



Blue Ink



Staff Spotlight: Ms. Longhenry

The front office staff gets a shake up as Leslie Longhenry joins the Garretson School District this year

by **Mason Hofer**
staff writer



Leslie Longhenry is a new face to the front office. There was a makeover in the office this summer, shaking up the people that greet you as you walk in. Joining Norinda in the front, Leslie's smile starts everyone's day off right.

Even though she grew up here, and graduated from Garretson in

2002, some people might not know her completely.

She has a son named Lance that is in the first grade, and a son named Lane in preschool.

Before she came to Garretson she previously worked at two orthodontists in Sioux Falls.

Q: What are some of the best things about your job?

A: "Everything basically, I love being here in Garretson with all my kids; I know a lot of the students so it's great to see them everyday, and I

just love my coworkers!"

Q: What are the most surprising parts about your job?

A: "I didn't expect to see broken bones when I came here" says Leslie. "I hate seeing kids getting hurt."

Q: What hobbies do you enjoy?

A: "I love golf, volleyball, and spending time with my friends and family."

Leslie also was a part of most of the sports in Garretson when she was a student here.

As you may be able to tell Leslie is very happy here, and the majority of all the students love her here to.

This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: Thanksgiving is the reason for TV dinners because in 1953, Swanson had so much extra turkey that a salesman told them they should package it onto aluminum trays with other sides like sweet potatoes. Thus the start of TV dinners.

JOKE OF THE WEEK: Why did the cranberries turn red?

BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK: What is full of holes but still holds water?

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, November 21

- Girls Basketball Practice Starts

Tuesday, November 22

- K-5 Music Concert @ 7:00

Wednesday, November 23

- No School—Thanksgiving Break

Thursday, November 24

- No School—Thanksgiving Break

- Happy Thanksgiving!

Friday, November 25

- No School—Thanksgiving Break

Scan for a look at the district activities calendar.



Falls Park winter wonderland now open to public

Sioux Falls and the surrounding communities are eager to get into the holiday spirit

by **Isaiah Mader**
senior writer

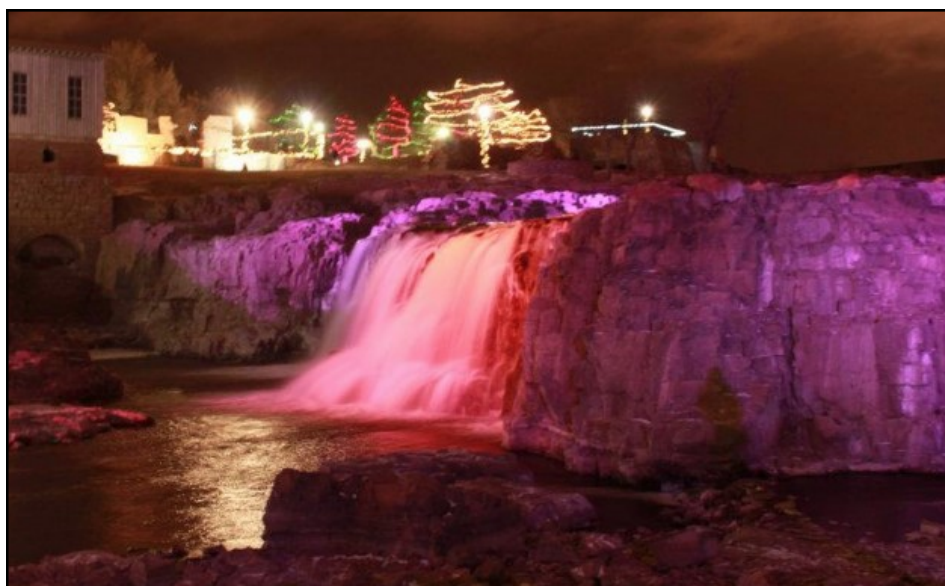
Today marks the annual lighting of Falls Park. The Sioux Falls hotspot will be turned into a winter wonderland with over 350,000 lights being set up. The official lighting is a much anticipated event in the area providing a reason to go out and battle the harsh winter weather.

The elaborate light display is set up each year as workers use thousands of lights covering everything from trees to light poles. Many of the locals' favorite feature is the lit up waterfall which provides an array of colors blending in seamlessly with the rest of the park.

Senior Jared Fitzgerald added, "The lighting kind of signifies the start of the holiday season which consists of two things I love, eating

lots of food and getting out of school."

On the other hand Riley Nordstrom commented, "Although I hate everything about winter, I think the lights are pretty spectacular."



