

NHS to host Halloween Carnival for LLS

Hannah Blagg

Staff Writer

NHS will host a Halloween Carnival on Saturday from 5-8:30 p.m. The event is a fundraiser to raise money for the Leukemia Lymphoma Society.

"It gives back to our community," NHS Co-Sponsor Craig Rhoades said. "It's a fun, safe way for parents to bring their kids and they know they're going to have a good time and we do things here you're not going to get if you just go trick-or-treating."

Community members are welcome. Children will be admitted with a small donation and adults are free. Stations will include face painting, bowling, a haunted hallway, and a cake walk, and various prizes will be distributed.

Turkey Roundup to begin Nov. 5

Roland Tomsic

Staff Writer

Student Council will host the annual Turkey Roundup Nov. 5-16.

The event is a fundraiser for the Larimer County Food Bank to help fund Thanksgiving dinners for families in need.

"We are so excited for this opportunity," senior Christian Dykson, student body president, said. "It's an opportunity to give back to the families in our community. It's a challenge to the whole student body: let the city of Fort Collins feel your love and thankfulness."

Student Council has set a 200-300 turkey goal. Students and staff can donate cash or checks over the two weeks of the roundup. Students can also donate turkeys to the front office from Nov. 14-16.

Spilled Ink to raise funds for printing costs at Barnes & Noble

Alex Ellmer

Staff Writer

Nov. 15 Spilled Ink will hold a fundraiser at Barnes and Noble on to raise funds for publication and equipment.

"This fundraiser is important for us because without raising a large amount of money we can't put out the issues of the newspaper although we give them out for free," senior Molly Lubbers, Editor-in-Chief, said.

Those interested in supporting the effort can stop by the store at 4045 S. College Ave. between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.

"Students can come out and buy anything from Barnes and Noble, Lubber said. "If you mention Spilled Ink or have a flyer with our name on it we can get a portion back."

Gaming, supernatural give teacher new perspective

Sadie Buggle

News Editor

Colorful posters decorated with formulas, superheroes, and athletes are plastered on the walls of the desk-ridden room in lower L hall. Eric Kohlbrand's desk sits in the corner of the room, layered with students' math tests and homework.

Kohlbrand has been the Pre-Algebra and College Algebra teacher for 3 years. But his passions don't end with math. As a matter of fact, math isn't even the passion that consumes most of his time. Though Kohlbrand likes to surround himself with the strict field full of numbers, patterns, and logic, he also greatly enjoys the wild world of fantasy found in video games and other media.

"I'm a very, very serious gamer. I am currently ranked in a top 100 US Guild World of Warcraft leaderboard," Kohlbrand said, leaning forward and lacing his fingers together comfortably, his broad smile evidence of the pride he has in his accomplishments. "I've also worked with professional teams with League of Legends and Starcraft 2 before."

Kohlbrand's love of gaming has helped him to understand and reinforce important teaching concepts, like how to successfully collaborate with others.

"The way that I game is very cooperative and collaborative. I'm in an environment with 25 to 30 people at a time. It becomes all about finding a way to negotiate people's egos, and at that level there are a lot of egos," Kohlbrand said, laughing lightheartedly.

Additionally, Kohlbrand can connect the logic and strategy involved in gaming to mathematics as a whole, as both are about finding the right strategy to use to get the correct answer



Algebra Teacher Eric Kohlbrand carefully examines his tarot cards as he completes a reading. Photo by Sadie Buggle

to finish the game or the problem.

"When gaming, you have to fix the problems without changing the whole formula. In that way, gaming and algebra share the same problem-solving nature," he said.

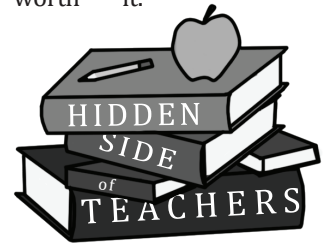
Another topic Kohlbrand is extremely passionate about is the supernatural. This interest caused Kohlbrand to delve into the art of tarot card reading. In his desk, amid sticky notes, pens, and paper clips, sits a deck of tarot cards. His fascination with them is rooted in their meaning and their history.

