.S.T. ROBOTICS COMPETITION

EMIT is gearing up for their inaugural robotics competition in FIRST. FIRST is a national competition beginning with regional competition at the University of Central Florida arena. It features unique concepts such as “gracious professionalism” which fosters assistance from teams to help other teams in need; this includes helping “rookie” teams. This year East Lake High School will serve as one of many mentors for Forest High School’s EMIT program.

Initiating the process, speaker Kim Marques, an industrial engineer at Elster AMCO, described the process of a long-term project involving many team players. Jordan Wood, an electrical engineer at Verrando Engineering, introduced the construction process for students by demonstrating his robots and explaining some of the intricacies of building a robot. Both spoke at EMIT’s first Leadership Breakfast on October 16th. Both engineers will be part of EMIT’s mentoring team.

On Saturday, October 24th, many EMIT students went to the University of South Florida for a FIRST robotics competition sponsored by South Lake High School. Students saw LUNACY, a competition that will give students an idea of the type of competition they face. They saw 25 Florida high schools with their robots competing as teams, and they were able to talk with the students about the experience. After witnessing the high-energy competition, students had a better idea about the roles of the team players and the range of competition. They saw a variety of robot design and function.

If anyone is interested in helping students and wants to know more about the competition, check out USFIRST.org; EMIT will be participating in the FRC competition. Please contact Peggy Brookins, EMIT Administrator at 671-4721.

YEARBOOKS

Students, you have one last chance to reserve a copy of the yearbook. The next sale is from Monday, Nov. 23 - Friday, Dec. 4. Name plates and Spring supplements are no longer available. Checks should be made payable to FHS and include your student number. You may pick up an order form in C-215, C-238, or the front desk. You may also print it off of the FHS web site. The new price is \$70.00.

SENIOR PARENTS

Seniors attended a class meeting Oct. 8th and received a Calendar of Events along with important information on ordering cap and gown, announcements and other senior memorabilia. If you did not receive this information please ask your senior!

Cap and Gown and Graduation Announcement orders were taken Oct. 15th and 16th. If for some reason you were unable to place your order at that time, don’t worry. Herff Jones will be back on campus taking orders November 13 or you can place your order online at www.herffjonesnorthflorida.com. Order packets are available in the Student Activities Office or at the reception desk in the front office.

Important Senior Dates

Nov. 6	Senior Ads Due Half payment is due with layout Final Payment due 2/5
Nov. 13	Cap and Gown Order @ lunch
Dec. 8	Senior Panoramic Picture, \$15 9:00 am, FHS Gym
Jan 4-Apr30	Tickets for Prom on Sale, \$100 ea
Jan. 6-15	Appt for Cap & Gown Pictures, B-162
Jan. 26	Cap & Gown Pictures by appt. only
Feb. 1-26	Grad Bash Tickets on Sale, \$60 B-162
Feb. 5	Final Payment for Sr. Ad Due
April	Delivery of Graduation Announcements and Memorabilia Balance due at this time
April 24	Grad Bash, Islands of Adventure
April 30	Final Payment for Prom Due
May	Cap and Gowns Delivered
May 14	All Outside Credits due to Mrs. Kerkela
May 22	Prom
June	Sr. Luncheon
June 4	Last Day for Seniors (Tentative)
June 8	Baccalaureate, 7:00 pm, FHS, Aud.
June 10	Graduation Practice, 8:00 am
June 12	Graduation 8:00 am

If you have questions please call JJ Merians at 671-4700.

HOMEcomings WEEK 2009

From Powder Puff to Homeroom Decorations to Kats Kapers, Wildcat Spirit was at a maximum during Homecoming Week 2009. Congratulations to the following groups for their outstanding performances:

Powder Puff Winners - **Freshmen and Seniors**
Homecoming Slogan Contest - **Mrs. Paget**
Most Spirited Homeroom - **Mrs. Connolley**
Door Decoration Winners
Best Overall - **Mr. Dann**
Most Creative - **Mr. Yakulevich**
Most Colorful - **Attendance Office**
Most Original - **Mrs. Almgren**
Best Rookie Class - **Mr. Maiman**
Best Use of Homecoming Slogan –
Ms. Strickland