With the snow now upon us, Falls Park will be looking prettier than ever. Flocks of people are expected to grab a good look at the light display and sip back some hot chocolate in one of Sioux Falls best attractions.

Black Friday debut

Holiday season officially kicks off in one week with deep discounts and deals galore

by **Emily Malsom**
staff writer

Makes sense doesn't it? Stuff ourselves beyond what's seemingly possible then wake up in the wee hours of the morning to race others to the major deals on Christmas gifts. This is the unofficial holiday, Black Friday. What's the origin of this wacky day and what's this year looking like in the deal department?

How did this day come about? There are many proposals dating back to the first Thanksgivings. Some say it stemmed off of a slave auction held the day after Thanksgiving. The slaves were sold at a discounted prices. Others offer the idea of crowded streets in Philadelphia causing riots. The most widely accepted idea, however, is that Black Friday started in the 1950s with busi-

nesses discounting products for one day or just at certain times that day to reduce excess inventory. This brought businesses out of the red, losing money, and into the black, making a profit.

This year's most popular items looks to be a repeat with electronics. With only a few flyers out, there's already umpteen deals on TVs, iPads, and Fit Bits. Other popular deals are in toys. The top toys, according to brostick.com, this year look to include Hatchimals Egg, the Pokemon Z-Ring, and a selfie stick microphone duo dubbed SELFIE Mic. These deals, however, aren't the main focus for all.

Junior Peyton Sage said, "If I'm going to go out, I usually look for good deals on shoes."

Early Friday morning or for some businesses, Thursday night, the

greater population will be out to brave the weather and the lines for hours to get a deal. For these diehard shoppers it's all about the experience.

Junior Isaiah Mader said, "For me it's for the social aspect. Black Friday is a good escape from family activities and be with friends."

One of the benefits of being near a smaller city is the crowd is less rowdy but there are still a number of great deals and steals. Black Friday enthusiasts, this is a sneak peak of what's to come and a brief history of past Black Fridays. If you aren't one to leave the comfort of your home, cyber Monday is only a few days later!



Worth Mentioning

Next week is a two day week. There is no school on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday due to Thanksgiving break.

Winter sports are getting underway already. Wrestling started last week, girls basketball this week, and boys basketball next week. First contests are December 3, 6, and 9 respectively.

Junior High Basketball is underway. They play their first game the Tuesday we come back from break: November 29

From swimsuits to snow pants with the flip of a switch

The quick change in weather reminds us that winter is quickly approaching

by **Sylvia Larson**
staff writer

What is this fluffy white stuff coming from the sky? Or, more accurately, how did South Dakota go from a breezy but pleasantly warm-ish week to a blizzard literally overnight?

Today was the first blizzard of the season, and people are super excited. There are mixed reviews for snow

in general, though.

For many people, snow seems like it comes directly from Satan. It's like it's pretty much the equivalent to little chunks of frozen torture. Settling on the frozen ground and building towards the sky, whispering softly for people to come closer and touch.

Sometimes the snow becomes violent. Whistling ominously and

shooting towards the earth like needles and obstructing the view of unsuspecting people who would rather be at home with fuzzy socks and hot chocolate.

For others, snow is a haven for family, friends, and serenity. It can be calming to watch and fun to play in. For these people, winter is gorgeous in it's awe



full and untouched beauty, with something gorgeous about the way it claims its territory, only following the laws of nature and disregarding the things that man made on its home.

Most Garretson students enjoyed their day off and are already looking forward to more.

Garretson FFA brings in some strong scores from district contest

FFA members qualify for state competition but look to keep improving

by **Jaden Braaten**
staff writer

Garretson FFA on Monday, had their latest contest in Harrisburg.

This has been one of the FFA's best contests. Many of GHS students who participated in this got somewhere between 1st and 4th to place.

Out of these following events, the top two teams that competed go to state. In the market plan, Claire and Allison Longhenry and Jaden Flanagan got first. In ag sales, Ryan Fick,

Emily Malsom, Zeb Johnson and Moriah Flanagan got second. In ag communications, Emily Malsom, Brady Malsom, Jacob Schmidt, and Kennedy H. got third. In prepared public speaking, Claire Longhenry got first. In creed speaking, Nobel Nothestine got first and Angel Larson got fourth.

Claire Longhenry and Tessa Pederson participated in extemporaneous speaking, Claire Longhenry and Tessa Pederson. In broadcasting Alex Uhl got fourth. In job interview Mo-

riah Flanagan got fourth. The top three individuals go to state in these events.

Emily Malsom was one of the many GHS students at the contest, "It was a great learning opportunity for the younger members in contests for the first time and for us older members it was nice to see our friends from other chapters and improving our contest skills. I participated in job interview, ag communications, ag sales, and I ran for a district office, my office was full."