"Tarot cards are associated with a 19th century cult movement called the Golden Order of the Hermetic Dawn, which is so fascinating to study," he said. "I just love the mystical and the supernatural, and the 19th century such a fascinating time, with the dark romantic movement and transcendentalism."

Due to Kohlbrand's curious connection with the supernatural he often visits haunted places with his friends to attempt to experience the supernatural, and he has been to some of the most haunted hotels in America.

Though Kohlbrand is passionate about many diverse, distinct, and enthralling hobbies and subjects, his love for teaching has always prevailed.

"I love teaching because of the one-on-one interactions," he said. "I love to help students for an hour or so and watch them begin to understand something. They really make it worth it."



LGBT activism in Colorado grew throughout history

Molly Lubbers

Editor-in-Chief

During National LGBT History month, I wanted to reflect on Fort Collins' role within the LGBT community. Unfortunately, much of it is shrouded in uncertainty. While Colorado has evidence of same-sex relations dating back to its origin, it was largely kept underground, leaving documentation surrounding the LGBT community vague. History specific to Fort Collins is even harder to find.

However, Fort Collins was affected by statewide occurrences. Over Colorado history, there is pattern of a push forward with LGBT activism and a push back from other forces.

Though activism had been present before, it ignited in the 1960s and 1970s. Some of it helped create change—Colorado was the third state to repeal sodomy laws in 1972. However, discrimination continued.

It got worse when the AIDS crisis hit in the early 1980s. In response, the Colorado AIDS Project was created.

Animosity toward the LGBT community contributed to the passing of Amendment 2 in Colorado's constitution, which caused some to name Colorado the "Hate State." Passing with 53 percent of votes in 1992, Amendment 2 prevented any city, town, or county to take action to recognize people with "homosexual, lesbian or bisexual orientation" as a protected class.

Four years later, in Romer v.



Evans, the Supreme Court ruled that Amendment 2 violated the Equal Protections Clause. However, homo- and transphobic sentiments still were held by many.

In fact, two years after that court case, tragedy struck. On Oct. 6, 1998, Matthew Shepard was killed in an anti-gay hate crime in Laramie, Wyoming. Two men bound his hands around a fence and beat him with the butt of a gun, leaving him to die. When he was found the next day, he was transported to Fort Collins, where he remained in a coma for six days at Poudre Valley Hospital until his death.

Shepard became a martyr in the LGBT community, but even as his death was a call to action, it also created a wave of fear. Many worried about their own wellbeing, even after a hate-crimes law was passed in 2001, giving protection for sexual orientation and gender identity.

In 2006, another amendment restricted LGBT rights; Amendment 43 defined marriage in Colorado between one man and one woman.

It was only in 2013 that Colorado enacted the Colorado Civil Union Act, which allowed same-sex couples' relationships to be legally recognized.

Today, the LGBT community has won freedoms, and there has been greater representation in government. However, others have challenged the rights of LGBT people.

As we pass the 30th Anniversary of National Coming Out Day—Oct. 11—there still are obstacles to being out. According to One Colorado, more than one third of LGBT Coloradans report experiencing homophobia or transphobia from their families within the last year and 34 percent report harassment in schools.

In addition, many LGBT people feel uncertain about their rights to public accommodations after the Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission Supreme Court case. The storeowner of Masterpiece Cakeshop refused to make a cake for a same-sex couple. Though the decision has a narrow scope and does not explicitly state that storeowners can turn away LGBT people for being LGBT, some believe this will lead to storeowners doing just that.

But even with those challenges, there still is a current of activism in Colorado from various LGBT advocacy groups. One closest for students is Spectrum, FCHS's Gay-Straight Alliance. It was just approved to be a school-sponsored just club last year, which shows the constant push forward and push back even within FCHS.