To top off the week's activities Student Government sponsored their annual Homecoming Dance. With over 1100 students purchasing tickets the cafeteria patio was packed. That did not seem to affect the great time had by everyone!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2009 HOMEcomings KING AND QUEEN AND THEIR COURT

King – Hunter Turner **Queen**- Ashanti Stewart

Carlos Gordian	Colby Beck
Michael Mazzurco	Chanel Blanchard
Chris Ramos	Kaylyn Durrance
Donald Webb	Laura Lynn Susdorf

PROM 2010

This year's Junior/Senior Prom will be held May 22 at Disney's World Show Place Pavilion. Tickets for the event will go on Sale January 4th for \$100. Payments can be made with final payment due by April 30.

C2CSCHOOLS.COM

Please check out the website www.C2Cschools.com to access all of the school's athletic information beginning in October. You may also access this site from the FHS website under Activities > Athletics.

MEDIA CENTER NEWS

The Media Center is looking for parent volunteers to help with book checkouts in the mornings between 8:00 and 8:45. If you would like to volunteer please contact Lynnda Shawver at 671-4700 or Lynnda.Shawver@marion.k12.fl.us.

Free on-line resources to assist with schoolwork;
Find it Fast! - Is an interactive website with links to all of the resources listed below in one fun and easy-to-use location! The Find it Fast! Website address is
<http://www.marion.k12.fl.us/dept/lpc/virtual/lpc.cfm> Click on the pictures to get to all of the online resources below. Be sure to bookmark this site. You will use it again and again.

Florida Electronic Library – Includes databases: Florida on Florida (digital collection of Florida libraries, archives, museums, historical societies); Florida Memory Project (state library and archives); FloridaCat (all book holdings in Florida); AskALibrarian (online reference)
<http://www.flelibrary.org>

MCPS Destiny – all Marion County Library Media Center catalogs are now available from home! Search for books and other library materials from any Marion County school library collection anytime, anyplace, anywhere!
<http://mymariondestiny.marion.k12.fl.us>

NetTrekker – An educational search engine with over 180,000 online resources aligned with state standards and organized by readability and grade level. Includes reference tools, maps, timelines, and lots of homework help! Better than other search engines to use for research to get reliable, valid information. <http://school.nettrekker.com>

Username = fhss0351 Password = school

Proquest – Several online databases provided by the Marion County School District for students to use to find information from more than 2,000 full-text magazines, newspapers, reference books and transcripts – plus thousands of pictures, maps, weblinks and audio/video content.
<http://www.proquestk12.com/>

Username = 01-7476 Password = bigchalk

SUNLINK – an essential website when doing research. This website includes FINDS research model. Students use the FINDS model and the FINDS on-line tools to guide them through the research process step-by-step
<http://www.sunlink.ucf.edu/>

FREE TUTORING AVAILABLE AFTER SCHOOL

The National Honor Society has free tutoring available in the FHS media center on Tuesday/Thursday mornings (7:45 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.) and Tuesday/Thursday afternoons (2:45 – 3:30 p.m.). Students needing tutoring should come prepared knowing what they need help with and have their required materials.

SENIOR ADS

Seniors, your camera-ready Senior Ad is due on or before Friday, November 6. The contract and one half of the payment are due when the ad is submitted to Ms. Folsom in Bldg. 1 Room C-238. Checks should be made payable to FHS and include your student number. You may pick up directions for designing your Senior Ad/contract in C-215, C-238, or the front desk. You may also print it off of the FHS web site. A full page is \$175.00, a half page is \$100.00, and a quarter page is \$50.00.

ALL SPORTS PASSES ON SALE NOW

All Sports Passes for the winter sports are still available. They can be purchased in the “CAT SHACK,” Adults - \$50.00 Students - \$30.00 & Senior Citizens - \$30.00. These passes are good for all Forest High School home games (any sport) except for FHSAA state series or invitational events.

REPORT CARDS

Grades will be finalized October 30 for Quarter 1 and report cards should arrive home November 5th.