Moriah Flanagan was another student who participated in the FFA contest, "We definitely could have been more prepared but we did well enough to make it to state. We have a lot of practice to do before we leave."

Garretson FFA plans on trying their best at state and working hard for the upcoming event, their next contest is state, on December 4th and 5th which will be held in Pierre.

Thanksgiving toast

During the rush of the holiday season, take a moment to celebrate what you have and enjoy your time with family

by **Tabi Klingenberg**
staff writer

Thanksgiving, a national holiday celebrated in the US, commemorates the Autumn harvest festival celebrated by the Pilgrims in 1621. These settlers endured much hardship, survived difficult odds, and made it through a full year until their next harvest. This was the first of many bountiful feasts and this year it was held on November 24th.

As the holiday season rolls around, it seems as if stores throughout the nation already have their Christmas decorations up the day after Halloween.

Thanksgiving poses as a wonderful opportunity to take a moment, reflect on your blessings, and be thankful for the unexpected and for all the little was that life renews itself without warning before the Black Friday madness begins.

"I enjoy seeing friends and family,

taking a really long nap afterwards, and the Macy's Day Parade is pretty good, too," mentioned senior Alex Uhl.

Thanksgiving is always a fun time to sit down with loved ones and indulge in all the festivities that come with the holiday such as playing games and, everyone's favorite part, stuffing your face with turkey and mashed potatoes. But Thanksgiving is much more than a period of gratuitous gluttony. It's also a time to ac-

count for all the new and familiar faces at the table, offer prayerful thanks for the future and celebrate life.

Express your gratitude and remember to enjoy all the little things because that's what the holiday is all about. So raise a glass to loved ones, the food on the table, and to all the cherished memories to come.

Oral Interp performs well at region contest, including a state qualifier

Oral Interp wraps up their season in a week with one final tournament: either Runners-Up or State

by **Peyton Sage**
staff writer

On Tuesday, the oral interp crew headed over to SDSU to compete in the region meet. After a long day, Garretson brought out a lot of success. This is the sixth out of seven meets for some of the kids, but for one, it's not over yet.

Nobel Nothstine, a freshman, qualified for the State Oral Interp in Non-Original Oratory, which is a speech that has already been written by a person. She is the first

person in approximately ten years to make it this far. The state competition will be held in Harrisburg this year on December 2 and 3. Nothstine also placed 6th in serious reading.

Sylvia Larson got second alternate in Humorous reading, placing 5th, but only the top 3 can qualify for state. "Only one piece from each category can go per school. That means only the best of the best will perform. Unlike the other competitions, you only get to say your piece once. It's do or die. If you mess up

once, you're done," Larson stated.

For some of the oral interpreters, it's just the end of another season. But for one, this is the end. Senior Tabi Klingenberg said, "I'm disappointed that it's over, but I really enjoyed being a part of it. It was a great experience and we always make new friends and have fun at every meet. My favorite part about it was definitely spending time with the other oral interpers and be able to grow and work on our parts together."

She also added, "At the end of the

day we never cared how we did; we were just happy to go and have fun. There are students from all over the state that came to the meets for their school and we were never really dismayed by the fact that many of the schools have actual classes for oral interpretation. We were always zealous and gave it our best effort."

Even though there are 10 teams in Garretson's oral interp region, the participants finished strongly despite the tough competition.

No Shave November in full swing

The popular month-long event may have a stronger meaning than people realize

by **Sam Gonzalez**
staff writer

This giving month put away the shaving cream and razor because it is No-Shave November. Say goodbye to hour-long showers and cuts for the month to donate your monthly hair-product expenses to the cause.

"Losing someone to cancer made me realize how little time we have with people, especially our loved

ones. This activity is a cool and fun way to appreciate what some might not have," Becca Weiland, a supporter for No-Shave November said.

Though most people see No-Shave November as a fun experiment, there is an actual reasoning behind this concept. The goal of it is to grow awareness by embracing hair, which many cancer patients lose, and letting your hair grow wild and free! Though grooming and

trimming are perfectly acceptable as well.

"I think it's a good way to express yourself as well as showing a cause, or just to just simply show off what you normally don't have throughout the year." said Hunter Carver, a No-Shave November participant.

Carver, like many other guys, just tend to just grow out facial hair like a beard for fun, or to actually show awareness for cancer. But don't be

afraid, if you don't want to get hairy, then just relax and support someone who is.

Cancer is a serious matter, and it's never too late to show awareness.



Pictures from the Veteran's Day program last Friday

A huge thank you to all of those who have, are, and will serve