GUIDANCE NEWS

Parents of seniors

As we approach the end of the first semester, it is crucial that parents of seniors are aware of their child’s status with regard to credits, GPA, and test scores. Students are able to review a copy of their own grade history by making an appointment with

their counselor. Parents are also encouraged to come in and review their student’s status with regard to graduation and college admission.

College applications

Any seniors interested in a four-year university must be in the process of submitting their applications, transcripts and test scores as soon as possible. All of the universities have stressed that the earlier a student applies the better. Remember that transcripts must be requested through the guidance office at least a week prior to needing them. The first one is free; after that, they cost \$2.00 each, payable at the time of request. The gold colored transcript request form located in guidance must be filled out for each transcript request.

Scholarships

The Bright Futures Scholarship program requires an SAT or ACT score for eligibility. Seniors have the entire school year to test for that purpose. The Bright Futures office pulls all test scores – even the June scores – for final determination of eligibility. If the student is on free or reduced lunch, s/he qualifies for a test fee waiver. Please contact your student’s counselor for the waiver. In December, students will be able to apply for the Bright Futures Scholarships. The senior counselor will give them instructions on the application process. Instructions will be in the December newsletter. Every month the guidance office publishes a scholarship newsletter containing local scholarship offers and scholarship websites. Students are instructed to apply for as many of these scholarships as possible in addition to the Bright Futures Scholarship program. Some of these scholarships are wasted each year from lack of interest or effort on the part of the students. There are organizations out there wanting to give money to students, but if the students don’t care enough to even apply, they just keep their money! That’s a shame in this economy!

Federal Financial Aid

After the Christmas holiday, parents will be expected to begin working on the FAFSA form, a federal form used to determine the financial need of a family for financial assistance with college expenses. Look for instructions in a future newsletter. Low income families might be eligible to receive free federal assistance for college.

Final Credit deadline for seniors

All Florida Virtual or Marion Virtual School credits are due to Mrs. Kerkela on or before May 14, 2010.

Students expecting to walk at graduation must follow this due date. ALL outside credits are due on or before this date.

Dual Enrollment

Over thirty-five Dual Enrollment “Blue Forms” were completed by Mrs. Kerkela on October 22nd for second semester courses at CFCC. Information regarding summer Dual Enrollment should be available in the near future. Questions about summer or fall, 2010, Dual Enrollment should be directed to Kathryn Warren, counselor, as she will be in charge of Dual Enrollment for the summer term and following school year.

CADET CHRONICLES

October is as busy as ever for the cadets and staff at ROTC. Cadets have been working hard to impact both our school and community with their time and efforts.

Friday night football games are a big event to look forward to and the Forest ROTC is out there every night presenting the colors and looking sharp. But the clean-up is a big task as well. Cadets show up early Saturday morning to help pick up the stadium after every game to keep our campus looking spotless.

Cross country meets are big events for not only the runners, but also for ROTC cadets. Being the main work force behind every meet, cadets are vital to the success of the event. They track the runners’ times, they are posted along the cross country course to give direction and encourage the runners as they pass by. Saturday, October 24th was the Conference meet at Forest and marked the end of the season for cross country. Huge thanks go out to all the cadets who participated in the meet and in all the previous meets as well.

The Spec Ops team at Forest journeyed to the Sheriff’s Department for their annual SWAT Team Challenge on October 9th. Cadets got a first-hand look at all the law enforcement teams who competed against each other on the obstacle course, as well as try some of the obstacles themselves. Cadets were also able to rappel from a 130 foot tower overlooking the Sheriff’s Department.

Despite the sweltering heat, cadets still managed to have a great time representing the Forest AFJROTC at the SWAT Challenge. Congratulations to all cadets that passed the qualification test for the Spec Ops candidacy training program. Easy day, every day!

The Annual Chili Cook-off was another two-day affair for over 40 cadets who volunteered for set-up, clean-up and everything in between. Some of them volunteered over 10 hours to help with this important community fundraiser. Thanks to all cadets that volunteered!

Another major service event that cadets tackle every year is the Druid Hills Pumpkin Patch. On October 13th and 17th, cadets arrived on the grounds of Druid Hills United Methodist Church with dozens of empty pallets lying on the ground. When they left, the pallets were covered with pumpkins upon pumpkins. Cadets help unload a semi-truck full of pumpkins every year. This year they set a new school record for the time it took to completely unload the truck. Within an hour and thirteen minutes after they had started, cadets emerged from the truck sweaty and tired, but victorious nevertheless. Thank you to the church members who were kind enough to provide pizza, cookies, and drinks to the cadets after they finished unloading the pumpkins.

Homecoming week was another great success this year. It all began with an exciting powder-puff game on Monday night sponsored by ROTC. Everyone had lots of fun and it was a great night. Thanks to all the parents and officials who volunteered and made it such a successful event!

Don’t forget to get involved in some of the great activities that are coming soon. We encourage all family and friends to especially attend the annual Flight Challenge competition on Saturday, 31 Oct. from 8 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Cadets will compete against each other in a fun-filled day of athletic team events.

Some of the upcoming events for the Forest AFJROTC Unit are as follows:

Maplewood Fall Festival, October 29th

Flight Challenge, October 31st

Thanksgiving food drive, November 2-29

Congratulations to Mr. Dewie Brewton and Ms. Leslie Roskovich

Mr. Brewton has been selected by his peers as the 2009-10 Teacher of the Year. Ms. Roskovich has been selected by her peers as the 2009-10 Rookie Teacher of the Year. A congratulation to both for this outstanding accomplishment, as it is quite an honor. Mr. Brewton will now proceed to compete for the district title of "Golden Apple Teacher of the Year" and Ms. Roskovich too will compete for the county title of Rookie Teacher of the Year. Good luck to both!

NOVEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov. 04	Early Release Day			
Nov. 05	JV/V Girls Soccer	Trinity Catholic	Away	5/7:00 p.m.
Nov. 06	Varsity Football	Orange Park	Away	7:30 p.m.
	B & G Swimming	Regionals	Orlando	9:00 a.m.
Nov. 10	Varsity Girls Basketball	TBA	Wildwood	TBA
	JV/V Boys Soccer	Santa Fe	Away	5/7:00 p.m.
Nov. 11	Varsity Wrestling	Pre-Season Duals	Dunnellon	TBA
Nov. 12	Varsity Girls Basketball	TBA	Wildwood	TBA
	JV/V Girls Soccer	Vanguard	Away	5/7:00 p.m.
	JV/V Boys Soccer	Flagler Palm Coast	Away	5/7:00 p.m.
Nov. 13	Varsity Football	Vanguard	Home	7:30 p.m.
Nov. 17	JV/V Girls Basketball	Belleview	Home	6/7:30 p.m.
	V Girls Soccer	Brooksville Central	Away	8:00 p.m.
	V Boys Soccer	Brooksville Central	Away	6:00 p.m.
Nov. 19	JV/V Girls Soccer	Belleview	Home	5/7:00 p.m.
	JV/V Boys Soccer	Belleview	Away	5/7:00 p.m.
Nov. 29	JV/V Girls Basketball	Vanguard	Home	6/7:30 p.m.
Nov. 20	JV Wrestling	JV Challenge I	Home	5:00 p.m.
Nov. 21	Varsity Wrestling	2009 Wildcat Duals	Home	7:00 a.m.
Nov. 24	V Girls Soccer	Springstead	Away	6:00 p.m.
	V Boys Soccer	Springstead	Away	8:00 p.m.
Nov. 25	No School *Weather Emergency Make-up Day if Needed			
	JV Wrestling	JV Challenge II	Dunnellon	5:00 p.m.
Nov. 26	Thanksgiving Holiday – No School			
Nov. 27	No School			
	Varsity Girls Basketball	Thanksgiving Tournament	Dunnellon	TBA
	Varsity Boys Basketball	Stuart Martin County	Orlando	2:00 p.m.
Nov. 28	Varsity Wrestling	2009 Ocala Invitational	Home	8:00 a.m.
	Varsity Girls Basketball	Thanksgiving Tournament	Dunnellon	TBA